

# LEGISLATURE PROCEEDINGS

**Sagar accuses Drabu of eroding financial autonomy, Beig's concern over poverty**

## Oppn grills Government on budget, coalition describes it progressive

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: While participating in general discussion on the Budget 2018-19 in Legislative Assembly, opposition members sought to grill the Government for its alleged failure in taking care of all sectors while ruling party MLAs described the budget proposals as progressive.

Termmg Budget 2018-19 as total theoretical and anti-commoner, National Conference MLA, Ali Mohd Sagar accused Finance Minister, Dr Haseeb Drabu of eroding financial autonomy of the State by implementing GST in J&K.

He alleged that there was nothing concrete to improve economy of the State and generate employment for the youth for whom only Rs 20 crore have been earmarked in more than Rs 80 thousand crore budget. "You closed down the previous Government scheme of giving employment and put so many ifs and buts for the regularization of daily rated workers, whose number is being projected to increase mysteriously from 60 thousand to around one lakh," he said and dubbed earmarking of small amounts for different sectors as distribution of chiller.

Seeking renewed measures to help and support the traders affected due to implementation of GST in the State so as to help in recovery of State economy, Sagar also called for focused efforts to promote setting up of poultry, sheep units in the State adding that growth of these sectors are essential to reduce State imports. He also drew attention towards lack of sufficient consideration in the budget for 2014 flood victims.

Initiating today's discussion, Mohammad Yousof Tarigami of CPI (M) said that many sectors including Agriculture and Horticulture, the core sectors of the State need major impetus by way of reforms to strengthen State economy. He said the Budget should include targeted reforms aimed at welfare of farming community especially those living in far flung areas of the State. He also called for provision for reforms in Animal and Sheep Husbandry Department to support and encourage people to establish dairy, sheep and poultry

### 3% reservation for Paharis recommended

## No sufficient funds with Govt to clear 2.67 lakh pending pension cases: Lone

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: Minister for Social Welfare, ARI & Trainings and Science & Technology Sajad Gani Lone today said that there were no sufficient funds with the Government to clear over 2.67 lakh pending pension cases of different categories immediately while a proposal to clear 40,000 cases has been sent to the Government.

While replying to a question PDP member Yasir Reshi in the Legislative Council today, the Minister said that the proposal to sanction 40,000 new old age and other pension cases is under the consideration of Finance Department.

Yasir had sought information about pending old age, widow and handicapped pension cases in different districts of the State.

About rising pendency, the Minister said that the State receives a fixed amount from Centre as the scheme is not demand driven and new cases are included only after vacancy arises in the existing numbers.

He said the huge financial implication following the enhancement in monthly pension from Rs 200 Rs 1000 was the main reason for increasing pendency. He further informed that there are more than two lakh old age, handicap and widow pension cases pending in the State including 1,53,699 under Integrated Social Security Scheme and 1,13,991 under National Social Assistance Programme.

units and taking up this field as their profession.

Pointing towards no budget provision for artisans of the State, he requested for action in this regard. He also called for an enhancement in honorarium in favour of Anganwari helpers and Anganwari workers.

Sat Pal Sharma of BJP, while taking part in the discussion, termed the budget proposals as growth oriented and said that budget contains development oriented measures aimed at every section of the society. He said that the provisions kept in the budget for improvement of rural industries will help generate employment avenues for educated unemployed youth, especially in rural areas while the new policy of giving incentives to those posted in rural areas would check corruption in transfers.

Hailing several initiatives, including the decision of implementing 7th Pay Commission recommendations, release of 1 percent DA to the employees, he asked for provisions for increasing of afforestation drives, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and other social welfare campaigns in the State. He also asked for further strengthening the agri and horticulture reforms by earmarking at least Rs 25 crore provisions for mango, lichi, aloe vera apricot etc. He also demanded general amnesty for power defaulter.

Yawar Ahmad Mir of PDP strongly repulsed the opposition attacks on budget proposals and said the initiatives, including implementation of 7th Pay Commission, employee welfare measures like mediclaim policy, accidental insurance, increase in DA for the State employees were achievements of the Government. "SRO-520 is the biggest achievement while implementation of 7th Pay Commission is the proof that this Government has been taking care of its employee," he said and added that the Finance Minister Haseeb Drabu has taken care of all major and minor concerns.

Termmg the Budget as people friendly, Yawar Mir said that the proposals cater to needs of poor and marginalized sections of the society. He also asked for special focus of the Government towards development under the scheme as per the survey, he added.

He further informed that the District Social Welfare Officers have been directed to conduct a fresh survey to include left out deserving girls in the scheme.

MLC Vikram Randhawa also raised a supplementary question related to the main question.

Replying to another question of BJP member Vibodh Gupta, Sajjad Lone said that the State Advisory Board for Development of Pahari speaking people has received Rs 1.31 crore for management of Boys/Girls Hostel, Rs 10.00 crore for grant of scholarships to students from Class I to XII and Rs 2.56 crore for post-matric scholarship till ending November 2017.

He further said that the Government is preparing a package to provide benefit to the poorest of the poor living in different parts of the State. The Minister also informed the House about the report of the Expert Committee on Socio-economic status for conferring ST status to Pahari speaking population.

ompmnt and growth of Sopore Mandi.

Participating in the debate PDP's Javed Beig in his revolutionary speech while lauding the various pro -people steps taken in the budget also highlighted some short comings and regretted that even after 70 years of independence of the country the poor are at the receiving end.

Beig, while complimenting the Government and Finance Minister, Dr Haseeb Drabu for solving the problems of the employees without any struggle or forcing them to come to streets, termed it a welcome step. He said the opposition should have also welcomed this step of the Government.

The PDP MLA from Baramulla said the Government inherited the problems from previous dispensation which also inherited the same from its predecessors. He said the problem of daily wagers was a grave cause of concern for all of us as they were working on paltry Rs 3000 since a long time.

Maintaining that power was a great industry for the State but he regretted that the Government has surrendered its rights, likewise the Aucq had a lot of land which has been encroached upon. Even horticulture is in shambles as there is no proper facility of irrigation, he added.

He said it is unfortunate that after 70 years of freedom the Government failed to provide house to slum dwellers and construct toilets for all. He said 58 percent of wealth is with one percent of rich people while 42 percent is with 99 percent poor. Poor is becoming poor day by day while rich is become richer. It is really unfortunate that in last 70 years justice could not be done to poor, he added.

Beig said due to present turmoil no industrialist is ready to set up the units in the State and likewise foreigners are also not ready to invest in India due to Indo-Pak hostilities. Ridiculing the claims to compete China, he said China is progressing because it has contained population and it will take centuries to compete China. "The main cause of failure on our part to become self sufficient is that we failed to exploit the resources at our disposal", he added.

Beig also took Government to task for not doing enough on women empowerment and education to all despite the fact that the education is a fundamental right.

NC's Sheikh Ishfaq Jabbar while participating in the debate termed the 2018-19 Budget as Mongery Lal Key Suneray Supney (selling of Mongery Lal's golden dreams). He said that nothing has been done for poor unemployed and youth in this budget while hor-

ticulture and agriculture sectors were totally neglected. Nothing has been kept for Animal Husbandry and Sheep Husbandry to increase the mutton and milk production in the State in this budget despite the fact that State spends Rs 20,000 crore on purchase of mutton, he added.

Jabbar said though we talk of white revolution but what steps were taken for the same and Finance Minister has done nothing to boost floriculture and if this sector is given boost State will generate a revenue of Rs 5000 crore. Moreover horticulture was also ignored and nothing was done to revive the defunct schemes in PHE and Irrigation, he added.

People Conference MLA from Kupwara advocate Bashir Ahmed Dar while showing concern over growing corruption stressed on curbing the same from Government offices.

He said the employees were given their rights and their demands were solved and now responsibility shifts on them for proper utilization of funds. They should come forward to dispense justice to the poor while lauding the Government decision to regularize 60,000 daily wagers.

Dar also expressed concern over lack of doctors in hospitals and said though State spends lakhs on their training they prefer to serve outside State and this trend should be stopped.

Participating in the debate BJP's Dr Devinder Manyal welcomed various initiatives taken by the Government in budget including regularization of casual laborers, waiving off of various toll taxes and implementation of 7th Pay Commission.

He also appreciated measures taken by the Government for simplifying the documentation process for employees to access and withdraw their G P Fund at the time of superannuation, besides complimenting it for introducing mediclaim insurance policy for non gazetted employees.

PDP's Abdul Majid Paddar termed the budget people-friendly which is aimed at uplifting every section of the society. He congratulated the Finance Minister for presenting a successful budget that delivers on major demands including measures for boosting tourism sector, provisions to provide employment opportunities to unemployed youth besides fulfilling the demands of Government employees and daily rated workers.

Paddar also lauded Government efforts to revive the silk factory in Jammu and the special budgetary allocations for development of horticulture and agriculture sectors in the State.

## Heated arguments in Assembly as Saroori accuses BJP of stalling Rattle Project

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: Amid allegations and counter allegations, heated exchange of words took place between Congress MLA G M Saroori and BJP legislators forcing the Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation Javed Mustafa Mir to seek a restraint from hurling personal allegations in the Legislative Assembly during discussion on Budget.

As Saroori accused the BJP leaders of getting the Rattle Power Project closed, MLA Doda Shakti Parihar and MLA Bhaderwah Dilip Parihar took strong exception to the allegations and launched counter attack. Usman Majid and some other Congress MLAs were seen supporting Saroori while R S Pathania among a few BJP legislators also raised voice in contesting the allegations.

G M Saroori did not stop here and went ahead with the allegation claiming that Backward Area Development fund was diverted by the Deputy Commissioner Doda on the instance of BJP MLA to construct a stadium. " This fund was meant for developmental works in remote and backward areas but the same was diverted for construction of a stadium, which is of no use for the people living in remote pockets under extremely poor conditions," said visibly agitated Saroori and warned that 'Allah' would not forgive the ruling party members for their guilt of depriving the poor people of development by snatching their share.

The commotion erupted when Saroori, while taking part in the budget discussion, charged the State Government with failure to take decisions thus resulting in non-implementation of much needed schemes

in Power sector besides stalling Rattle Power Project.

As BJP MLA Shakti Parihar stood from his seat pointing out that the Rattle Power Project was initiated and also stopped during the previous regime, Saroori retorted that the project was got stalled by the BJP leaders after they held a closed door meeting with the company officials

" I can give proof of your involvement in getting the project stalled, let the investigation is ordered and if proved wrong, I will tender apology," Saroori said while pointing out that BJP MLA was one of the contractors in the project.

Even as the BJP MLAs sought to counter Mr Saroori, the later kept attacking the former and also hurled some personal allegations following which the Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation Javed Mustafa Mir intervened for seeking no personal attacks during the debate.

The PDP MLA Abdul Majid Paddar was also seen trying to pacify the agitating Members while Javed Mustafa urged the MLAs to address the Chair and not to launch personal attacks against each others.

G M Saroori, while taking part in discussion, termed the budget as 'Urban Budget', which has nothing for rural people. "How will you implement 'Digital India' without electricity in rural areas?" he asked and also sought to know the fate of Rangrajan Committee recommendations.

He demanded provision for construction of Sadna Tunnel and Vlyoo-Sinthan Top. He also requested for sufficient funds for undertaking developmental works at rural areas in his Constituency, including works for macadamization.

Replying to a supplementary question of MLC Naresh Kumar

## Issue of backdoor appointments in J&K Bank rocks Assembly

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: The backdoor appointment issue in Jammu and Kashmir Bank, the bankers to State Government rocked the Assembly today as entire opposition was on its toes to put the coalition on mat.

The trouble started when NC's MLA from Pahalgam, Altaf Ahmed Kallu raised the issue of backdoor appointments in the bank during the debate on budget in the afternoon sitting of the House, alleging that backdoor appointments were being made in J&K Bank and the bank will not have resources in future to pay their salaries also.

The NC MLA said 1700 employees have been engaged and 1500 more are likely to be engaged and there are reports that Rs four lakh to Rs five lakh are charged from a candidate for giving him job in the bank.

He was interrupted by Minister of Finance, Haseeb Drabu who stood up saying that member is making comments without any substantiation. "Let him give proof". However Kallu was supported by his senior party colleague, Mohammed Akbar Lone and he too joined the issue with Minister. Kallu asked the Minister that why did not J&K Bank called the advertisement. There were noisy scenes in the House as some ruling and opposition party members stood up from their seats and made allegations and counter allegations on each other.

Deputy Speaker Nazir Ahmed Gurezi however warned the members that nothing will be recorded. Later the Revenue and Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Abdul Rehman Veeri said that the member has to prove the allegations. He said there are certain limits and no one should cross them. However the agitated

Opposition continued ruckus in the House and Deputy Speaker adjourned the House for the day.

Kallu also took Government to task for imposing Rs 50 to 60 as Toll Tax on per bag of cement in the State. If outside cement was sold on less rates why the toll has been imposed as some body might be getting the benefit of the same behind the curtain, he added.

However, when Finance Minister asked the MLA to give him the name the MLA replied " I am not quoting you, I know you are honest". He also alleged malpractice in appointment of SPOs and said one officer appointed SPO whose age was 45 years.

Earlier the backdoor appointment issue in J&K Bank was also raised by NC's Ishfaq Jabbar who said that how can bank progress when the back door appointments were made in it. Leveling serious allegation on bank authorities, he said 4000 employees were appointed via back door.

He also alleged that some senior political leaders are defaulters of the Bank and when he was asked by coalition members to name them the NC MLA replied that he can name them but the Government knows all about them.

NC's Ali Mohammed Sagar also took Government to task for backdoor appointments in the bank. He, while quoting last year's address of Finance Minister had said that the condition of J&K Bank was bad and he wanted to know that what improvement the Government has made as its condition was the same. The bank is leading to bankruptcy and you are not taking precautions to save it, he added.

Sagar said "when such conditions will emerge tomorrow you will say that I had already cautioned you".

However PDP's Yawar Mir held the previous Government responsible and said that it damaged bank by appointing RBI as sole banking agency for JKB.

CPI (M) MLA, Mohammed Yousof Tarigami said that despite the infusion of Rs 500 crore made by Government last year to help the J&K Bank, its health continues to deteriorate. "Our share in this Bank is around 59 percent and still the Bank is not accountable in the August House", he added.

He said "what about the NPA amounting to thousands of crores you had mentioned in last year and why don't you provide details to the House? It can't be left to the mercy of those who are responsible for its deterioration and he wanted to know that why don't Government provide this House the opportunity to discuss its functioning.

### 70% subsidy for solar roof top systems

## 91,000 solar lights provided in un-electrified villages: Govt

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: The Minister for Social Welfare and Science and Technology today said 91,000 solar home lights have been provided to households in un-electrified villages in the J&K State.

While replying to a question of BJP member, Ajatshatru Singh in the Upper House today, Sajjad Lone said that the home lighting devices were provided under the Remote Village Electrification Programme. He said the Jammu & Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) would also install 54 MW solar rooftop power plants in 2018-19.

Under the Prime Minister's Development Package, the Government installed 3,000 solar street lighting systems and more 17,013 would be installed after the identification of the areas, Lone said.

The Minister said there was a 70 per cent subsidy for domestic consumers and 60 per cent to Government departments for solar rooftop systems.

He said the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has approved 100 MW solar energy park for the State and the department is also initiating tariff-based bidding for development of mega solar projects in the state at feasible locations.

Replying to a supplementary question of MLC Naresh Kumar

Development Package, the Government installed 3,000 solar street lighting systems and more 17,013 would be installed after the identification of the areas, Lone said.

The Minister said there was a 70 per cent subsidy for domestic consumers and 60 per cent to Government departments for solar rooftop systems.

He said the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has approved 100 MW solar energy park for the State and the department is also initiating tariff-based bidding for development of mega solar projects in the state at feasible locations.

Replying to a supplementary question of MLC Naresh Kumar

Gupta, Lone said the Government has set in the process for distributing solar home lighting devices which would be followed by installation of solar rooftop power plants in all the district hospitals across the State. He also said that installation of solar lights at the roof top of Government buildings and other big buildings was under active consideration of Government. It would reduce the power bills by nearly 60%.

Replying to another supplementary question of MLC Girdhari Lal Raina, he said the Government would provide solar home lighting devices to all the genuine beneficiaries, including those living in Jagti migrants township.

Replying to a supplementary question of MLC Naresh Kumar

## Yoga practitioners to be registered in J&K

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: Jammu and Kashmir Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act, 1959 is being amended by the Government to bring it at par with the Central Act.

A bill in this regard was introduced by the Minister for Health and Medical Education Bali Bhagat in the Legislative Assembly today.

Specifying the reasons behind this move, the Minister said that some provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act, 1959 are inconsistent with the Central Act and have thus become obsolete. "Therefore, it is imperative that the State Act be brought at par with the Central Act", he added.

"There is no provision for establishment of an Ayurvedic/Unani Institution in the principal Act nor any provision for conduct of examination of institutions affiliated to the Board and procedure to be adopted for recognition of institutions and examinations and de-recognition", the Minister said while justifying the reasons behind amendments proposed in some sections of the Act.

ing falsely to be registered practitioner is merely Rs 200 as such has encouraged quackery. "The punishment needs to be deterrent to impose curbs on violation. Therefore, proportionate and condign punishment has been proposed", the Minister added.

Stating that at present there is no law regulating the practice of Yoga system of treatment in the State, he said, "there have been repeated requests from the practitioners of Yoga system to give them statutory recognition", adding "in order to curb quackery it is considered necessary to regulate the practice of Yoga practitioners and to provide for registration of persons practicing Yoga system".

Pointing towards Sub-Section 6 (2) of the J&K Ayurvedic and Unani Practitioners Act, 1959, he said, "the Board of J&K Ayurvedic and Unani was constituted in the year 1995 and no elections could be held for 20 years for one reason or the other and such gaps are required to be plugged so that elections are held within reasonable time", adding "Sub-Section 2 of Section 6 is required to be amended so that elections to the Board shall be held immediately after expiry of prescribed term or at the most within three months".

He informed the House that the punishment for any person practicing without being registered under the Act or pretend-

## NFSA list being revised: Zulfkar

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 15: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumers Affairs Choudhary Zulfkar Ali, informed the Upper House that the list of NFSA beneficiaries is revised on regular intervals.

While replying to a question of Surinder Mohan Ambarbar, informed that the Government constituted Committees at District and Tehsil levels headed by MLC J&K Legislative Council, Khurshheed Alam also raised a supplementary.

**NHPC Limited**  
(A Government of India Enterprise) CIN No. L40101HR1975G0032564

**Uri Power Station, Gingle Distt-Baramulla (J&K) PIN-193122**

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

NIT No. NH/UPS/PCS/C-1/STD/17-18/NIQ-384/2016-2028, Dated 12/01/2018.  
NIT No. NH/UPS/PCS/C-2/STD/17-18/NIQ-385/2029-2041, Dated 12/01/2018.  
Online Bids are invited for and on behalf of Uri-1 Power Station, NHPC Limited Gingle Distt, Baramulla, J&K. Name of Work: (1) Deployment of 08 Nos. M&M Scorpio/M&M Xylo/Renault Duster/Tata Safari/Hyundai Creta/Ford Ecospots upto 3000CC of model 2014-2017 for Uri Power Station on hire basis. (2) Deployment of 17 Nos. Tata sumo/Chevrolet Tavera/M&M Bolero upto 3000CC of Model between 2014-17 for Uri Power Station on hire basis. \*Vide tender reference ID No. 2018-NHPC-29704-1 & 2018-NHPC-29705-1 respectively. The NIT and complete tender document can be viewed and downloaded from <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> and [www.nhpcindia.com](http://www.nhpcindia.com)

**SAVE ENERGY FOR BENEFIT OF SELF AND NATION**

**Udaan** **TATA MOTORS**

**LOOKING FOR A CAREER IN THE BEST AUTOMOBILE WORKSHOPS?**

## JOIN & GROW

Preferred Candidates Profile for Trainee Service Manager	Preferred Candidates Profile for Dealer Sales Executive
Graduate Engineer from Mechanical/Automobile/Electrical/Production/Manufacturing disciplines (from an AICTE approved institute)	Graduate Engineer from Mechanical/Automobile/Electrical/Production/Manufacturing disciplines (from an AICTE approved institute)
Diploma Engineer from Mechanical/Automobile/Electrical/Production/Manufacturing disciplines (from an AICTE approved institute)-12+3-	Diploma Engineer from Mechanical/Automobile/Electrical/Production/Manufacturing disciplines (from an AICTE approved institute)-12+3
Less than 30 years of age as on 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2017.	Post Graduate –MBA, Graduate(12+3) such as BBA/BCA
Less than 30 years of age as on 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2017.	Less than 30 years of age as on 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2017.

**Selected candidate will undergo training on Technical & Managerial Skill development in first Six Months in reputed Educational School & Tata Motors training Centre during which they will receive Stipend and will get the facility of lodging and boarding. After successful completion of training, the candidate will be placed with various Dealership / TASS of Tata Motors across nation.**

Interested Candidate may WALK - IN with their detailed resume containing qualification & experience at below mentioned venue on scheduled date. Candidate can also register for selection of UDAAN Web-site ([www.nsdcudaam.com](http://www.nsdcudaam.com))

Venue	District	Date
Govt. Degree College for Women, Gandhi Nagar	Jammu	17/01/2018
Govt Polytechnic college, Bikram Chowk	Jammu	18 & 19 /01/2018

**Registration Time: 10:15 AM to 03:30 PM**

Selection procedure will consist of a general Aptitude text followed by a personal interview.