

Need strong global response to defeat terrorism: Kovind

NEW DELHI, Jan 15:

President Ram Nath Kovind today called for greater cooperation between India and Israel in countering terrorism and said a strong global response would defeat the menace in all its manifestations.

Welcoming visiting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who called on Kovind today, the President said India-Israel security cooperation was defined by their common fight against terrorism.

"This challenge is eating into the vitals of our society. Our counter terrorism cooperation is progressing well but we need to do more. We need to work together to develop a strong global response to defeat terrorism in all its manifestations," the President said.

Netanyahu's visit was the

culmination of celebrations to mark the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Israel, he said.

"Our warm and friendly ties are growing stronger. In a little over two years, the two countries have exchanged presidential and prime ministerial visits," Kovind was quoted in an official statement as saying.

The President said bilateral cooperation had expanded manifold. "Political understanding, security cooperation and technology partnerships are the key pillars of strategic engagement between India and Israel," he said.

The President also emphasised that collaboration in newer areas such as space, cybersecurity and innovation would add depth to the partnership.

Sukhnandan lays foundation stone of developmental works

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Former Minister and MLA Marh, Sukhnandan Choudhary today laid foundation stone of works of Pavilion and upgradation of playground at Higher Secondary School Ghoumanhasan in Marh constituency which will be completed at the estimated cost of Rs 20 lakh.

While speaking on the occasion, Sukhnandan Choudhary said that implementation of various developmental activities undertaken by the Government has been fast-paced and are being regularly monitored.

He said it is endeavour of the Government to ensure time bound completion of works so that people get benefited. The MLA said that due to sustained efforts of the State's BJP-PDP Government much headway has been achieved in ensuring time bound completion of develop-

mental works. He also directed the executing agency to complete the work in stipulated time.

He said that converted efforts are being made to develop Marh constituency on modern lines with basic amenities like better road connectivity, healthcare facilities and better education infrastructure. Calling upon youth to derive maximum benefit from employment schemes, he enjoined upon the youth to inculcate spirit of entrepreneurship and look beyond Government sector for jobs.

Officers of the concerned departments, ex-Sarpanch Harjit Singh and Executive Member, State Kisan Morcha, Dr Pawan Choudhary were also present on the occasion.

Eleven passengers injured in road mishap

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Jan 15: Eleven passengers were injured after, a Matador bearing registration No. JK02AL-1384, which was on way to border village Chachwal turned turtle near Paloura after driver lost control over steering.

All the passengers were shifted to DH Samba from where nine were referred to GMC Jammu as they had received grievous injuries.

Ghagwal Police has taken cognizance of the matter. The injured that are referred to GMC Jammu were identified as Baldev Raj, 38, S/o Jeet Raj R/o Charliarian, Sonia Devi, 18, D/o Beer Singh R/o

Protest against Govt at Thannamandi, people block road

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Jan 15: The people from Thannamandi area today held strong protest demonstration against the Government and local legislator for ignoring Thannamandi area in all respects.

The people of the area led by local Congress leader Shakeel Ahmed, Mushtaq Thakur and Imran Khan besides others, assembled near SDM office and then took out protest march in the town at around 10.30 am. Then the people reached Shahdara Chowk and sat on dharna. They were shouting slogans against Govt. Several local leaders addressed the gathering. They alleged that during last

three years, no any development work was initiated in this area either by the Government or the concerned legislator. They alleged that condition of the roads was in bad shape. SDM sits here but no official including JE, AE or AEE from PDD, R&B or PHE department is ever available in the offices. They said the condition of CHC was also pitiable. There was no lady doctor and even other staff also remains absent. It has not been upgraded as SDH. It is only on papers and no additional staff or equipment was provided. Power curtailment has made life of people hell. The officers remain absent from duty.

They urged upon the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri Dr Shahid Iqbal to intervene into the matter. Later, SDM Thannamandi Afzal Mirza went to them and pleaded to call off agitation. The people submitted a memorandum to the DC through SDM. They lifted dharna after two hours.

2 nabbed with heroin

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Jan 15: The police arrested two drug-peddlers and recovered 40 gms of heroin from their possession in Chingus area of Rajouri today.

Official sources said that a joint team of SOG and Police Post Chingus, headed by Incharge Post, SI Fared Ahmed under the supervision of DySP Operations Sukhdev Singh raised a naka near Kallar Chowk on Jammu-Rajouri highway and started general checking of vehicles for security reasons in view of forthcoming Republic Day.

During naka checking, police

PDD workers stage protest

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: The daily rated and other temporary workers of the Power Development Department (PDD) today held protest demonstration near Press Club here today.

A large number of PDD workers under the leadership of Bharat Singh, chairman of the PDD Daily Workers Union assembled near Press Club in the morning and then started protest demonstration. They were demanding regularization and release of pending wages. They also shouted slogans against Govt and higher authorities in the PDD. They alleged discrimination against the PDD workers from Jammu region.

The protesting workers were also demanding implementation of SRO 381 in its letter and spirit. They said about 800 higher grade posts were lying vacant under Chief Engineer EM&RE Jammu and these posts be filled up by accommodating DRWs being regularized. After staging protest for some time, they dispersed.



ESRM artists posing for a group photograph after staging nukkad 'Zindagee Ko Hawa Do'.

ESRM presents 'Zindagee Ko Hawa Do'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Ek Sath Rang Mandal (ESRM) today presented Vijay Malla's new progressive nukkad 'Zindagee Ko Hawa Do' in its Monday Theatre Series at Dhanwantri Park, opposite RBI office, Jammu.

The nukkad opens with an elderly person conveying his views about environment and its existence on earth. He explains that environment is not only air but it consists of forests, land, mountains, rivers, lakes, streams and other water resources.

He defines earth as mother of all mothers, who takes care of us and fulfill our every requirement free of cost. "How we can think about destroying her (Earth) identity and her existence for our own comfort or petty gains", he questioned.

"We must know the impor-

ance of earth and remedies how to save it. Earth is not our lawn or a play ground but it is a big source for our existence like fresh air, fresh water, irrigation, fields and forests. The most essential asset of a man is earth which gives him inspiration of life", he added.

Finally this old man preaches children that they must take a challenge to save forests and plant maximum trees as and where they get a chance. "We must also save these forests from a natural attack. In other words we must condemn and stop cutting trees", he added.

Actors who acted in the nukkad were Kanta Sharma, Kamla Devi, Kavita, Raju Mad, Tejas Rampal, Mukesh, Master Daksh, Baby Khushi and Vijay Malla. The play was written by Vijay Malla and directed by Anuroop Pathania.

ST person provided vehicle by Corp to earn livelihood

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Jammu and Kashmir Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes & Backward Classes Development Corporation Limited, provided loan for a 207 Tata Mobile vehicle to an unemployed person belonging to Scheduled Tribe (ST) category.

The Vice Chairperson of the Corporation, Balbir Ram Rattan, handed over key of the Tata Mobile to Gons Mohammed, an unemployed person of ST community from Badori village of tehsil Bari Brahmana and district Samba, in presence of Divisional Manager, Gulam Qadir Khatana

and Manager Projects Mohammed Iqbal Katara.

Balbir Ram Rattan, on this occasion, said that the loanee, Gons Mohammed, was earning his bread by driving a matador and later a private vehicle, which was not a permanent work and many times he was sitting totally idle at home but after coming to know about the loan facility provided by the J&K SCs, STs, BCs Development Corporation, he approached for financial assistance to buy a load carrier to be self dependent. The Corporation, after processing his case, sanctioned Rs 5.6 lakh as Term Loan in his favour for a Tata 207 vehicle.

According to a police official, a Congress leader belonging to RS Pura, who was identified as Mohan Choudhary along with some other persons this afternoon visited the house of the in-laws of his daughter at New Plot to solve some matrimonial dispute.

"However, both the parties exchanged heated words there and engaged in a scuffle during which according to the complainant, who

Newly recruited 10+ 2 lecturers demand full salary

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Jan 15: Newly recruited 10+ 2 lecturers said that Government's failure to implement the Cabinet decision that exempts them from new job policy has let the teachers down.

They alleged that the Government has taken them for a ride on the implementation of a cabinet decision that allowed withdrawing full salary instead of consolidated Rs 15000 for the first years of their services.

The lecturers said in 2015, the cabinet decided that the newly recruited 10+2 lecturers would be entitled to full salary along with all the allowances but Government's reluctance to implement the orders has badly denting their psyche. "The Government's indecision has left us clueless. We are unable to trace reasons behind withholding the orders. Besides, it is badly affecting our psyche as we fail to feed our families with the meager salaries. Government is playing games with us," Haroon Mohidin, a lecturer said, adding the Government has deceived them with false promises.

On October 2017, the Minister for Education, Syed Muhammad Altaf Bukhari, during an inaugural ceremony of a function at Government Girls' Higher Secondary school Kothi Bagh, announced that the newly recruited

lecturers would draw full salary. "Authorities are giving lame reasons for not implementing the order. They are saying that formal orders are withheld as the GAD is questioning the feasibility of the decision. How can Government announce anything publicly without taking into account its feasibility?" a lecturer asked.

Pertinently, on 30th May 2015, the Cabinet decided in favor of the lecturers. "The Cabinet discussed the appointments at gazetted levels made in the school education/higher education departments in terms of SRO 202 of 2015 dated 30-06-2015 read with the government order no. 1377-GAD of 2015 dated 15-10-2015 and decided that full salary along with allowances shall be payable to these appointees in relaxation of rule 9 and 10 of SRO 202 with immediate effect," the order reads.

The lecturers lamented that for the last nine months the authorities have failed to release their salaries and that was adding to their woes. "On one hand government has announced the regularization of over 60, 000 casual laborers but on the other hand they are not releasing our basic salaries. We are not against the regularization but we want government to first fulfill the pending promises," Intiaz Ahmad, a teacher said.

Congress leader among six arrested in assault case

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: A local Congress leader and five others were arrested today by Pacca Danga police for launching a physical attack on a man in New Plot area.

According to a police official, a Congress leader belonging to RS Pura, who was identified as Mohan Choudhary along with some other persons this afternoon visited the house of the in-laws of his daughter at New Plot to solve some matrimonial dispute.

"However, both the parties exchanged heated words there and engaged in a scuffle during which according to the complainant, who

was identified as Gaar Singh son of Krishan Singh, resident of New Plot, Congress leader and his accomplices thrashed him and attacked with a sharp edged weapon", the police official said.

He said in the attack, Gaar Singh received some injuries in his head following which he was shifted to Government Hospital, Sarwal, where after providing treatment, he was discharged.

"In this connection, a case FIR NO 09/2018 under Sections 323, 147, 148, 452 3/25 Arms Act has been registered at police station Pacca Danga and six persons including the accused Congress leader has been arrested", the official said.

PDP distributes blankets among needy

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: People's Democratic Party (PDP) Jammu West organised a function and distributed blankets among needy people.

The programme was organized under the leadership of Ranjeev Dharmath while PDP General Secretary and former MLC Ved Mahajan was chief guest. Rajinder Manhas District President Urban and Varinder Singh Sonu Vice President Youth were guests of honour.

While addressing the gathering,

Ved Mahajan urged all people, especially the youth to come forward and donate some part of their saving to the deserving families who sleep under open sky in this harsh weather.

He said that the aim of the Government is to provide all basic amenities to the people at their door steps. He asked the people to take maximum benefits of State and Centrally sponsored schemes being provided for the benefit of people.

Among others present were Kamal Sharma, Ravi Salgotra, Dicky Singh, Rashpal Singh Baloria and Rajinder Singh Tinku.

Develop Tawi river front on pattern of Sabarmati: TA

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Tawi Andolan (TA) has demanded immediate implementation of river front development plan on the pattern of Sabarmati river front.

The issue was raised today by convener of Tawi Andolan, Advocate Chander Mohan Sharma, while addressing a gathering during a function here at Vikram Singh Park, Vikram

Chowk.

Vice Chairman of JDA, RK Chavan was honoured on the occasion, for his efforts to beautify Tawi bridge and flyover, and also retrieving thousands of illegal encroachments. Baba Dev Dass and Sanjay Shastri also participated in the function and gave their blessings to Tawi Andolan activists.

The programme was culminated with Tawi Arti and distribution of Khichdi Prasad.

Infant among 4 injured in accident

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA, Jan 15: Four persons including an infant got injured, when the Tata Sumo they were travelling in, plunged into gorge near Malath Morh area, falling under the jurisdiction of Gandoh Police Station, a police official said.

The injured have been identified as Shah Mohammad, son of Sain Gujjar of Kuthloo, Showket Ali, son of Fatha Mohammad of Bhatoli, Salema Begum, wife of Showket Ali of Bhatoli and a one and half year infant.

All the injured were rushed to Primary Health Centre Gandoh, where they were undergoing treatment, when last reports came in.

A case in this regard has been registered at Gandoh Police Station and investigation started.



Artists of Nataraj Dance & Fitness Studio giving a performance during a State level event in Jammu.

Nataraj Studio holds State level dance event

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Nataraj Dance & Fitness Studio organized a grand State level dance event here at Teachers' Auditorium, Gandhi Nagar.

BJP State secretary, Sanjay Baru was the guest of honour on the occasion while State press secretary, Dr Pardeep Malhotra was the special guest.

The participants kept the audience spellbound by their mesmerizing performances on the stage acts. The main highlights of the event were choreographers' act and a performance given by chairperson, Rahul Talwar and MD, Sahil Talwar.

There were also some solo performances given by the kids and some theme based acts like "Save the Girl Child". One horror act particularly grabbed the attention of audience owing to the beautiful performances from all the participants involved in the act.

SRTC VRS employees meet Drabu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: A deputation of All J&K SRTC Volunteer Retired Employees (VRS) Association led by its President Dev Raj Bali met Finance Minister Dr Haseeb Drabu.

The delegation apprised the Minister of their genuine demands regarding the COLA arrears of J&K SRTC VRS and GHS employees.

The Minister gave patient hearing to the issues raised by the delegation and assured them of early redressal.

Among others, who were part of the delegation were Surinder Singh, Mohammad Ashraf Kashmir, Prem Nath, Bindravan Sharma, Davinder Singh, Dwarka Nath and Mohinder Singh.

Mentally unstable youth missing

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: A mentally unstable youth has been missing since January 8 from Digiana area of city outskirts.

According to the reports, the youth identified as Ajay Kumar (18), son of Ramesh Lal and resident of Roop Nagar, Digiana, went out of his house on January 8 and did not return back home. A missing complaint case in this regard already stands registered at police post Digiana.

Any information about the missing youth may be communicated at mobile phone numbers 9797337411, 9419140635, 990623 4132 or police post Digiana.

Man arrested with illicit liquor pouches

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Jan 15: Rannagar police arrested a man along with 42 pouches of illicit liquor.

As per police spokesman, a team from Police Station Rannagar apprehended a man along with 42 pouches of illicit liquor.

The arrested person has been identified as Darshan Kumar, son of Jagat Ram, a resident of Panchoch, tehsil Latti.

A case under FIR Number 7/18 under Section 48-A Excise Act has been registered at Rannagar Police Station and investigation started.

Police team led by SHO Rannagar SI Sanjay Raina made the arrest under the supervision of SDPO Rannagar Jagdev Singh Slathia.

Congregation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: The bi-annual congregation of Akhil Bucha Mahajan Biradari will be held on January 22 at Dev Sthaan, Bhagoche Chak Ladiyal, on Hiranagar-Bhaiya Devi Road, Hira Nagar.

All the devotees/members of Bucha Mahajan Biradari have been invited to attend the congregation with their families and seek the blessings of Kul Devi Bua lakho Devi, Mal Mata, Raja Kalvir and Sargal (Nag) Devta.

According to secretary of the Biradari, Rohit Gupta, Havan will start at 9 AM, followed by management committee meeting. In the end, Bhandara will be organized for the devotees.

Shiv Sena demands winding up of all Madrassas in State

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Shiv Sena (Bala Sahib Thackrey) State unit today said BJP should withdraw support to Mehbooba Mufti Government and imposition of Government rule in the State immediately.

While talking to media persons here, today State president of Shiv Sena, Dimpy Kohli and general secretary, Manish Sahni said that the statement given by Indian Army chief is a matter of grave concern that Madrassas in Kashmir are providing oxygen to violence in the State particularly in Kashmir.

He said the State is going through the tough phase and ruling party is pleasing separatists by one way or the other. He said that after listening hatred teachings in the Madrassas youth of Kashmir instigated to join violence and they take part in stone pelting. He said that School Education Department must take action against these Madrassas and must book the administration of these Madrassas who are provoking children to indulge in violence.

Sahni disclosed that Modi Government was well aware of taking action they remain a mute spectator. He said that all the claims of Modi Government proved empty vessels. He said that most of the students after having their teaching in the Madrassas involved themselves in stone pelting and stressed on the need to reform the education system. He blamed the Government for withdrawal of his orders of

while talking to media persons here, today State president of Shiv Sena, Dimpy Kohli and general secretary, Manish Sahni said that the statement given by Indian Army chief is a matter of grave concern that Madrassas in Kashmir are providing oxygen to violence in the State particularly in Kashmir.

He said the State is going through the tough phase and ruling party is pleasing separatists by one way or the other. He said that after listening hatred teachings in the Madrassas youth of Kashmir instigated to join violence and they take part in stone pelting. He said that School Education Department must take action against these Madrassas and must book the administration of these Madrassas who are provoking children to indulge in violence.

Sahni disclosed that Modi Government was well aware of taking action they remain a mute spectator. He said that all the claims of Modi Government proved empty vessels. He said that most of the students after having their teaching in the Madrassas involved themselves in stone pelting and stressed on the need to reform the education system. He blamed the Government for withdrawal of his orders of

while talking to media persons here, today State president of Shiv Sena, Dimpy Kohli and general secretary, Manish Sahni said that the statement given by Indian Army chief is a matter of grave concern that Madrassas in Kashmir are providing oxygen to violence in the State particularly in Kashmir.

He said the State is going through the tough phase and ruling party is pleasing separatists by one way or the other. He said that after listening hatred teachings in the Madrassas youth of Kashmir instigated to join violence and they take part in stone pelting. He said that School Education Department must take action against these Madrassas and must book the administration of these Madrassas who are provoking children to indulge in violence.

Sahni disclosed that Modi Government was well aware of taking action they remain a mute spectator. He said that all the claims of Modi Government proved empty vessels. He said that most of the students after having their teaching in the Madrassas involved themselves in stone pelting and stressed on the need to reform the education system. He blamed the Government for withdrawal of his orders of

while talking to media persons here, today State president of Shiv Sena, Dimpy Kohli and general secretary, Manish Sahni said that the statement given by Indian Army chief is a matter of grave concern that Madrassas in Kashmir are providing oxygen to violence in the State particularly in Kashmir.

He said the State is going through the tough phase and ruling party is pleasing separatists by one way or the other. He said that after listening hatred teachings in the Madrassas youth of Kashmir instigated to join violence and they take part in stone pelting. He said that School Education Department must take action against these Madrassas and must book the administration of these Madrassas who are provoking children to indulge in violence.

Sahni disclosed that Modi Government was well aware of taking action they remain a mute spectator. He said that all the claims of Modi Government proved empty vessels. He said that most of the students after having their teaching in the Madrassas involved themselves in stone pelting and stressed on the need to reform the education system. He blamed the Government for withdrawal of his orders of

while talking to media persons here, today State president of Shiv Sena, Dimpy Kohli and general secretary, Manish Sahni said that the statement given by Indian Army chief is a matter of grave concern that Madrassas in Kashmir are providing oxygen to violence in the State particularly in Kashmir.

He said the State is going through the tough phase and ruling party is pleasing separatists by one way or the other. He said that after listening hatred teachings in the Madrassas youth of Kashmir instigated to join violence and they take part in stone pelting. He said that School Education Department must take action against these Madrassas and must book the administration of these Madrassas who are provoking children to indulge in violence.

Sahni disclosed that Modi Government was well aware of taking action they remain a mute spectator. He said that all the claims of Modi Government proved empty vessels. He said that most of the students after having their teaching in the Madrassas involved themselves in stone pelting and stressed on the need to reform the education system. He blamed the Government for withdrawal of his orders of

while talking to media persons here, today State president of Shiv Sena, Dimpy Kohli and general secretary, Manish Sahni said that the statement given by Indian Army chief is a matter of grave concern that Madrassas in Kashmir are providing oxygen to violence in the State particularly in Kashmir.

wearing "Burka" for the teaching staff in these Madrassas due to the threat of separatists.

He further said that the separatists are demanding weekly holiday on Friday instead of Sunday. Shiv Sena demands a stern action against the teaching staff in the Madrassas and Government

schools who are involved in anti-national and separatist activities and warned them to stop misguiding the youth of the State otherwise, Shiv Sena will start a campaign against them.

The Shiv Sena leaders namely working president Ashwani Gupta senior vice president Rajiv Bhandari State spokesman

Rakesh Kak, vice president Rajan Gupta, Nath Pal Singh, Secretary Raj Singh, Vikas Bakshi, Pawan Singh, Vikas Patel, Raju Salaria and Rajiv Sharma were present among others on this occasion.

Raina's concern over taking over of National School by Govt

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: BJP MLC Girdhari Lal Raina today raised the issue of taking over of National High School in Karan Nagar Srinagar by the Government which is a heritage School belonging to minority Pandit community.

Raina, who raised the issue through a Point of Information (PoI) during Question Hour in Upper House wanted a statement from the Government on the issue.

He said that last year the House passed a resolution on honourable and dignified return of Pandits to Valley but when their property is taken like this then how and what for they will return, he asked?

He said National High School is an important heritage school of Kashmir established after hard work by the community.

2 accused involved in shootout case arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 15: Police arrested two accused, who were involved in Simble Camp shootout case, registered with Miran Sahib Police Station.

As per police sources, on reliable information, a police team led by SDPO RS Pura Surinder Choudhary and assisted by SHO Miran Sahib Inspector Ajit Singh under the supervision of SP Headquarters Jammu RC Kotwal conducted raid and arrested two accused, who were involved in Simble Camp shootout case.

The accused have been identified as Pramjit Singh alias Jongi, son of Devi Dass of Drabte, RS Pura and Ajay Kumar, son of Buda Raj, a resident of Ward Number 4, RS Pura.

A case under FIR Number 154/17 under Section 307 RPC, 3/25 and 4/25 Arms Act stands registered against them at Police Station Miran Sahib.

Further investigation into the case is going on.