



Kavinder Gupta and others kick starting work on WSS at Gangyal on Tuesday.

## Kavinder kick starts WSS, other developmental works

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 29: Former Dy CM & senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta today toured Gandhi Nagar Assembly constituency and kick started work on laying of pipe line of Water Supply Schemes (WSS) at Sector 3, Ward 56 in Gangyal area.

Kavinder Gupta along with Councillor Baldev Bilowria started much awaited WSS dream project for whole of the Ekta Vihar and adjoining areas, which shall be supplied with the required water supply. This was the long pending demand of the area and this project is being executed by the PHE Department with an estimated cost of Rs 24 lakh.

Speaking on the occasion, Kavinder Gupta said that Government was committed to provide all basic amenities like adequate drinking water, power, education, healthcare facilities and other civic facilities to the people of all the three regions of the State, especially the areas where there is either shortage of water supply or where the pipes are damaged and the new colonies. Gupta said the directions have already been passed to the concerned for identification of habitations where there is shortage of water and also they were asked



BJP general secretary, Yudhviri Sethi, addressing a party meeting in Jammu East constituency.

## J&K under Modi rule on path of progress: Yudhviri

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 29: BJP State general secretary, Yudhviri Sethi today said that Jammu and Kashmir under Modi rule is on the path of progress, as in last five years the State has seen tremendous development.

He said this is for the first time that Jammu and Kashmir besides Ladakh has witnessed massive development and corruption has taken a back seat. "Earlier, during the regime of Congress and National Conference there was open loot of public money," he added.

Yudhviri said this in separate meeting of BJP workers of Akhnour unit and Jammu East. Both the party units resolved to participate in a big way and reach AIIMS ground at Vijaypur on February 3 in large numbers to make Prime Minister Narendra Modi's public meeting a grand success where he is scheduled to speak his heart out in respect of development of Jammu and Kashmir.

He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi is leading the country to a new high where world has started recognizing India as a force.

## PHE workers protest for pending wages, threaten Kaam Chorh Hartal

**Excelsior Correspondent**

UDHAMPUR, Jan 29: The PHE workers and employees held a strong protest demonstration for release of pending wages, here today and announced to observe Kaam Chorh Hartal on February 4, 5.

also alleged discrimination with Jammu region in respect of wages to the workers in PHE department.

While addressing the protest demonstration, Som Nath drew attention of the Governor's administration towards plights of PHE workers and demanded implementation of SRO 520 besides release of wages, pending since October 2014. He alleged that the authorities were befouling poor workers by not clearing the stand on pending wages since October 2014 to March 2018.

"The Chief Engineer has issued directions to pay the wages from April 2018 but he has not cleared anything about the gap of 42 months," he explained and urged the Governor

\* Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

to personally intervene into the matter for getting the pending wages released.

Others, who spoke on the occasion, included Vijay Kumar, Suraj Parkash, Makhan Chand, Balbir Singh, Amit Dubey, Sanjay Sharma, Ganesh Chand, Rajinder Kumar, Prabu Lal and Govind Sharma.

## Provide relief to fruit growers: Ex-MLA

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Jan 29: CPI(M) leader Mohamad Yousuf Tarigami (ex-MLA) has urged the Governor administration to release funds on account of the relief in favour of affected fruit growers of Kashmir.

In a statement issued here today, the CPI(M) leader reiterated that the untimely snowfall of November 4, wreaked havoc with fruit industry damaging both fruit trees and standing unharvested crops. The little relief announced by the Government, is yet to reach the fruit growers as the funds on this account have not been released in full.

The fruit growers, he said are in a state of shock and denial of relief permissible under SDRF norms has completely shattered their faith in the governance system. He has urged the Governor to look into the issue personally and release the funds to the concerned district authorities on top priority.

Tarigami said the fruit industry is the mainstay of States economy, adding that negligence of this potential sector will seriously hit livelihood means of lakhs of farmers with disastrous impact on GDP of the State.

## 2nd phase of agitation by PoK DPs begins

**Excelsior Correspondent**

POONCH, Jan 29: Second phase of agitation by the PoK Displaced Persons, under the banner of SOS International, led by its Chairman Rajiv Chuni, began with a massive protest demonstration at Poonch City.

A large number of PoK DPs from Poonch assembled at Krishan Chander Park in Poonch City and held a massive demonstration there amidst raising of slogans. The protesting DPs also took out a march from the demonstration site to Deputy Commissioner's office where a memorandum of demands, addressed to Prime Minister of India and Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, was submitted through the District administration.

They were demanding implementation of the whole package passed by State Cabinet in October 2014 for PoK Displaced Persons, facilities to all Displaced Persons at par with Valley migrants, reservation of eight Assembly seats for the people displaced from PoK, permission for PoK DPs to visit their religious places in Pak occupied Jammu Kashmir, inclusion of 5,300 PoK DP families living outside the State in the ambit of package passed in October 2014 and return of cash deposits with interest to PoK DPs lying with J&K Bank Mirpur.

While addressing the demonstration, Rajiv Chuni accused the BJP leadership of being hypocrite and arrogant. "In 2013, this party had taken out a Refugee Adhikar Yatra from Poonch to Lakhampur and R S Pura to Ramban promising the community to address their grievance and we people also trusted them by extending all support in 2014 polls but it turned out to be another Jumla of this party," he alleged and appealed people to teach BJP a lesson in the forthcoming elections.

Drawing a parallel between Displaced Persons from PoK and Kashmiri migrants, Rajiv Chuni said that all facilities like relief in cash, ration, free accommodation and even tax rebate were being extended to the migrants from Valley whereas on the other hand, there was only lip service for the PoK DPs. He informed that the SOS International has prepared a comparative chart on the Government facilities to Kashmiri migrants and PoK DPs, which will be distributed among people for awareness on step motherly treatment to the community.

Others who addressed the gathering, included Advocate Chaman Lal, Sanjeev Sharma, Dilbagh Singh, Harbans Singh, Dushyant Puri, Sarvjit Singh Kranti, Udes Paul Sharma, V K Datta, VR Bali and Pramod Ghai.

## Natrang stages play 'The Dear Departed'

**Excelsior Correspondent**

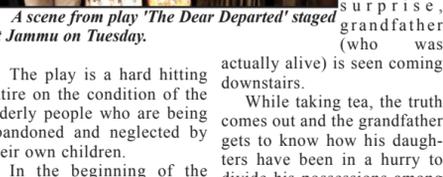
JAMMU, Jan 29: Theatre group Natrang here today presented Stanley Houghton's popular play 'The Dear Departed' translated in Hindi by Sewak Nayyar and directed by Neeraj Kant.

The family members start detailed conversation on the deeds of the grandfather, planning the details of the obituary announcement in the papers and the insurance premium payment. They start discussion over the distribution of grandfather's belongings among them.

A mid these discussions and debates, to everybody's surprise, grandfather (who was actually alive) is seen coming downstairs.

While taking tea, the truth comes out and the grandfather gets to know how his daughters have been in a hurry to divide his possessions among them.

Natrang actors who performed in the play included Brighu Sharma, Abhinav Sharma, Meenakshi Bhagat, Sameena Kousar, Brijesh Avtar Sharma and Saanvi Anand. Lights were operated by Neeraj Kant whereas the sound was rendered by Manoj Lalotra. Sushant Singh Charak presented the show before the audience and the show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.



A scene from play 'The Dear Departed' staged at Jammu on Tuesday.

## 'BJP failed to develop Tawi front on Sabarmati pattern'

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 29: Shiv Sena Bala Sahib Thackeray J&K unit has urged upon the Governor, Satya Pal Malik to take steps for early completion of much awaited Tawi river front project on the pattern of Sabarmati river.

Shiv Sena State President, Dimpy Kohli here today told reporters that the development of 4.50 km stretch of Tawi river front along the lines of Sabarmati river seems to be a cruel joke by BJP with Jammu people.

"In the year 2015 the PDP-BJP coalition Government mooted the plan of developing the Tawi front on the lines of River Sabarmati. A team was also deputed to study how the Sabarmati river development corporation was functioning and maintaining the cleanliness and recreational aspect of the enterprise. But after remaining in power for three and half years nothing has been done to accomplish the project for the welfare of Jammu traders who are suffering due to callous attitude of previous BJP Government," Kohli said.

Vipin Hindu, Shiv Sena Chairman, Manish Sahni, General Secretary, Ashwani Gupta, Senior Vice President and others were also present.



Senior Congress leaders, Sham Lal Sharma and Dr Manohar Lal Sharma posing with party functionaries at a function in Billawar.

## Manohar, Sham urge cadre to strengthen roots of party

**Excelsior Correspondent**

KATHUA, Jan 29: Former Ministers and senior Congress leaders Dr Manohar Lal Sharma and Sham Lal Sharma today urged upon the Party functionaries to strengthen the Party further at booth, Halqa and Block levels in the State in order to face the challenges.

While addressing a party function at Billawar, they called upon young Congress workers to ensure big victories for the congress candidates in the forthcoming elections and said the success of any party depends on its cadre and youth power.

Dr Sharma, in his address, instructed the cadre to take Congress ideologies and principles to the people and expose the lies and wrong policies of BJP among the people. In the meet-

## First death anniversary of Dr Sonam Lonpo observed

**Excelsior Correspondent**

LEH, Jan 29: The LAHDC, Leh has dedicated the newly created park of Housing Colony, Leh in honour of former Chairman and Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Leh Dr. Sonam Dawa Lonpo on his first death anniversary today.

The Chief Executive Councillor, LAHDC, Leh Jamyang Tsering Namyal (JTN) after inaugurating the Park announced to dedicate it after Dr. Sonam Dawa Lonpo's name.

Council organized a function here today which was attended by a galaxy of personalities, relatives of departed leader, heads of various religious, political and social organizations and paid rich tribute to late Dr. Sonam Dawa Lonpo by offering Khataks at his portrait.

Those present on the occasion include Executive Councillor Minority Affairs Mumtaz Hussain, Executive Councillor Agriculture Stanzin Phuntsog, Deputy Commissioner/Chief Executive Officer, LAHDC, Leh, Avny Lavasa, Chairman, Municipal Committee, Dr. Ishey Namgyal, Councillors of LAHDC, Leh, senior Congress leader Tsering Samphel, SE PWD, relatives of late Dr. Dawa and people of Housing Colony.

Addressing on the occasion, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal

## Five children with congenital heart disease successfully treated at Narayana Hospital

**Excelsior Correspondent**

KATRA, Jan 29: Five children suffering from congenital heart disease were treated using Interventional Cardiology (minimally invasive procedure alternatives to surgery) at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Narayana Superspecialty Hospital, Kakryal under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK).

The Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) was launched in February 2013 under National Rural Health Mission with a new initiative aiming at early identification and early intervention of over 27 crore children from birth to 18 years to cover 4 'D's viz. defects at birth, deficiencies, diseases, development delays including disability.

The children diagnosed with illnesses receive follow-up including surgeries at tertiary level, free of cost under NRHM. They were treated by Prof (Dr) Hemant Madan, Senior Consultant, Cardiology and Paediatric Cardiology.

Prof Madan specified that the dividends of early cardiology inter-

## 12 kg polythene seized, 70 kg stale fruits destroyed

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAJOURI, Jan 29: Intensifying the drive to check food adulteration and other violations in the district, various teams of Legal Metrology, Food Safety and Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Departments, Tehsildars, officers of Municipality, Health department and Police jointly conducted market checking in Sunderbani, Nowshera and Rajouri.

Thanaamandi, Manjakote and Darhal and booked erring traders realizing a fine of Rs 17000 from them.

The team inspected various food establishments including shops of sweets, provisional stores, fruits shops, bakery and fast food units in all the tehsils of the district.

## Closure order of Central Cooperative Banks fumes border inhabitants, protest held

**Excelsior Correspondent**

KATHUA, Jan 29: Miffed over the closure of Central Cooperative Banks throughout the district, the farmers and local villagers staged protest demonstration at border village of Salalpur under the leadership of Ex-MLC Subash Gupta.

The protesters raising slogans against the decision



Farmers and locals raising slogans during protest at village Salalpur in district Kathua.

said adding that all these branches are running under profit and with the closure of these branches not only the depositors will suffer however the branches will also have to suffer huge loss.

Subash Gupta further added that with the closure of Salalpur branch the farmers will have to travel 25 kilometers to reach other banks, which will be wastage of time and money.

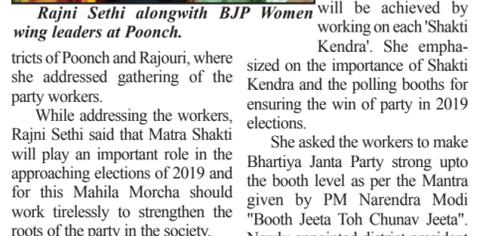
The other protesters including Sarpanchs, Panchs, and farmers alleging Government of anti-farmer and anti-border populace appealed Governor to interfere in the matter and issue orders of revoking the closure order. The protesters also warned of intensifying the struggle if their demand is not met within stipulated period.

Ajeet Kumar, Retd. Ranger, Praveen Bhagat, Ramesh Kundal, Raj Kumar, Ram Lal Ex-Sarpanch, Tarsem Lal, Joginder Singh, Ramesh Chander and others were among protesters.

## Rajni Sethi visits Poonch-Rajouri to assess BJP preparedness for polls

**Excelsior Correspondent**

POONCH, Jan 29: In continuation to official visit to districts to assess the party preparedness for 2019 elections, State BJP Mahila Morcha president, Rajni Sethi was on two-day "Pravaas" in twin dis-



Rajni Sethi along with BJP Women wing leaders at Poonch.

tricts of Poonch and Rajouri, where she addressed gathering of the party workers.

While addressing the workers, Rajni Sethi said that Matra Shakti will play an important role in the approaching elections of 2019 and for this Mahila Morcha should work tirelessly to strengthen the roots of the party in the society.

Maintaining that BJP has got an edge due to the performance of Modi Government, she added that if workers at the booth level don't become active, all efforts will go waste. She stressed that the party will win 2019 elections because of its performance and then no one can dethrone the BJP for the next 50 years.

Accompanied by State general secretary Sanjita Dogra, Rajni Sethi urged the party workers to take the public welfare schemes of

## Searches in Samba

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 29: Security forces today conducted a search operation following suspected movement along the Indo-Pakistan border in Ramgarh sector of Samba district.

The search operation was launched in Basantar river area in Ramgarh sector following reports of suspected movement in border areas, sources said.

Basantar riverine area along the International Border had been an infiltration route for militants.

Earlier, Pakistan Rangers targeted forward posts along the International Border in Samba district.

BSF troops guarding the borderline retaliated resulting in brief exchanges, sources said.

They added that Pakistani Rangers fired several rounds on forward posts along the IB in Ramgarh sector but their guns were silenced with the BSF retaliation.

## Power shut down

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 29: According to Chief Engineer, Elect. Maintt. & R.E. Wing, Jammu, the shutdown of 20MVA Transformer Bharat Bijlee fed from 120 MVA, 132/66 KV Grid Station Kathua will be observed on January 30 from 11 am to 01 pm.

Similarly, the shutdown of 50MVA Transformer EMCO fed from 120 MVA, 132/66 KV Grid Station Kathua will be observed on January 30 from 01 pm to 03 pm.

During the shutdown period, the power supply to Hatli Morh,