

Saifullah inspects work on new Legislature Complex

***Announces Rs 35 lakh for Distt Court Complex**

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Mir Saifullah, today inspected the construction work on Rs. 10.44



Minister for Law Mir Saifullah inspecting construction work of new Legislature Complex at Jammu on Thursday.

crore new Legislature Complex being raised at Jammu and asked the executing agencies to complete the project in time. MD J&K Projects Construction Corporation (JKPCC), briefed the Minister about the physical and financial status of work done, so far,

in District Court Complex, Janipur. The Complex will have four storeys including basement and three floors which will accommodate 213 chambers, toilet block, kitchens, pantry and conference hall. The Lawyers Complex would be completed

at an estimated cost of Rs. 18.52 crore and is expected to be completed soon.

MD, JKPCCC informed the Minister that 34 chambers have been completed so far and handed over to Bar Association besides 61 chambers have been completed in all respects and are ready for handover.

Later, the Minister honored newly appointed Notaries and distributed Notary Licenses among them. Director Litigation, Additional Law Secretary, Senior Advocates, Public Prosecutors and newly appointed notaries were also present on the occasion.

Later, the Minister convened a meeting with Law Officers of Jammu Wing and Public Prosecutors of Jammu division and reviewed the functioning of their departments.

While speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that the Government is committed to upgrade infrastructure facilities in High Court Complex. He said the Government has recently released Rs 1 crore for construction of Lawyer's Chambers in District Court Complex which is going on in full swing.

Meanwhile, the Minister convened a meeting with office bearers of J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu to take stock of the facilities being provided in District and High Court Complex.

President J&K High Court Bar Association, M. K. Bhardwaj apprised the Minister of the problems being faced by the advocates in High Court Complex. They demanded installation of Air Conditions in the court rooms of District Court Complex and establishment of library.

While responding, the Minister announced Rs. 25 lakh for installation of ACs in the court rooms of District Court Complex and Rs. 10 lakh for setting up of library.

The advocates also raised other issues which included provision of safe drinking water and renovation of furniture in High Court Bar rooms.

First batch leaving today Nayas discusses Buddha Amarnath Yatra arrangements with Govt

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: On the eve of commencement of Shri Buddha Amarnath Yatra from Jammu, the administration discussed necessary arrangements with Shri Buddha Amarnath Yatri Nayas, here today.

Principal Secretary to Governor and CEO of Shri Amarnath Shrine Board Naveen Choudhary, Director Tourism Jammu Soujanya Sharma, IGP Jammu Rajesh Kumar and other officers took part in the meeting-organism that took place at Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas.

Representative of Hindu organizations, including national spokesperson of Bajrang Dal Parkash Sharma, head of the Buddha Amarnath Nayas Surinder Aggarwal, VHP leader Rajesh Pandey and VHP State president Rama Kant Dubey, put forth some suggestions before the administration for smooth conduct of the yatra.

Speaking on the occasion, Naveen Choudhary extended all possible support to the Yatri Nayas for the pilgrimage. "Following Uttarakhand tragedy, a fear psychosis had gripped the pilgrims all over the country but the Government made ensure that no unfortunate incident could take place

here," he explained. However, he expressed inability of Shri Amarnath Shrine Board to take control of the management of Buddha Amarnath Yatra since a proper legislation was needed for the same.

Referring to media reports over melting of holy Icelingam at Amarnath cave, Mr Choudhary opined that such matters should not be reported in such a casual way since sentiments of millions of people are attached to the sacred pilgrimage.

In a lighter vein, Mr Choudhary dubbed Dr Rama Kant Dubey as Angry Old Man who used to criticize the administration over the yatra arrangements. "However, his criticism also helps us to further improve the arrangements," he added.

Director Tourism Soujanya Sharma offered to permanently hand over the TRC at Poonch Mandi to Buddha Amarnath Yatri Nayas. "The Tourism Department is ready to permanently hand over this TRC for the pilgrimage if Yatri Nayas agrees for its renovation, he added.

On the occasion, Naveen Choudhary announced token contribution of Rs one lakh from the Governor and Rs 51 thousand from Jammu Tour and Travel Agents Association towards the Yatri Nayas.

Land scam: Vigilance attaches 4 more properties of accused

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: In high profile revenue embezzlement case of Lethpora land scam, four more properties have been attached by Vigilance Organization.

This includes moveable as well as immovable properties raised out of misappropriated amount of Rs 22 crore approximately during land acquisition proceedings for widening of National Highway, funded by NHA1 in 2010 by officials of then DC Office Pulwama in connivance with J&K Bank and private persons.

The properties are 3 Kanals 2 Marlas of land at Noorpora Tral, 2 Kanals 5 Marlas of land at Ratnipora Pulwama and 2 Kanals 3 Marlas of land at

Nowgam. The market value of the properties is worth Rs 1.25 crore.

It is pertinent to mention that the Vigilance Organization has already attached a number of properties both moveable and immovable including the palatial house of kingpin Farooq Jehanjeeb at Rawalpora Srinagar and frozen bank accounts worth crores of rupees under special provision of attachment in Prevention of Corruption Act svt. 2006. The present market value of these properties is more than Rs 8 crores approximately which is public money and belonged to State exchequer. The investigation is at the final stage and is likely to be sent to the Government soon for accord of sanction.

DB stays SRO on management of Vaishno Devi Shrine track by MC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: Division Bench of High Court comprising Justice Virender Singh and Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey today stayed the SRO No.198 of April 2013 whereby the jurisdiction of Municipal Committee Katra was extended for management of entire track of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine from Darshani Deodi Katra to Holy Cave.

The stay was granted in a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by SOS International through its Chairman Rajiv Chuni.

After hearing Advocate Abhinav Sharma for the PIL whereas Senior Advocates DC Raina, RK Gupta with Advocates Rohit Kohli and Prem Sadotra for the respondents, DB observed, "keeping in view the totality of facts and circumstances and the

detailed reply filed by the Shrine Board highlighting the facilities being provided to the pilgrims, it becomes imperative to stay the operation of SRO 198 so far it relates to management of track vis-a-vis the ponies/pithoos and palkies right from Darshani Deodi Katra upto the Holy Cave which is already under the management of the Shrine Board".

However, the DB deferred the consideration of the other aspects of the matter as highlighted in the PIL to the next date of hearing.

In the PIL, it has been alleged that Municipal Committee Katra was collecting the fee/ tax not only within its jurisdiction but also had opened booths outside its limit and collected crores of rupees and the amount so collected was being allegedly swindled and not being utilized for the purpose mentioned in the Municipal Act.

BJP demands probe into foreigners residing in J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 1: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today expressed concern over foreigners residing in the State and demanded probe.

A meeting of BJP was held at Narwal Bala and Rajeev Nagar under the leadership of Rajeev Charak, State convener, Training Cell BJP. The meeting was attended by Baldev Singh Billawaria, State Convener Panchayati Raj Cell, Jaideep Sharma, general secretary, Jammu district, Tarseem Choudhary, president, Gandhi Nagar Mandal, Ishant Gupta, State secretary, BJYM and other leaders.

While Speaking, Rajeev Charak said large number of Bangladeshis and Burmese have come and settled at Narwal, Ratisarai, Bagh-e-Bahu, Bahu Fort, Kermi Talab, Rajeev Nagar, Kassim Nagar, Dogra Hall and other parts of Jammu region and in Kashmir region also.

It is a serious matter because these people are suspected to be indulged in many types of criminal activities like robbery, kidnapping and killing. He added that these peoples even harm the integrity of the State as well as India.

He also added that some mysterious organizations are engaged in collecting funds for their help. Baldev Singh Billawaria demanded that the Government should look to this serious situation at the earliest and make arrangements to transfer these people out of J&K.

CM announces relief for cylinder blast victims

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: Minister of State for Home, Industries and Commerce, Sajjad Ahmad Kichloo along-with MLA Haveli Poonch Aijaz Ahmad Jan visited Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science (SKIMS) to enquire about the health of 10 seriously injured persons in a gas cylinder blast at Ramban. The admitted patients have multiple burn injuries.

The Minister directed the SKIMS administration and the doctors on duty to provide best possible medicare facilities to the injured persons. He also urged for providing free medical treatment to the injured persons.

Later, Kichloo met the Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah and apprised him about the condition of the injured persons.

Chief Minister announced relief of Rs.10, 000 in favour of each injured person out of his relief fund.

Girl consumes poison

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 1: A girl, 17, of Batapora Larnoo of Anantnag district consumed some poisonous substance at her home.

A police spokesman said she was shifted to Public Health Centre, Larnoo. He said that doctors at PHC referred her to District Hospital Anantnag.

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