

BJP leaders visit cloudburst areas, assure help

Excelsior Correspondent

KARGIL, Aug 3: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) delegation led by State president Jugal Kishore Sharma and State Prabhari (Incharge) and Member Parliament (MP) Avinash Rai Khanna visited cloudburst areas for assessment of the damage caused and assured the affected people of every possible help from the party.

They were accompanied by State general secretary Rajiv Jasrotia, senior leader Sofi Yousuf, State secretary Munish Sharma and district president Kargil Haji Khaddam. Jugal Kishore Sharma while interacting with the affected people said that even though the ruling National Conference and Congress are well aware that cloudbursts and similar calamities are a regular feature in this

cold desert region of Ladakh but Government has never taken any interest in making advance preparation for such situation by formulating some permanent disaster management plan.

Avinash Rai Khanna said that party at State level is making best efforts to project the problems of the people of Kargil and at national level committed to work with same zeal to make the people sitting in Delhi aware of the ground realities.

Khanna said that the monsoon session of the Parliament is going to commence on August 5 and he will personally raise the issue of Kargil in Rajya Sabha to draw the attention of the Union Government and seek some sort of special package for the affected people.

Rajiv Jasrotia, Munish Sharma and Haji Khaddam also expressed their views.

PHE employees demand release of pending wages

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Aug 3: Executive body meeting of PHE Employees Association of Udhampur and Reasi districts was held here under chairmanship of Vijay Kumar, general secretary in which various long pending demands were discussed.

The issue regarding direct recruitment of Class IV employees was discussed in the meeting and it was resolved that direct recruitment would discourage already engaged need based workers who have put in more than 20 years services to the department with intermittent wages.

They demanded that the Government should issue regularization orders of DRWs, C P and ITI trained workers. The speakers also demanded immediate release of wages of employees which have not been

provided to them for the past over 16 to 17 months.

Other demands discussed pertained to provision of staff on new Water Supply Schemes; change in the designation of workers as per nature of job being performed by them; holding of DPC meeting at district and provincial level which has not been held for the past 15 years; benefit of SRO 64 to all daily wagers, ITI workers and community participation workers who have completed seven years regular services and increase in daily wage rate to Rs 300. They also demanded conversion of all CP workers as daily wagers.

Others who addressed included Rattan Singh, Subash Chander, Suraj Parkash, Jagdish Magotra, Krishan Chand, Baldev Raj, Amar Dev Singh, Luxman Singh, Chuni Lal, Shiv Lal Sharma, Kuldeep Kumar, Balveer Singh etc.

Gurez farmers suffer huge losses as their cattle cross over to PoK

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: Farmers in Gurez sector of Bandipora district are suffering huge losses as their cattle cross over to the Line of Control (LoC) and they fail to retrieve them due to fence and landmines.

The crossover of the animals to the PoK has left many farmers' lives miserable as the animals are an economic asset to them.

"More than 400 cattle crossed the LoC while grazing in the forests from last few months. This has snatched the livelihood of scores of families here," Irshad Ahmad Beigh, a farmer said.

"Domestication of animals is the mainstay of livelihood here as the main agriculture land here has been rendered useless

due to the LoC fence constructed a decade ago," he said. Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Mohammad Yousuf Zarger, told Excelsior that the administration can't help the farmers in recovering the cattle, and instead asked them to remain cautious.

Similarly, in Tulail, shepherds also said that are losing their cattle to the LoC cross over. "I was taking a nap when some of my cattle reached near LoC, but I could not turn them back due to the fear of land mines," Noor Mohammad, a shepherd said.

Mohammad said that the incidents of crossing the cattle to the PoK have happened in the past as well, but nobody came forward to find a solution.

5 cattle die after consuming poisonous water

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Aug 3: Five cattle were killed after they allegedly consumed poisonous water mixed with untreated effluents coming out of a pesticide units in the Industrial area near Hatli here today.

Some people noticed some cattle struggling for lives in a small nallah near B R Agro Industry in the Industrial area during the day. While three cows had already died two more later died struggling on the nallah. They reported the matter to Hatli Morh police and the District Administration.

Many people gathered on the spot and owners of the cattle also reached there. They noticed that some untreated effluents coming out of the nearby pesticide unit owned by a UP based investor had been mixing with water in the nallah. They also sounded the local State Pollution Control Board officials.

The District Administration taking cognizance of the matter asked Hatli Morh police to conduct postmortem of the animals

through Board of Veterinary doctors. Postmortem of the animals' body was conducted on the spot and later animals' bodies disposed off. The police registered the case against the unit management and two senior officials were also detained for questioning. There was strong resentment among the locals of the area against the SPCB authorities which hardly conduct checking of the ETPs installed in the units in Kathua. Many units are not running their ETPs, in violations of the standing norms thus posing danger to the life of the people and animals.

Regional Director of the SPCB Jammu, Sajjad Mufti when contacted claimed that a team of PCB led by Deepak Abrol visited the spot and also collected water samples. He said that samples thus collected have been sent to the lab for testing. If any unit found violating the standing norms, will be issued closure notice and consent to operate issued by PCB will be withdrawn. He also claimed that fresh directions have been issued to the field staff to conduct surprise checking in the units and take cognizance of the

YAIKS meets Additional Secretary Home Affairs

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj (YAIKS) delegation led by its president RK Bhat met K Shandan, Additional Secretary, Minister of Home Affairs and discussed the PM's rehabilitation package for Kashmiri migrants.

While speaking, Bhat demanded filling up of remaining 4550 posts out of sanctioned 6000 posts by Prime Minister, adjustment of 221 candidates, who are fighting for their rights in the Court of Law, one time

compensation in favour of over-aged youths, separate accommodation and other allied facilities for the employees selected under PM's rehabilitation package and updating of proper voter list of migrants.

Additional Secretary said that migrants return to the Valley and redressal of their burning issues are on the priority of Government of India. He passed directions to the J&K Government for speedy implementation of the remaining components of employment package.

Army conducts 4 wheeler repairing, maintenance training

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Aug 3: Rashtriya Rifles Battalion located at Gool under the aegis of Reasi based Rashtriya Rifles Force conducted month long four wheeler repairing and maintenance cadre.

A total of five youths from the remote villages of Gool area underwent this cadre training. During the conduct of the cadre, the youths were trained in the

nuances of working on four wheeler maintenance and servicing techniques.

During the closing ceremony Commanding Officer of the Rashtriya Rifles Battalion located at Gool addressed the youths, who successfully completed the course.

He said that the cadre would provide them the capability of self employment and also assured all assistance from the Army.

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BJP describes Karat's statement on Modi as politically motivated

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: Taking strong exception to CPI (M) leader Brinda Karat's statement alleging that Narendra Modi's regime in Gujarat has been anti-Sikh, Dr Jitendra Singh, national executive member and chief spokesman, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) described the statement as a distortion of facts because the decision to freeze agricultural accounts of Sikh farmers, referred by Karat, is based on a circular issued by the then Congress Government in Gujarat in 1973.

In a statement, Dr Singh said that this controversy has been deliberately raked up in the election season as an attempt to falsely target Narendra Modi by vested interest groups.

He added that the use of the words terrorizing and victimizing in National Commission for Minorities (NCM), Singh's tour report is irresponsible, malicious, deliberate and politically motivated. His report is not even yet on the NCM website.

Additionally, Brinda Karat of CPI (M) stated that Modi has occupied land of Punjabi farmers in Gujarat. This is also an irresponsible statement, which deliberately distorts facts, he added.

It is useful to understand the factual backdrop and legal issues involved in this issue, he said, adding that as a general rule under land laws that apply to Gujarat, agricultural land cannot be purchased by non-agriculturists.

PRM reiterates demand for reorganization of J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: While reiterating their resolve for continuation of movement for "Reorganisation of J&K" with separate Assemblies and Legislative powers, People's Revolutionary Movement (PRM) called upon the people of Jammu province to defeat the nefarious designs of Kashmiri rulers and their stooges.

Addressing media persons, Rajinder Jamwal, president, PRM, said that seven decades of Kashmiri rule in J&K has resulted into a great failure with large

scale irregularities, corruption, dearth of basic and essential amenities, colossal regional disparity, suppression of Jammu Pradesh and monopolization of State affairs by Kashmiris with negligible representation of Dogras in State Government.

The situation in Jammu is assuming alarming proportions as Kashmiri leadership has laid a trap to gherao Jammu from all angles after alluring few soft spots with dangerous ramifications, Jamwal added.

Among others present were Harbhajan Singh, Pankaj Jamwal, and Atresh Dutta.

Private schools ask Govt to review stand on fee structure

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: Reiterating its stand of not furnishing any information to the committee for registration of fee structure, the Private Schools Association has asked the Government to review its stand on the fee issue.

A meeting of the Association was held here today under the chairmanship of Prof J L Kotwal and Kamal Gupta for discussion over the circular issued by the Government committee for registration of fee structures.

The meet said that the committee on fee structure was not in accordance with the orders of Supreme Court. It is not in accordance with the un-aided private schools but the Medical and Technical colleges providing degrees, the meet opined and threatened to adopt second line of action if the Government does not take a sympathetic review on the committee.

Representatives of all district bodies of the Association partici-

pated in the meeting and gave feed back.

Those who attended the meeting, included R Mengi, Ajay Gupta, Vivek Chowhan, Pawan Gupta, Sanjeev Luthra, Rameshwar Manhas, Chain Singh, G S Katal, B D Raina, Sudeshwar Sadotra, Vishav Mohan Sharma, Satish Bharti, Sameer Saproo, Munish Jyotism, Rajesh Sharma, Vikram Singh, Thomas Ooman, Mahipal Sharma and Hans Raj.

Boy drowns in trench

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: A boy, Sayar Ahmed Khan, 14, son of Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din of Rawalpora, Khansahib drowned in a trench which was built for construction of a bridge over Ayajpora Nala at Wachoo in district Budgam. His body was retrieved with the help of local and handed over to his relatives for last rites, police said.



MLA Ashok Khajuria handing over a cheque to cancer patient family at Jammu on Saturday.

Khajuria hands over Rs 50,000 cheque to cancer patient

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: Helping a needy person is the real worship and everyone should keep this in mind.

This was stated by Member Legislative Assembly (MLA) and BJP leader Ashok Khajuria, while handing over a cheque of Rs 50,000 to Dalip Kumar, a resident of Panjtirthi, who is undergoing treatment of cancer.

While speaking, Ashok Khajuria, said that being member of a civil society, it becomes duty of each of us to extend help to our brethren when they are in trouble or suffering from any ailment.

It is true that no one can

carry all the responsibilities of a suffering person but still being a human being can render possible help, he added.

Khajuria also appealed the people to come forward in helping Dalip Kumar so that his poor family do not feel isolated. Moreover, it is a time for people to show their concern for the others who are not their blood relations but treat them as their own ones, he added.

Among others present were Karan Singh, Ashwani Bali, Ashwani Sharma, Naresh Abrol, Bhal Dass Khajuria, Vijay Pathwan, Bupneshwar Singh, Ashu Puri, Rohit Badyal, Subash Raina, etc.

Rare surgery in JK Medicity

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: Doctors of JK Medicity Hospital have provided a chance of smiling to Jammuites by performing successfully a rare surgery on a retired engineer, who was suffering from block in the kidney and had planned to undergo major surgery in big corporate hospital in Delhi.

GR Sawhney who already had an open heart surgery for triple vessel disease in the heart and had kidney stone removal few years back, now presented with block in the drainage system of the same kidney due to a congenital defect, that the ureter (draining tube of the kidney) passes behind the major vessels of the body instead of passing next to it.

Dr Raja Langer, Consultant Urologist and Kidney Transplant surgeon, successfully

fully operated upon this defect of Genito urinary system by releasing the urinary tube from the major vessels and rejoining it. This entity is named as Retro Caval ureter and dismembered pyeloplasty was done on it.

Dr Gurjeet Singh, eminent cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon did the vascular part of the surgery and released the defect of major vessels and urinary tube.

The procedure lasted for three hours in which cardiac anaesthesia was administered by Dr Gurmeet Singh, Anaesthetist to this already cardiac compromised patient.

Dr Gagan, (MD) Medicity Hospital, revealed that the hospital has world class infrastructure to carry out major surgeries and steps have been taken to increase and strengthen it.

Early appointment of new BOSE Chairman demanded

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 3: Due to prolonged delay in appointment of new Chairman of J&K Board of School Education, the schools are suffering as all necessary works are pending for the last two months.

This was alleged by Deep Singh, president of Jammu Private Schools and ETT Institutes Association (Progressive).

Expressing deep anguish

2 motorcycles stolen

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: Police today said that two motorcycles were stolen by unidentified persons from different location is Srinagar today.

A police spokesman said that Ghulam Nabi Dar, son of Ghulam Mohammad of Nowbugh Batpora, Zakoora reported in police station Nigeen that his motorcycle, Passion, bearing registration number JK01H/7036, has been stolen from Telbal Yard, Hazratbal area of Srinagar on Friday.

Meanwhile, Umar Abubakar, son of Mohammad Sultan Langoo of M.R Gunj also reported in police station Batamalo that his motorcycle, bearing registration number JK01G/3037, has been stolen from Iqbalabad, Bemina in Srinagar along with documents yesterday, the spokesman said. He added that police has launched investigation to nab the robbers.

over the casual approach of Government towards much delayed appointment of the new Chairman and reforms in functioning of the BOSE, Mr Singh lamented that adhoc arrangements are unable to handle the routine students related and other administrative issues.

Even as responsibility of looking after the academic career of more than seven lakh students is fixed with the BOSE turning as totally defunct in almost all respects and at this crucial juncture our Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister are least concerned, the Association president alleged.

Prof B A Dabla gets ICSSR fellowship

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: Noted social scientist and Head, Department of Sociology University of Kashmir, Prof B A Dabla has been awarded the prestigious Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Studies in Religion and Society by the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

A formal communication in this regard was issued by the ministry of HRD, according to which the fellowship is most prestigious across country in the field of social sciences.

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