

J&K youth have ample talent to bring laurels: Bhalla

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 4: Minister for Housing, Horticulture and Culture Raman Bhalla today said that youth of Jammu and Kashmir have ample talent and

Principals and Teachers of the Olympiad exams in 2012-13, here today.

Masud Chaudhary Vice Chancellor (Retd) Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, Sunil Kumar Wanchoo,



Minister for Housing, Raman Bhalla distributing award during a function on Sunday.

calibre to bring laurels for State in every competition, adding that they have proved their mettle in various fields.

This was stated by the Minister while addressing a large gathering at a 3rd State Level Award Ceremony function organised by Science Olympiad Foundation (SOF), New Delhi at Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust to felicitate State Level Winning Students of the Schools for participation in the SOF International Olympiads in Science, Cyber, Mathematics, English besides

Assistant Professor, B N Sharma, Programme Coordinator SOF New Delhi, Vijay Shankar Bhat, Executive Representative of SOF from Delhi besides teaching fraternity and students in large numbers were present on the occasion.

Mr. Bhalla asked the teaching fraternity to provide quality as well as moral values in the school to the students. He said teachers are the main architects who shape the personality of students by giving them quality education. He highlighted the role of the



Dignitaries during a lecture at Jammu on Sunday.

IIA, HDFC Ltd organize lecture on 'Landscape Architecture'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 4: Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) J&K centre in association with Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Limited organised lecture on "Landscape Architecture", which was attended by all the prominent architects and officials from HDFC Limited.

On the occasion, Prof Aditya K Singh, expert and Director School of Architecture and Landscape Design was the guest speaker.

While speaking, Prof Singh highlighted importance and the role of landscape design in

the context of urban planning. Kamakhya P Agarwal, Assistant General Manager, HDFC Limited in his speech highlighted the various facets of HDFC. He said that such interactions between the Architects Fraternity and a responsible Housing Finance Institution like HDFC will create right platform for planned and sustainable urban development.

The proceedings were conducted by Harbinder Singh, Secretary, IIA, J&K centre and Vibhu Sharma, Branch Manager, HDFC Limited, Jammu presented vote of thanks.

Natrang stages 'Naya Janam'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 4: Natrang today staged a new play "Naya Janam" based on story of Sarabjeet during its Sunday Theatre Series.

The play was written by Gursharan Singh and directed by Neeraj Kant. The theme of the play was very critical and vul-

thinks that all of his patrons treat him as friend and brother as he does. To make 'Shibu' realize the reality, 'Baldev' organizes the 50th birthday celebrations of 'Shibu' and asks him to invite all of his friends to the party, innocent 'Shibu' thinks that all of his patrons will gladly come to his celebration as he has always been a part of their happiness,

but to his dismay, no one comes to his home as they do not think him to be equal. This discrimination shakes him to the core and he decides to break all the contacts and relations with so called high-caste and high-caste people and decides that today is his rebirth (Naya Janam).

The artists who presented the play Uplaksh Singh Kotwal as 'Shibu', Sajra Qadir as 'Mejjo', Ashwani Bali as 'Baldev', Sushil Raina as 'Pandit' and



A scene from play 'Naya Janam' staged by Natrang in its Sunday Theatre Series.

Mohammad Yaseen as 'Sarpanch'. The lights were operated by

Neeraj Kant and music was scored by Mohit Sharma. Sumeet Sharma coordinated the show and also did the presentation.

Better connectivity must for socio-economic transformation: Shabir

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Aug 4: Minister of State for Health, Shabir Ahmad Khan today laid foundation of Rajdani-Paryali road in Rajouri district.

The construction work of this 8-km road would be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 4.61 crore under the Central Government's flagship programme PMGSY. On completion it would provide the facility of better road communication to over 3000 population of the area.

Addressing a well-attended public meeting after laying foundation of the road, the Minister said that Government has set into motion a golden era of development, adding that coming years will be a turnaround in socio-economic transformation of the State.

"An unprecedented era of development and peace has dawned in the State during the current dispensation under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah", Shabir said while addressing a public gathering. He said the

resources will be mobilized and consolidated to create basic facilities to the people with special focus on equitable opportunities of development and uniform justice to poor and backward areas. He said Government is abreast with the problems of the people and no stone will be left unturned to redress their grievances.

Mr. Shabir said that it is endeavour of the Government to provide a transparent and accountable administration to the people and for the purpose the landmark laws including RTI, PSGA and Vigilance Commission have been enacted by the present Government.

The Minister said in view of the paramount importance of road connectivity in socio-economic transformation of the society, the Government has undertaken a well-tailored programme to construct roads and bridges in every nook and corner of the State. "Now each and every village having a population of above 250 souls will essentially be connected

with road network under PMGSY", Khan added.

The Health Minister cautioned the people about the forces inimical to peace adding that some defeated elements in order to satiate their vested interests are hell bent to vitiate the atmosphere of peace by raising frivolous issues. "But they will never succeed in their nefarious designs because the people are aware about their machination and double standards. They have neither any agenda nor any mass base and rely only on politics of lie and deceit. No body will be allowed to disturb the peace as the people of the State are yearning for peace and development.", he added. Later, the Minister also reviewed pace of progress of various on-going projects being executed in the district under core sectors. He received detailed appraisal of physical and financial statuses of the projects.

AMU sanctioned Rs 22 lakh for J&K students

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 4: Aligarh Muslim University has been sanctioned Rs 22 lakh by Ministry of Human Resources Development as financial assistance under special scholarship programme for students of J&K who are studying outside the State.

In a statement released today, the Jammu and Kashmir Alig Association has said that this will be of great help to students of State studying at AMU, particularly the needy students. This will facilitate around 200 graduate students from State studying at AMU. JKAA Patron Dr Manzoor Ahmad has expressed gratitude to HRD Ministry for facilitating this fellowship at AMU.

HR violations unabated in PoK: Dr Jitendra

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 4: National Executive Member and Chief Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) today released evidence from various sources including "Human Rights Commission of Pakistan" report to state that Human Right (HR) violations and oppression of minority community continue unabated in Pak occupied Kashmir (PoK).

According to Dr Jitendra Singh, Asian Legal Resource Centre (ALRC) report also indicates that several persons have disappeared while many reported dead after their arrests in Pakistan held Kashmir. The report states, arrested persons often include those who refuse to join or try to leave forces engaged in so-called Jihad in the Indian State of J&K, he said, adding that the plight of minority Hindu community is even worse.

Dr Jitendra Singh quoted a report prepared by the Asian Centre for Human Rights which said "kidnapping and then raping and forcibly marrying Hindu girls is a common practice in Pakistan. In the event where the police arrests the accused, they produce a

certificate issued by any Muslim seminary that the kidnapped girls have voluntarily adopted Islam and then they married these girls, he said. The Hindu temples are next in line in this vicious witch hunt, he cautioned.

He said it is the responsibility of Government of India towards the Hindus living there and infact a political and legal obligation that stems from the Nehru-Liaquat Ali pact. India owes a moral duty to minorities in Pakistan including Hindus, Sikhs and Christians who continue to suffer the vagaries of a theocratic Islamic State, he added.

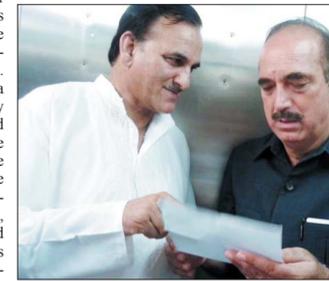
Saroori calls on Azad, seeks aid for quake victims

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Aug 4: Senior Congress leader and former Minister G M Saroori (MLA Inderwal) met Congress leader and Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad in the capital to discuss latest political, development scenario and relief package for quake hit area Doda-Kishtwar

place the disaster management mechanism to meet any eventuality.

He also demanded Sub-Centres for erstwhile Doda district as since 1987 no new sub-centre has been established in the erstwhile district Doda, Poonch, Rajouri, Kupwara, Baramullah, Anantnag and Udhampur districts. To improve the health facility in the hilly, remote and backward area, Saroori demanded at least one Sub-centres for each constituency of erstwhile district Doda.



Congress MLA, G M Saroori during meeting with Union Health Minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad at Delhi.

Azad gave patient hearing and said in order to augment the rural health services, he had a l r e a d y announced setting up of 600 new health sub-centres in the belt of Jammu region.

Saroori informed Azad that in May this year, erstwhile district Doda witnessed 37 tremors. In July, there were as many as five quakes in Baderwah, Doda, Kishtwar areas. Five quakes and aftershocks have been witnessed in the same area in August and the area has been rattled and has suffered immense damages due to tremor quakes.

Saroori requested Azad to use his good office for getting the relief package sanctioned for renovating damaged houses ahead of winter session and distribution of relief on the pattern adopted in Leh, 2010 flood victims beside called for putting in

uncovered areas of the State and soon Sub-Centres will be established and priority will be given to backward uncovered areas of the State.

He also said he (Azad) is in continuous in touch with National Disaster Measures Authority (NDMA) and with the experts, for taking preventive measures to save public life and property in the event of natural calamity and the cause behind these quakes in the areas.

Azad assured Saroori that he will talk to Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi regarding relief package for quake hit area of Jammu And Kashmir.

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