



Minister of State for Industries, Sajjad Ahmad Kichloo addressing a delegation of CII at Srinagar on Tuesday.

Lakhanpur toll plaza to work 24x7: Kichloo

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 9: Minister of State for Industries and Commerce, Sajjad Ahmad Kichloo today said all arrangements have been made to make working of Lakhanpur toll plaza 24x7.

At an interactive meeting with a delegation of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Mr. Kichloo said Lakhanpur toll plaza, which remains reportedly closed from 8.30 pm to 8 am will remain open round the clock for the convenience of the industry. This step will help in quick transportation of perishable goods besides decreasing the cost of transportation.

The other issues which were discussed by the members of the CII with the Minister included exemption of entry tax on material handling equipment, import of copper scrap through cross LoC trade to get exemption from levying of import and export duty just like other LoC trade items, VAT refund and making the Inland Container Depot (ICD) located in SIDCO complex Bari Brahma functional. The CII members also sought

application of industrial incentives to the tourism sector especially incentives like power tariff on concessional rates, income tax exemption and subsidy on generator sets.

Mr. Kichloo gave patient hearing to the CII delegates and assured that all their genuine demands would be fulfilled. He said a joint meeting of the Finance, Industries and Commerce Departments shall be convened shortly to sort out various common issues related to the trade and industry. He assured that the members of CII will be given due representations in Industrial Advisory Boards to ensure that trade and industry is heard and their day to day issues taken care of at regular intervals of time.

The CII delegates also suggested organizing tourism festival in Wadwan area blessed with breath taking scenic beauty.

The members of the CII who participated in the meeting included vice chairman, CII Kashmir, Asif Burza, Shiekh Imran, Chairman, CII Kashmir zone, Wasim Trambo, Sanjay Puri, Vivek Bhardwaj, Kurshid Dar, Abid Reyaz Shah, Dr. Amit Wanchoo and Balbir Singh.



NPP chief patron Prof Bhim Singh addressing a press conference at Srinagar on Tuesday.

Omar brow-beats Centre, incites Kashmiris: Bhim

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 9: National Panthers Party chief patron and member National Integration Council, Prof Bhim Singh has alleged that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah was playing the dirty game of inciting Kashmiris against India and indulging to browbeat Centre for vested interests.

Addressing a press conference here today, the NPP leader accused Chief Minister of trying to repeat old habit by the NC rulers to browbeat Centre and incite the innocent Kashmiris against India. The NPP leader alleged that Omar Abdullah is the Chief Minister on the crutches of the Congress Party and his father is a senior Cabinet Minister in the Central Government. Both are ruling on the mercy of Central Government and Congress.

Now, having realized that he has no support of the people of J&K and he can not deliver goods, Omar has started beating the old drums which his grandfather and father had been practicing. Prof Singh asked Omar to throw out the Congress Ministers from the Government and his father to resign from the Centre. Only

then he should speak for the people of Kashmir. Replying to a question, NPP leader said neither autonomy and self rule nor abrogation of Article 370 is the solution to J&K problem, the resolution lies in reorganization of the State by granting separate Legislature, separate Budget, separate recruitment to all the three regions of the State.

The NPP leader also demanded that Government should resolve the pending issues of agitating/ striking employees and others sitting on dharnas including casual employees of Tourism Department sitting on hunger strike for last 13 days at JKTDCC complex, Srinagar.

The NPP leader urged the Prime Minister for his intervention to release hundreds of innocent Kashmiri youth kept in illegal custody. He pleaded for general amnesty for all those boys detained in different jails without trials thus giving a message of goodwill and reconciliation. Prof Singh was flanked by vice president Masood Andrabi, general secretary Manzoor Naik and provincial president Farooq Ahmed Dar.

NRHM releases Rs 6 cr for Amarnathji pilgrims' medicare

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), J&K, has released an amount of over Rs. 6 crore to Director Health Services, Kashmir, Director Health Services, Jammu and Director, ISM to ensure better healthcare facilities to Amarnathji pilgrims during this year's yatra.

The doctors from the State and other parts of the country, who have volunteered to provide their services during the yatra will be provided with special incentives.

To further add to healthcare services for Amarnathji pilgrims, NRHM has provided

funds for purchase of equipments, drugs & supplies, creating temporary infrastructure including shelter for medical officers, furniture etc besides incentives to the doctors and paramedics.

Mission Director, NRHM, Dr Yashpal Sharma, said that a supplementary Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) has been prepared exclusively for medical facilities for Shri Amarnath Yatra.

In addition, special incentives Rs 15,000 per month for general duty doctors and specialists Rs 5000 for paramedics have also been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

Manohar for intensifying recovery mechanism

*** Reviews physical, financial targets of Cooperative Department**

Excelsior Correspondent

ANANTNAG, July 9: Minister of State for Cooperatives, Finance & Planning, Dr Manohar Lal Sharma today asked the officers of Cooperative Department to employ effective measures for recovering debts from the defaulting borrowers besides holding awareness camps at block level about the activities initiated in the State under the Cooperative Sector.

The Minister was reviewing the functioning of Cooperative Units of South Kashmir at an officers meeting held here today.

Registrar Cooperatives, Sudarshan Kumar Sharma, Deputy Registrar, Anantnag, Aslam-ul-Rashid besides heads of Cooperative Banks and Units operating in South Kashmir were present on the occasion.

The Minister said the launching of Cooperative Movement

was aimed to improve the socio economic status of the people, particularly living in rural areas. He said involving more and more people in the Cooperative Movement is the need of the hour and asked officers to inform people about the cooperative activities in their respective areas.

Dr Sharma said that Super Bazaar would be opened at every district headquarter and asked the authorities of the department to take over the management of Super Bazaar Anantnag.

The Minister asked the officers to ensure timely elections of all Societies besides holding regular meetings with all the board members every two months. He said the need of the hour is to make supervision of such Societies a regular feature and providing them right guidance.

Dr Sharma said that substantial achievements are not possible without sincerity and dedication of the management and asked the concerned to inspect Societies and come-up with suitable recommendations to make them viable and profitable.

There should be no compromise with honesty, the Minister asserted and cautioned for stern action against dishonest personnel. He asked the management of Super Bazaar to go for direct purchase from the companies as is done by Super Bazaar Jammu to minimize cost and increase profit. He said this will benefit both the consumers as well as the sellers.

Regarding securing the assets, the Minister asked concerned authorities to implement the provisions of agreement strictly and ensure eviction of those, who have violated the agreement provisions.

The Minister said that a Cooperative Bulletin will be brought out to keep people aware about the activities of the Cooperatives Department, Cooperative and Marketing Societies.

The meeting was informed that there are 73 Cooperative Societies with 47143 members and 2.29 crore share capital in the District. Rs 2 crore have been provided to different Societies for their holistic development.

Court awards 4 yrs RI to JE

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 9: The Court of Additional Special Judge Anti Corruption Kashmir presided over by Additional District and Sessions Judge Jeema Bashir today convicted Mushtaq Ahmad Wani, son of Abdul Rashid Wani of Chatti Bandipora, the then Junior Engineer in the Block Development Office Bandipora and awarded him rigorous imprisonment of 4 years and fine of Rs 10,000 for commission of offences under Prevention of Corruption Act and two year rigorous imprisonment for commission of offence punishable under Section 161 RPC.

The accused was caught red handed while demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 5000 from the complainant namely Mohd. Yousaf Khawaza on June 15, -2002 for processing the bill of complainant regarding execution of civil works at Onagam Bandipora.

While awarding the punishment, the Court observed, "prosecution has been able to bring home guilt to the accused by establishing the charge against him beyond the shadow of any doubt".

The convict was, later, sent to Central Jail Srinagar on the directions of the court for undergoing the sentence.

HC reserves order in encounter specialist's bail plea

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: High Court today reserved order in the bail application filed by encounter specialist SI Shiv Kumar Sharma and his PSO Mohd Ayub.

The encounter specialist and his PSO were arrested under Section 307 RPC, ¼ Explosive Substance Act, 2/25/7/25 Arms Act, 3 Prevention and Suppression of Sabotages Act.

After hearing Senior Advocate Sunil Sethi with Advocate Parimoksh Sethi appearing for Shiv Kumar Sharma and his PSO and Senior AAG Gagan Basotra in length, Justice Mansoor Ahmed Mir reserved the bail application for order.

New born baby's death at Gandhi Nagar Hospital

Family alleges doctors' negligence; team constituted for probe

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: After the death of a new born male baby due to alleged negligence of doctors in the Government Hospital, Gandhi Nagar, Director Health Services Jammu has constituted a team of doctors to conduct enquiry into the matter.

"An enquiry team has been constituted by Director Health Services to look into the alleged negligent death of the newly born male baby in the Government Hospital, Gandhi Nagar", official sources told Excelsior.

They said that the family members have accused the doctors of their negligence that resulted into the death of new born baby and to bring facts to light the department has constituted a Committee.

Sources said that no doctor from Gandhi Nagar Hospital has been made member of the Committee which will submit its reports within three days to the Director Health Services.

The Committee members included Dr Ved Sharma, State Tuberculosis Officer (STO), Jammu, Dr Kewal Sharma, Consultant Pediatrics and Dr Shafika Bano, Consultant Gynecologist.

As per reports, a woman namely Neetu hailing from Swanka Morh, Vijaypur, District Samba, was admitted in the

Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar for delivery.

She was taken to the operation theatre, yesterday evening and after the operation, the woman delivered a male baby, which the doctors declared as born dead.

After that, husband of the lady along with family members and relatives assembled in the hospital premises and lodged their protest against the hospital administration, alleging doctors' negligence into the death of the baby.

Amid slogans, the relatives and the family members of the baby were demanding action against the doctors, responsible for the death of the baby. "My wife (Neetu) was admitted yesterday to the Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar and she delivered a male child, who died due to doctors' negligence", ravi Kapoor, husband of Neetu, said.

He alleged that doctors misled them about the delivery of the baby and later informed them of the death.

Kapoor demanded action against the doctors, involved in the negligence.

Later on the assurance of senior officers from the hospital administration that a thorough probe will be conducted into the matter, the protestor dispersed.

3 narco smugglers held with over 500 kg bhukki

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: Police today arrested three narcotics smugglers and recovered over 500 kilograms of bhukki from their possession at Nagrota and Jewel Chowk areas of Jammu city.

A police spokesman said that, Nagrota police today arrested a truck driver along with 425 kilograms of bhukki.

A police spokesman said that, on specific inputs, police party from Jhajjar Kotli police laid a naka and intercepted a truck bearing registration number HR27J-1327.

The driver of the truck speeded the vehicle and escaped, he said, adding that the police party from Jhajjar Kotli Police Station alerted Nagrota police about the incident.

Police party from Nagrota Police Station laid a naka and stopped the said truck.

During search, police recovered 425 kilograms of bhukki and arrested the driver, who has been identified as Ravinder Singh, son of Gurnam Singh of Jalandhar, Punjab.

218/13 under 8/15 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered at police station Nagrota and investigation started.

Meanwhile, Nowabad police arrested two narcotics smugglers and recovered 100 kilograms of bhukki from their possession, which they were smuggling in a truck from Srinagar to Jammu.

On specific inputs, police party from Nowabad Police Station led by SHO Jai Pal Sharma under the supervision of SDPO West Shabir Khan laid a naka at Jewel Chowk and intercepted a truck bearing registration number JK02I-6337.

During frisking, police recovered 100 kilograms of bhukki and arrested two narcotics smugglers, who have been identified as Mushtaq Ali, son of Mohammad Qasim of Simbal Choya, Reasi and Dheeraj Sharma, son of Ramanand of Reasi.

The truck has been seized and a case under 8/15 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered at Nowabad Police Station and investigation started.



Shahnaz Hussain along with Bollywood personalities Farhan Akhtar, Rakesh Mehra and legendary athlete Milkha Singh, during London Premiere of 'Bhag Milkha Bhag'.

Shahnaz attends London

Premiere of 'Bhag Milkha Bhag'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: Shahnaz Husain attended a special screening of the much awaited film 'Bhag Milkha Bhag' in London very recently.

The film stars Farhan Akhtar and Sonam Kapoor will be released film on 12th of this month.

Director of the film, Rakesh Mehra besides Farhan and Sonam, was also present. The legendary athlete of the country, Milkha Singh also graced the occasion with his presence.

'Bhag Milkha Bhag' is a biographical film based on the life of Milkha Singh, who was known as 'The Flying Sikh' and brought glory to India.

"It was an honour to meet Milkha Singh. In fact, I was touched by the story of his

courage and preservice to surmount odds and become the legend that he is. I was also happy to meet Farhan, who was formally dressed in a black tux and looked really smart", Shahnaz expressed.

She maintained that Farhan's performance is excellent in the film, which shows how hard he has worked for the film.

She further said, "Farhan told me that he had exercised vigorously for one and a half years to prepare for the role. Apart from being an excellent director, he is an accomplished actor and even a good singer. Some of his recently films have been super hits at the box office".

Fans in London were clamouring to see the stars and the legendary athlete Milkha Singh in person.

JSM for autonomous status to Super-Speciality Hospital

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: Jammu State Morcha (JSM) today demanded autonomous status at the level of regional institute for Super-Speciality Hospital.

In a joint statement, Prof Virender Gupta, president, Devender Singh Jamwal, Chandra Uday Sharma, VD Dogra, Vishav Bandhu, Parveen Sharma and Nathu Ram Gupta demanded appointment of specialists/ doctors in the Super Speciality Hospital and those working in Government Medical College be provided the pay-scale and perks and other facilities at par with those provided in a Regional Medical Centre/ Medical Institute as are existing in Sher-e-Kashmir Medical Institute at Srinagar.

The retirement age of the doctors/specialists appointed, even those working in Jammu Medical College needs to be raised at to 62 to 65 years and that of doctors serving in the State hospitals to 62 years, they added.

State-subject bar for the doctors appointed in Government Medical College/Super-Speciality Hospital needs to be removed and medical staff belonging to different cadre presently working in Government Medical College, Jammu should be sent to PGI/AIIMS for further training so as to improve their functioning, knowledge and working culture.

"Government College of Engineering and Technology should be given an autonomous status and made equivalent to Regional Centre/NIT or its

administrative and academic control be handed over to the University of Jammu", they demanded.

APMCC warns to launch fresh agitation

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 9: All Parties Migrants Coordination Committee (APMCC) has warned the Government of a fresh agitation if it tried to dilute the proposed Kashmir Temple Bill which is under consideration with the Select Committee of State Legislative Assembly.

In a joint statement issued here today, Vinod Pandit, Chairman, APMCC and King Bharati, national spokesperson threatened that their organization has already warned of Kafan Yatra from Kashmir to Kanyakumari if the Government tried to dilute the Kashmir Temple Bill in any way.

"We have reports that some influential people are trying to exclude some of the temples from the preview of the Bill besides diluting it in other forms", they said, adding the Bill must include all the temples of Valley besides constitution of managing committees at tehsil level instead of district level.

They also, added that the proposed managing committees and the main managing committee must have only Kashmiri Hindu members.

Vinod Pandit said that will go on fast unto death once again if Government tried to dilute the Temple Bill.

King Bharati said that any deletion of some temples at the behest of influential people would result into another nationwide agitation.



Minister for ULBs, Nawang Rigzin Jora distributing certificate to a student at Srinagar on Tuesday.

Take action against those selling unhygienic food items: Jora

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 9: The Food Safety Week organized to promote the importance of food safety among consumers and the important stake holders concluded at SKICC here today.

During this week, a number of activities, debates and seminars were organized across the Srinagar city with the active participation of students from different schools and other members of civil society. The events focused on the aspects of FSSA 2006 and highlighted the importance of food safety and hygiene, distribution, preparation and food storage at all levels.

Minister for Urban Development and Urban Local Bodies Nawang Rigzin Jora, who was chief guest on the occasion, threw light on food safety measures and said that such active campaigns should be held on regular basis as these kind of activities help in educating and sensitizing children, students and members of society about the importance of maintaining food safety and hygiene.

"There should be no compromise on food quality as it is directly concerned to the health which connects us to life. Despite the Food Safety Act in place many manufacturers and vendors are not complying with the directives and sell misbranded food but SMC as an implementing agency should ensure that such people are taken to task immediately", he said.

He instructed hoteliers and other food business operators to ensure quality food and law will take its own course for those failing to show compliance. Mr Jora instructed SMC to conduct regular inspections of these items.

Divisional Commissioner Shailendra Kumar, Commissioner Secretary Housing and Urban Development, Jeet Lal Gupta and Commissioner SMC Dr G N Qasba also spoke on the occasion.

The participation certificates were distributed among the students who showed their active participation in debates and seminars held during Food Safety Week.

Kothi Bagh School bagged first prize where as Biscoe School and Mallinson girls school and Burnhall School bagged second and third prize respectively.

Rs 24 crore ICC Jammu to be completed by December end

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: The long wait of Jammuites will end as the construction of much talked about International Convention Centre (ICC) which has been delayed for 15 long years will likely be completed by December end this year.

Though construction of ICC Jammu behind Circuit House, Canal Road here was started way back in 1998, the same was delayed for 15 long years after the Electrical Contractor abandoned the work for years together, sources said.

The work was resumed only after the Government headed by Omar Abdullah assumed office in 2008, sources said, adding there is every hope that the project will be completed by December end this year.

To be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 24.61 crore, the civil work of the ICC Jammu is complete. However, the electric work was delayed after the contractor abandoned the same resulting in the constant delay in completion of the project, sources added.

Sources said later the, electric work of the Project was allotted to SICOP and last year out of Rs 5 crore, Rs 4 crore were spent by the agency for electrification work.

Sources said that electric work is to be given the finishing touch now while the tenders have been issued for interior works. These works after the allotment can be completed within fortnight, sources added.

Sources said this year Rs 8

crore have been sanctioned by the Government for interior works including wood paneling, stage and video lighting etc.

The centrally air conditioned ICC Jammu has a seating capacity of over 400 people. Besides it has two seminar halls, a VIP lounge, Chief Minister's room, Restaurant, Cafeteria, an exhibition centre will also have a business centre.

The ICC Jammu is being constructed by Directorate of Hospitality and Protocol and the civil work of the Project was allotted to Amarnath Charanj Lal Ji & Co the firm which had constructed the ICC Srinagar. The electric work was allotted to Ganga Constructions and after it abandoned the work the contract was given to SICOP, sources added.

When contacted the Director Hospitality and Protocol S S Jamwal said that the minor interior works are to be done and the tenders have been placed. These works are of minor nature and will be completed within days after the allotment is made. He ruled out further delay in the construction work saying the project will be complete by ending December this year and the department is optimistic about the same.

There was a lot of public resentment about the constant delay in the construction of project and people were alleging that Government was not interested in the completion of the Project that has led to its constant delay.

Accused acquitted of rape charges, perjury proceedings against prosecutrix

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 9: Principal Sessions Judge Ramban Md Akram Chowdhary has acquitted one Muzammil Hamid Khan of the charges of rape and initiated perjury proceedings against prosecutrix.

According to the police case, on June 6, 2012 prosecutrix submitted a written complaint to the police alleging that Muzammil Hamid, son of Hamidullah Khan of Banihal committed rape on her at her residence. On this, police registered a case and after investigation charge sheet was presented in the court of law.

After hearing both the sides, Principal Sessions Judge observed, "on consideration of the entire evidence there is no incriminating evidence against the accused. The prosecution has examined only two witnesses, prosecutrix who is herself complainant in the case and medical expert who had examined her medically as gynaecologist".

"The prosecutrix had her-

self moved the written complaint under her signatures accusing the accused for the commission of rape on her. Her statement was recorded in terms of Section 164-A CrPC by Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Banihal where she had again reiterated the story of her complaint. While being examined in this Court prosecutrix almost reiterated the prosecution story. However, later she completely resiled from the prosecution story taking a U turn and demolished the prosecution story as a whole", the court said.

"The prosecutrix had thus, in the opinion of this Court, committed perjury making different statements at three stages under judicial proceedings, first before the Magistrate, second before this Court, on her examination", the court said. Accordingly the accused was acquitted of the charge.

The court, however, said that separate proceedings shall be initiated against prosecutrix for the commission of perjury.