

Bail denied to accused in rape case

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: Principal Sessions Judge Ramban Md Akram Choudhary today rejected the bail application of Javed Ahmed, who was facing trial in rape case.

According to the police case, on April 30, 2013, prosecutrix filed a complaint mentioning that accused Javed Ahmed had made illicit relations with her on the promise to marry her about 4-5 years back. But when she conceived 2-3 times, the accused conveyed that he would enter into wedlock with somebody else as such he cheated her.

Acting on the complaint of the prosecutrix, Gool Police registered a case under Sections 376/420/313/109 RPC. However, during the course of investigation prosecutrix committed suicide by jumping into river Chenab at Dharamkund. After completing investigation into the case, police presented chargesheet against accused and

co-accused namely Nawaz Shareef.

After hearing both the sides, Principal Sessions Judge observed, "no woman shall accuse a person of such a heinous offence falsely as to have ravished her. The complainant had alleged that the accused/applicant having illicit relations with her had made her unwed mother 2-3 times under a false promise of marriage and the same woman having found no assurance to her complaint by the Police had committed suicide".

"Both the offences of rape as well as abetment to suicide are heinous attracting stringent punishment. The accused are yet to be charge-sheeted and the accused/applicant in case granted bail may tamper with the prosecution evidence. As such, grant of bail to the applicant/accused at this stage will be premature", the court observed.

With these observations, Court rejected bail application.



FORCE president Harbans Singh addressing press conference at Jammu on Saturday. —Excelsior/Rakesh

FORCE urges Govt not to allow opening of more B Ed colleges

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: Forum of Recognized Colleges (FORCE) has appealed the State Government not to accord permission for opening of more private Colleges of Education in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The colleges are already suffering huge loss due to unfilled seats every year since the number of BEd admission seekers has considerably reduced for the last some time," said Harbans Singh, president of the Forum and a former Minister while addressing a press conference, here today.

He feared that opening of more B Ed colleges would further increase the number of unfilled seat and prove disastrous for these colleges, which were already finding it difficult to sustain.

"Last year, 7200 seats remained vacant in Jammu based B Ed colleges while the situation in Kashmir Valley was worse where more than 50 percent seats could not be filled up due to less number of applicants," Mr Singh explained.

Keeping in view of this situation where the available B Ed seats are not being filled up, Mr Singh added, the opening of more B Ed Colleges in the State would not serve any purpose except further loss to the existing colleges.

Pertinent to mention that there are 74 B Ed colleges in Jammu with intake capacity of 21000 seats and 67 colleges in Kashmir Valley with intake capacity of 24000 seats.

"Opening of more BEd col-

leges will crush the economic viability of the existing colleges, the managements of which have spent handsome amount on the building and other infrastructure," the Forum president said and gave example of ETT colleges.

FORCE also appealed the Governor and Chief Minister to personally intervene into the matter and ensure a full stop on the opening of new B Ed colleges in J&K.

Lineman & Workers Union demands compensation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: All J&K Electric Department Linemen and Workers Union held a meeting under the chairmanship of its president Suresh Anthal.

While speaking, Anthal said that linemen Partap Chand and Kewal Krishan lost their lives, while performing their duties. He said that lineman Dugra Dass also suffered electric shock while working on electric lines at Baria.

He also expressed concern over the disability of Mani Ram and Durga Dass, who have lost their leg and arm respectively.

The members of the union demanded compensation of Rs 5 lakh in favour of those, who lost their lives or were injured, while performing their duties.

Among others present were Ashiq Hussain, Surinder Kumar, Bodh Raj, Paras Ram, Kartar Nath, Vijay Kumar, etc.

Involve PRIs in formulation of schemes, projects: Sham

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: Minister for PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control, Sham Lal Sharma, today laid foundation stone of Panchayat Ghar at Chowki Choura in Akhnour Tehsil.

The new type Panchayat Ghar will be constructed over an area of two kanal land with an estimated cost of Rs.30 lakh out of MGNREGA and 12th Finance Commission funding.

The building will comprise official accommodation for Panchayat functionaries, meeting hall, bathroom-cum-toilet blocks and small connecting bridge.

On the occasion, the Minister called upon the Panchayat functionaries to discharge their duties with utmost zeal and dedication for the over development of the society. He said that the Government has already empowered the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) with the powers of 14 vital departments besides putting in place a mechanism to ensure that these are fully implemented on ground level.

He said that the developmental activities initiated by the Government have changed the socio-economic profile of the people of the state especially those living in hilly and far-flung areas. He also stressed the need to develop trust and maintain coordination among PRIs and administration for speedy development and better delivery of Government schemes on the ground. He directed the concerned officers to take into confidence the PRIs while formulating new schemes/projects and other development programmes to ensure need based development.

Later, the Minister inaugurated awareness-cum-registration camp for un-employed youth at Higher Secondary School, Chowki Choura organized by Rural Development Department.

As many as 11 departments had put up their stalls displaying their objects and articles manufactured by the Self Help Groups (SHG), individual artisans and self employment units. The Minister inspected each stall and inquired from the officials about self employment schemes offered by their respective departments.

Elaborating upon the initiatives taken by the Government to promote self employment in the state, Mr. Sham said flagship scheme under Sher-e-Kashmir Employment and Welfare Programme for Youth (SKEWPY) and Himayat look at the problems with a holistic approach and through new policy initiatives comprehensively addresses issues related to employment.

DG Fire & Emergency Services clarifies

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 27: Director General, Fire and Emergency Services, Dr G A Bhat today said that the department had acted promptly during the Dastageer Sahib Shrine at Srinagar.

In an official handout, Dr Bhat said that Fire and Emergency Services Control Room Srinagar had received Fire Call on June 25, 2012 at 6.30 am through Air Cell No. 8803327642 and turn out was accordingly made by Fire Stations Babadam, Rainawari, Hq Batamalo, Gawkadali and Maulana Azad Road at 06.31 am in the first instance.

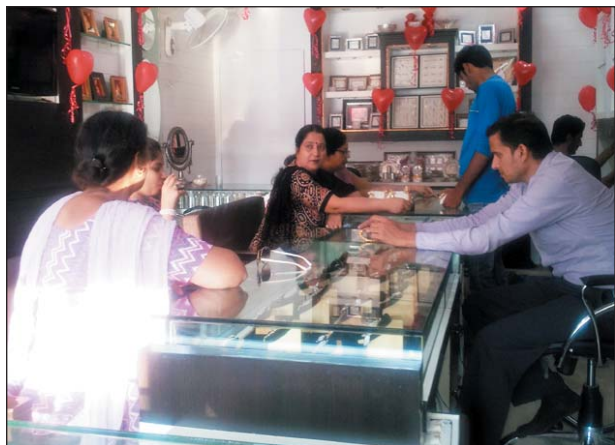
He said that Fire Stations Babadam and Rainawari had reached on spot at 06.34 and 9.37 am. The caller was questioned by Enquiry Officer (the then Divisional Commissioner Kashmir) during the enquiry. The call details of telephone companies Air Cell, Airtel and BSNL was also obtained by the Enquiry Officer for verification of first time of call made to Fire Services.

Even the Fire and Emergency Services had issued Public Notice in some leading newspapers to ascertain whether any other person had informed Fire Services before 6.30 am but nobody claimed so as such the question of late arrival does not arise.

cerned departments and panchayat institutions to work in unison and contribute their bit in making the future of the youth bright through self-employment ventures. He said that Government cannot alone solve the unemployment problem and every individual should lend a helping hand to youth to set up their income generating unit and above all in providing awareness about different schemes launched by the Central and State Government.

Later, the Minister inspected the Ranjan Irrigation Scheme and proposed site for construction of Chenab Water Supply Scheme at village Dumi on the left bank of river Chenab along with the team of senior officers. The Minister issued instructions to the officers to immediately address the basic issues like acquisition of land, compensation paving way for early starting the project.

Commissioner/Secretary, PHE, Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Chief Executive Officer, ERA, Dr. Sourabh Bhagat, Chief Engineer, PHE, K.K. Gupta, Chief Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control, Varinder Badyal, SE Hydraulic Rajiv Malhotra, SDM Akhnour, and other officers of the PHE and ERA were also accompa-



Inside view of R K Chouhan Jewellers showroom at Jammu.

RK Chouhan Jewellers celebrates first anniversary

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: RK Chouhan Jewellers, the fastest growing jeweller in Jammu City, celebrated first anniversary of its second retail jewellery store situated at Gandhi Nagar.

RK Chouhan Jewellers, showroom of the Hallmark gold and diamond jewellery, has been serving Jammu for the last 20 years. The foundation stone of RK Chouhan Jewellers was laid in 1982 by Ramesh Chouhan.

RK Chouhan Jewellers have already one showroom in Jain Bazar. They offer huge variety of Hallmarked Gold and certi-

fied diamond jewellery.

Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director RK Chouhan Jewellers, Anil Chouhan announced 100 per cent discount on making charges and 40 per cent discount on diamond jewellery. This offer is available at all showroom outlets, he added.

Chouhan said people also liked the recent Italian jewellery launched in both the stores. He stated that RK Chouhan Jewellers is known for its purity and matchless quality.

"We are also planning to organize exhibition in gold rings in Jammu", Managing Director maintained.

PHE employees demand release of pending wages

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, July 27: A meeting of the PHE Employees Association was held at Chenani PHE Sub Divisional Office under the chairmanship of Som Nath, provincial vice president today, wherein a request was made to the Minister concerned for immediate release of wages of the workers.

Som Nath while addressing stressed that all pending wages should be paid in one go on the eve of Eid festival and in future wages be paid to the workers regularly.

The speakers demanded posting of new staff to maintain new water supply schemes on which the department has expended crores of rupees but no staff recruited despite several vacancies caused due to retirement and death cases also.

They also demanded change of designation as per nature of job already being performed by the workers; Holding of DPC meeting which has not been held for the past 15 years; Conversion of CP workers as daily wagers, the list of which

was pending for the past three years.

The speakers also demanded release of DDO powers of 13 newly created PHE Divisions for issuing cheques, and Conversion of imprest/ estimate workers as daily wagers.

Others who addressed included Vijay Kumar, Suraj Prakash, Jagdish Magotra, Amar Dev Singh, Darbara Singh, Raj Kumar, Govind Ram, Girdhari Lal, Mohd Sharief, Babu Husain, Ganesh Chand, Krishan Lal, Prem Nath etc.

Annual Machail Yatra from Aug 1

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, July 27: The annual Machail Yatra to the Holy Shrine of Mata Chandi in the Sapphire Valley Padder is commencing from the August 1 and Chhari Mubarak will leave Bhaderwah on August 18 for the holy shrine.

The Holy Yatra will start from Mata Chandi Temple Chanote Bhaderwah at 8.30 AM on August 1 via Pasri Adda, Seri Bazar, Udrana, Domail towards Pul Doda- Kishtwar and reach Kishtwar at around 6.00 PM.

The annual Machail Yatra to the famous shrine of Chandi Mata is a two-day journey from Atholi via Gulabgarh with a night halt at Chashoti. The famous Machail Yatra starts from Bhaderwah Doda and ends at Chandi where the famous shrine of Chandi Mata is located.

Meanwhile, the district administration has started necessary arrangements to make available drinking water, electricity, medicare, transport, roads, security, accommodation enroute the holy cave.

Jammu being developed as heritage city: Wani

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: Minister for Roads & Buildings and Mechanical Engineering Abdul Majid Wani on Saturday said that Jammu would be developed as heritage city, while several projects are underway with regards to its beautification.

The Minister was interacting with the representatives of Raghunath Bazar Business Association during his tour of the city conducted to inspect the pace of progress on the developmental and public utility projects being executed by various departments.

Taking review of the Raghunath Bazar beautification project, the Minister was informed that the project envisages to give the Bazar a new look and for being the hub of business activities showcase it as a local heritage. He said the historic Raghunath temple makes the area one of the most important

places in the city which attracts thousands of tourists daily. He was informed that out of Rs. 6.67 crore project cost, an amount of Rs. 3 crore has been made available to executing agencies so far.

Earlier, the Minister visited Nawabad, Bhatindi and its adjoining areas and took stock of the provision of basic amenities to the people there. He inspected Bhatindi- Panjeer road and directed the concerned for its proper maintenance.

Responding to the demands of the locals, the Minister said that UEED would start work on Bhatindi- Panjeer Nallah, while R&B Department would take up maintenance work on local roads.

Among others, Director, Tourism, Jammu Soujanaya Sharma, Chief Engineer, R&B, Jammu Mustafa Tahseen, Superintending Engineers and other officers of line departments accompanied the Minister.

Oxygen bar being set up at Khardong-La

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, July 27: In a meeting held with the Chief of Staff, Sanjay Kulkarnee, CEC LAHDC Rigzin Spalbar put up a novel idea of opening of an oxygen bar at Khardong-La top in collaboration with Army as a joint venture.

CEC stated that the objective behind the idea is to facilitate the tourists and locals in need of emergency considering the geographical height of the location. He further said that oxygen bar will prove advantageous attracting more tourists to the spot.

It was decided to establish the oxygen bar under Sadbhavana program and in this regard Spalbar directed EC Tourism Shafi Lassu to keep liaison with Army for early establishment of the oxygen bar.

Burglar arrested with cash

Excelsior Correspondent

MENDHAR, July 27: Police today solved a burglary case with the arrest of the accused and recovery of stolen cash and other articles.

According to the reports, on July 22, a theft case was registered with Police Station Mendhar by one Vikas Bhasin resident of Gohlad Mendhar, who in his complaint alleged that a cash amount of Rs 14000 and some recharge coupons of BSNL worth Rs 36000 were stolen from his house when he along with his family had gone to Jammu.

On specific inputs, a police party of Police Station Mendhar led by SHO Bishness Kumar and under the supervision of SDPO Mendhar, SP Amit Bhasin, arrested the accused Balbir Kumar son of Chuni Ram, resident of Akhnour, at present Gohlad in Mendhar, from Gohlad area.

Mr Bhasin said the coupons which could not be recovered have been got deactivated from the BSNL so that they cannot be misused.

A case FIR No 106 under Section 457, 380 RPC has been registered at police Station Mendhar.

Later, the SDPO Mendhar organized a press conference and produced the accused and stolen recharge coupons and cash among the media.

Slathia visits flood affected areas

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, July 27: MLA, Vijaypur and ex-Minister, S S Slathia visited border villages Barota, Kamore and adjoining areas to inspect the damage caused by the breach of bandh near river Basantar and Devak due to recently heavy rain fall.

While taking stock of the havoc caused in the areas, the MLA said that the Government is fully aware of the hardships being faced by the inhabitants and is making concrete efforts to plug in the holes. He said the concerned officers have already been put on special vigil to avoid any mis-happening in view of the monsoon season.

During his tour to badly affected areas, the MLA was

apprised that the river water also washed away link roads in the border village Barota and Kamore due to which villagers as well as BSF has been facing difficulties to move from one place to other.

On spot instructions were given to the concerned authorities to immediately plug the bunds as early as possible.

At Kamore, where a culvert was also damaged due to the recent rain fall Mr Slathia directed the concerned authorities to immediately start the repair work so that the people of the area do not suffer.

District Development Commissioner, Samba, R K Varma, ACD Samba, officer of BSF, Executive Engineer, PHE, PWD and PDD accompanied the MLA.



Gold ornaments recovered from burglars.

Police arrests burglars, gold worth Rs 15 lakh recovered

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 27: Police today claimed to have arrested two burglars and recovered gold ornaments worth Rs 15 lakh and cash amounting to Rs 11000 within eight hours of the commission of crime.

Talking to media persons, SSP Srinagar Ashiq Bukhari said that they had received a report from a goldsmith, Fida Hussain Magloo son of Mohammad Abdullah Magloo, of Madeen Shaib, Lal Bazar, about burglary of golden ornaments and cash worth lakhs in his residential house.

Bukhari said that a police team headed by the SHO Lal Bazar was rushed to the spot "The scene of crime was preserved. And an inspection of crime scene led to some clues. Soon police swooped on a

woman and arrested her," the SSP said.

The SSP said that during questioning the woman confessed of stealing gold ornaments worth Rs 15, 27,381 and cash worth Rs 11, 000 from the house at Lal Bazar.

He said another accused identified by the woman involved in the commission of crime was also arrested.

Bukhari said that the woman was a helper doing household jobs in the locality. She is a resident of Qazigund and was living with her maternal uncle at Habbak area of Hazratbal.

"The recoveries were made within eight hours of the commission of offence. Police has registered case FIR number 38/13 under Section 454,380 RPC in this regard," the SSP claimed.

Sikh organisations condemn admn for non-implementation of Cabinet order

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 27: Shiromani Akali Dal National (SADN), Punjab Sahit Sabha (PSS) and other Sikh organisations have condemned the administration of State Education Department for not implementing the Cabinet order for imparting regional languages ie. Punjabi, Dogri and Ladakhi in the Government as well as private schools.

Addressing a meeting of various Sikh organisations, Prof Amrik Singh Sathi, vice-president, SADN and Dayal Singh Wazir, expressed grave concern over non-implementation of the Cabinet order dated March 20, 2001 by the Education Department and condemned the Education Minister for his gross negligence in implementing the said order.

Though the order has already been implemented in Kashmir

Province, as Punjabi is being taught in Government and private schools and exams are also being conducted by the Education Board, but in Jammu Province, where 30% people speak Punjabi, the order has not been implemented till now. This has exposed the tall claims made by the Coalition Government for their good governance where a Cabinet order has not been implemented for such a long time of more than 14 years, they added.

They urged the Education Minister and his administration to wake up and rectify their gross negligence before it is too late and appealed the Sikh organisations and Dogri Sabha for struggle to take the matter to the logical conclusion.

President, PSS, Shamsher Singh Chowhalvi, urged upon Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to intervene to get the order implemented in letter and spirit.



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