

Anti Tobacco Day observed across State

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: Anti Tobacco Day was observed across the State with zeal.

Minister for Medical Education, Youth Services and Sports, Taj Mohi-ud-Din flagged off an anti-tobacco march organised by an NGO, Voluntary Health Association of India.

Addressing the participants of the march, Minister exhorted upon them to spread the message of ill effects of smoking within their own circles of influence. He asked them to dissuade their friends from smoking and highlight the dangers of smoking.

He said tobacco consumption is the cause of many types of cancers and research has shown that a predominant majority of oral and lung cancer patients have a smoking background.

The participants of the march went through Boulevard carrying play cards depicting ill effects of smoking and tobacco.

Underscoring the need for complete ban on the use of tobacco and its allied products in the State, Minister of State for Health, Shabir Ahmad Khan has sought overwhelming support of the society to deal with the menace.

Speaking at a function held in Government College of Education, Srinagar which was organized to mark the World Anti-Tobacco Day, he said that unless people support the anti-smoking campaign, the ban imposed by the Government on Gutkhas and other allied tobacco products in the State would not be effective.

He asked the students to become the ambassadors for this social cause and keep the society smoke and addiction free.

The function was organized by the Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) and J&K Voluntary Health Association in collaboration with divisional administration, Department of Youth Services and Sports, Drug and Food Safety Organization and Government College of Education.

Earlier, the Minister flagged off an Anti-Tobacco rally from the Government College of Education which culminated at TRC.

To observe Anti-Tobacco Day, an awareness programme

was held at Narwal under the chairmanship of Kartar Singh, Principal, District and Session Judge, Jammu and Chairman, District Legal Service Authority. Singh while speaking highlighted the domestic, social and physiological effects of smoking.

Anti-Tobacco Day was observed at District Court Complex, Rambam under the chairmanship of MA Chowdhary, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority. The speakers highlighted the need to educate the general public about the menace of tobacco. MR Chak, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Ramban, Advocates and public attended the programme.

To mark the World No Tobacco Day, a seminar was held at SP Higher Secondary School, was organized by District Legal Services Authority in collaboration with (FPA) Family Planning Association at Srinagar. Additional District Judge, YP Kotwal presided over the function, who while speaking aware the masses about the ill effects of smoking and its allied products.

On World No Tobacco Day, an awareness camp was organized by the District Health Society Kargil (Department of Health) in collaboration with Degree College Kargil.

Executive Councilor for Agriculture and Revenue LAHDC Kargil Ghulam Amir Kamran was the chief guest, who along with Additional Deputy Commissioner Kargil Kacho Hassan Khan, Dr Shabir Hussain, CMO Kargil, Dr Ghulam Hussain Bardi, Physician Specialist, District Hospital Kargil threw light on the menace of tobacco products and its effect on health of an individual.

On the eve of Anti-Tobacco Day, a legal awareness camp was organised at community hall, Supwal under the chairmanship of Inder Singh, Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Samba. Inder Singh along with Geeta Kumari, Munsiff, Rahul Sambal and Rakesh Bhagat, Advocates and Kuldeep Raj, Naib Tehsildar, Vijaypur threw light on the ill effects of tobacco.

On the occasion of World No Tobacco Day, multiple programmes were organized at Government Hospital Sarwal. Poster exhibition was organized

wherein posters made by Suresh Sharma Artist were displayed. A seminar was also organised, in which nursing and paramedical students from various institutes took part and spoke about the ill effects of tobacco and other allied products.

Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar today observe World No Tobacco Day by organising different functions in the hospital. Stressing on the significance of No Tobacco Day Medical Superintendent Dr Romesh Gupta cautioned the youth not to fall prey to the lure of the pseudo glamour attached with the use of tobacco products. Chest Disease specialist Dr Uttam Sharma threw light on the diseases which are caused by use of tobacco products. Dr Gurdeep Singh, Deputy Medical Superintendent and Principle ANMT School also expressed his views.

On the eve of World No Tobacco Day, Dogra College of Education, Bari Brahmana organised in an Inter-Collegiate Slogan Writing and Poster Making competitions on the theme "Ban Tobacco Advertising, its Promotion and Sponsorship". In poster making competition, Raghu Charak from the host college, Anshul Sharma from Ranjit College of Education and Madhuri Gupta from Chenab College of Education emerged winners, while the consolation prizes were conferred to Usha Thappa from the host college. In slogan writing competition, Navroop Kour secured first position, while the second and third positions were claimed by Jasmeet and Preeti Gupta, both from the host college. The consolation prizes were presented to Gursheen Kour from Handa College of Education and Monika Sharma from the host college. Prof BD Damral, Director of the college and Vice Principal Prof Shefali Sharma highlighted the ill effects of tobacco. Samar Dev Singh Charak, Secretary, Dogra Educational Trust distributed prizes among the winners.

Sacred Heart College of Education organized awareness programme on World No Tobacco Day, in which students, staff members along with Principal of the College took part. Principal Dr KK Tiwari, NSS Programme Officer Sheetal Khajuria, Prof Raj Bakshi and NSS volunteer Sonakshi Rajput

threw light on the ill effects of tobacco.

On the eve of No Tobacco Day, Bee Enn College of Nursing in collaboration with PHC Kot Bhalwal organised a function. BMO Dr Ashok Kumar emphasized the role of awareness programme especially in rural are to curb the menace of smoking. Dr Nelofar Khan, Dental Surgeon and Manoj Kotru, GM, Bee Enn Charitable Trust also expressed their views.

An awareness programme for students was organized by the Health Department in collaboration with Himalayan Health Projects (HHP), Taxi Operator, Contractor Association Leh, Truck Operator Union and Goodwill Club Leh to observe World No Tobacco Day. CJM Yahya Firdous highlighted the health risks associated with tobacco use. HHP Director Dr Nordan Odzer, Designated officer Food Safety and Standard Tamchos, Dr Ghulam Mohd, MD Physician Specialist also spoke on the occasion. Students of Lamdon Model Senior Secondary School and Leh Morden School presented an informative skit showing the consequences of tobacco usage. Deputy Chief Medical Officer Yangchan Dolma and Dr P Wangchuk DTO were also present.

A social event on World No Tobacco Day was celebrated at General Zorawar Singh auditorium by Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology (Indira Gandhi Government Dental College) in collaboration with Punjab department, University of Jammu

On this occasion, Dr Vinod Tickoo, who is senior Oncology surgeon from Dharamshilla Cancer Hospital and Metro Cancer Hospital, New Delhi was the guest speaker while Prof Neelam Saraf (Dean Academics) was the chief guest of the occasion.

Dr Satvinder Singh (HoD) Oral Medicines Department, Dr Mohan Singh, Medical Superintendent IGGDC Jammu, Dr Rakesh Krishan Khajuria, Dr Parveen Lone and Dr Richa Gupta from the Dental College and Prof Archana Kesar, HoD Punjab Department also attended the function.

The speaker threw light on the harms of tobacco and called upon the people to shun it.

Shabir launches NRHM toll-free helpline

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 31: To facilitate the common people and staff associated with the National Rural Health Mission, Minister of State for Health, Shabir Ahmad Khan today launched NRHM exclusive helpline in its headquarters located at Chanpora Srinagar.

The helpline has been established with toll free number "1800 1800 102" and is aimed at to provide information about the NRHM schemes and also help in addressing the grievances of various stakeholders, mainly associated with the NRHM which include field functionaries like ASHAs, ANMs, Paramedics and Medical Officers and patients as well. The beneficiaries availing various benefits under NRHM will also have hassle free access to this helpline and prove useful for immediate redressal of grievances.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that the NRHM helplines have been established

at both the Divisional Offices of NRHM at Jammu and Srinagar as per the guidelines of Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to facilitate the commoners. He hoped that the facility will go a long way in mitigating the problems of people of rural and far-flung areas, adding that people can obtain information pertaining to various schemes under the Mission.

Mission Director, NRHM, Dr. Yashpal Sharma on the occasion said that any person calling on toll free number will have access to the NRHM helpline, where his/her complaint would be registered and forwarded to the concerned Programme Managers or the Directorates for appropriate action.

This will help the Directorate to respond to the queries of the caller in faster way. He said the people would be given a complaint number and after the redressal of his/her complaint the concerned would be informed about the action taken, he added.



Activists of Rashtrawadi Shiv Sena staging a demonstration at Jammu on Friday.

Sena protests against Govt move to shift Bus Stand

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: Rashtrawadi Shiv Sena (RSS) today held a demonstration against the Government for shifting the General Bus Stand to new location.

The protest was led by senior leaders of RSS including Vipin Hindu its president Ashwani Gupta and Vikas Dewan. The protesters also torched the effigy of State Government, raised slogans against the decision and warned to intensify agitation.

Addressing demonstrators Vipin Hindu said the present Bus Stand is the life line for traders of Jammu and small shopkeepers are totally dependent on it. It seems to be a conspiracy behind shifting the Bus Stand to hit the business of Jammu.

Ashwani Gupta working president RSS said all the yatrias coming from Katra town halt at Bus Stand and make purchasing and also visit the holy temples of

Jammu city. If the Bus Stand is shifted to other location, these yatrias may hesitate to come to Jammu city and its temples. This will hit the business of trading community in the area.

Vikas Dewan general secretary, RSS said that majority of the business of the area around the Bus Stand is connected with the dry fruit, handicraft, wooden work etc and their business will completely suffer. Even the Hotel industry will get affected as the flow of yatrias in Jammu City will decrease with the decision, he added.

He said the business area around the Bus Stand is contributing substantial amount to the Government as revenue, so by disturbing them the Government will also lose the revenue as there will be either losses or no business at all.

He warned that Sena will fight tooth and nail against the move and it will launch a joint agitation in support of other organizations of Jammu.



Congress leader Manjit Singh addressing public meeting at Vijaypur on Friday.

Manjit demands relief for displaced persons

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, May 31: Former Minister and senior Congress leader Manjit Singh has demanded relief for the displaced persons of 1947, 1965 and 1971 at par with Kashmiri Pandits.

"The Government should sanction relief to the displaced persons of 1947, 1965 and 1971 at par with the KPs since they are also the permanent residents of Jammu and Kashmir," Mr Singh said.

He appealed that each displaced family should be given a compensation of Rs 25 lakh, besides other facilities. Mr Singh was addressing a public meeting at Kangwala village in Samba district.

Appreciating the UPA Government for its stand, Mr Singh demanded that the State Government should not delay the details, which the Central Government had sought from it for the settlement of the refugees.

However, the information, which was sought by the centre has not been provided as some bureaucrats, discriminating with the displaced persons/refugees.

He appealed that the bureaucrats should not create hurdles and help in resolving the decades old issue of the displaced persons. Highlighting sufferings of the refugees, he said, the Government should increase the rent of the land which comes under the ditch and fence on the border.

SKIMS holds workshop on shoulder arthroscopy

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 31: In a first, Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) today held a workshop on shoulder Arthroscopy where a live surgery demonstration performed by country's leading orthopaedic Dr Sanjay Desai was beamed from operation theatre to SKIMS auditorium in which young orthopaedians from the State and country participated.

A spokesperson of the tertiary health institute of the Valley said that Dr Naseer Ahmad, organising secretary, explained to the participants that by arthroscopy, commonly known as "key hole surgery" large wounds and scars can be avoided on a patient.

"By this technique two or three 5mm puncture wounds will be made into a patient's body wounds. Now, most shoulder operations can be done by arthroscopy and due to smaller incisions made there is less dissection to surrounding parts," Ahmad said.

He added that recovery was usually quicker after the surgery and the patient would feel less

post-operative pain.

While explaining the mechanism of the surgery, Ahmad said the shoulder joint is examined using a tiny telescope with television camera introduced through a small 'key hole', called as arthroscopy that allows the surgeon to see the area where he or she is working on a TV screen.

Director SKIMS Dr Showkat Zargar said SKIMS strives to keep pace with new advances in Medical Science through such events which benefit both students and faculty and eventually improves patient care system.

Dr R Panday (UK), Dr Nandan Adlar (UK) Dr Rajeev Sharma (UK), Dr. Ishfaq Husseini (Australia), Dr Sanjay Desai (Mumbai), Dr Mandeep Singh Dhilon (PGI Chandigarh) and Dr Sharad Prabhakar (PGI Chandigarh) were the eminent medicos who conducted the workshop.

The workshop, the spokesperson added, will be followed by two-day long North zone conference of Indian Orthopaedic Association beginning on June 1st at SKICC where Governor of the State, N N Vohra, will be the chief guest.

NSF protests for removal of Registrar JU, Director TBS

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: Demanding immediate removal of Registrar Jammu University and Director of The Business School, the activists of National Secular Forum today held a protest demonstration on the JU campus.

The protesting NSF activists raised slogans in support of their demand and also torched an effigy of the JU administration for allegedly promoting the inefficient and corrupt officers.

The protest demonstration

was led by Sukhdev Singh, State vice-president of NSF, who demanded intervention of Chancellor N N Vohra for action against the Registrar and Director of The Business Schools.

He alleged that the incumbent Registrar was proven failure during his stint as Controller Examination while the Director TBS was accused of misusing the official position.

The NSF threatened to intensify protests if no action is taken against these two officers immediately.

10 injured in road mishaps

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 31: Ten persons were injured in different road accidents across Kashmir valley today.

In Ganderbal an unidentified Tata Mobile hit and injured Jana, 55, wife of Abdul Rehman Parray of Baswal at National Highway Kichpora. She was shifted to sub-district hospital, Kangan, and then referred to SKIMS, Srinagar, for further treatment. Police said they have registered a case.

An unidentified vehicle hit a mentally challenged person at Khudbal, Nawab Bazar, here. The injured was shifted to SMHS Hospital, Srinagar, for treatment. Police has registered a case and started investigations.

In a collision between an Eon vehicle bearing registration No.

JK04B/9390 and Ford Icon bearing registration No. HR26Z/7278 at Nishat here, six passengers of both the vehicles were injured. All the injured were shifted to hospital for treatment.

Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh, 25, son of Gulzar Ahmad Sheikh of Panthachowk was injured when a Tipper bearing registration No. JK13B/0981 hit him in Anantnag on Thursday. Rafiq was rushed to Bone and Joint Hospital, Srinagar, for treatment. A case has been registered in this regard.

On Thursday, a Maruti Car bearing registration No. JK15/1818 hit and injured a pedestrian Bilal Ahmad Shah, 10, son of Ghulam Mohammad Shah of Chekyoungora in Ganderbal. Shah was shifted to SKIMS for treatment. A case has been registered in this regard.

2-day Punjabi Conference concludes

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: The 2-day conference on Punjabi language: Challenges and Opportunities with specific reference to Jammu and Kashmir concluded here this evening with participants hailing Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, culture and Languages for organising a fruitful and thought-stimulating literary event after many years.

On the second day today, two papers by Ratan Kanwal and Swami Antar Neerav and four short stories by Khalid Hussain, Harbans Singh Saghar, Kamaljeet Singh and Balbir Parwana were presented and extensively debated. At the end a Kavi Darbar was held in which Punjabi poets of repute especially from Jammu and Kashmir recited their verses to the delight of the audience in the jam-

packed K L Saigal Hall.

Winding up two-day conference, Secretary Academy Khalid Bashir Ahmad, said that promotion of different languages was the mandated activity of the Academy and the institution is committed to effectively discharge this responsibility. He said such literary events help in identifying challenges and making out right conclusions.

He said like the earlier two conferences Punjabi Conference was very successful as could be ascertained from the observations of the participant writers and intellectuals both from within and outside the State. He said that he personally felt very encouraged by the feedback on the conference. He announced that the Academy would soon bring out a special issue of Sheeraza Punjabi based on the proceedings of the conference.

Kissan Union meets Div Com

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: A deputation of All J&K Kissan Union led by its chairman Ashok Sharma, today met Divisional Commissioner Pardeep Gupta and submitted a memorandum of demands to him.

The demands put forward by the Union through memorandum included a special relief package of Rs 500 crore for drought hit 40 lakh farmers of Jammu region, free crop and cattle insurance of farmers, provision of separate agriculture budget both in the State

and the Centre, establishment of Kissan Mandies and Kissan Bhawans on block, district, provincial and State level, bringing all the small and marginal farmers under BPL category, etc.

The Div Com assured the deputation members that their demands would be taken up with the concerned authorities.

MS Jamwal, Dr Itfar Hussain, Dev Raj Sharma, Rattan Singh Bahu, Mohinder Kumar Sharma, BR Bandal, Baldev Singh and Kapil Sharma were the part of the delegation.

Medical employees project pending demands

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: A deputation of Jammu and Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (Province Jammu), met the Minister incharge PHE, I&FC camping at Summer secretariat here and the Director Health Services Jammu and apprised them of the pending issues of the medical employees.

The Federation members led by Sushil Sudan (president) discussed the burning issues of the employees and sought immediate redressal. They demanded absorption of junior FMPHW, trained Lady Health Visitor (LHV) and Health Educators and rank promotion at par with other paramedical staff. They demanded that this anomaly be removed.

They also demanded regularization of pending cases of adhoc, consolidated staff and contractual employees of Health Department, clearance of DPC of Pharmacists, Lab Technicians, X-Ray Technician, and Dental Technicians, enhancement of fixed

Mega Job Fair held

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: Mega Job Fair organized by K&C Star HR Management Private Limited was held today, in which around 250 aspirants were interviewed and recruited by more than twenty top ranked global companies of the World.

During the fair, aspirants not only from J&K but from other States participate to get deserving job in the leading corporate companies of the World including HCL, Samsung, Airtel, Bajaj, Fiat, Hyundai, Cease Fire, ICICI, Coca Cola, Renault, Aman Tech, Yes Bank, Indusland Bank and Sharekhan.

CEO of K&C Star, Chander Bhanu Singh, while interacting with the media persons said that the main motive of the company behind organizing this Job Fair was to provide an opportunity to the aspirants of State to try their luck in the leading corporate companies.

Among others present were GM K&C Star, Kaniya Sharma, HR head Siddhant Suri and marketing head Deeshant and Vishal Sharma, PRO.

Women body framed by Patel Nagar residents

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: A meeting of residents of Patel Nagar, Shakti Nagar, Talab Tillo was held in the premises of Ridhi Sidhi Shiv Mandir and Jagan Dham complex wherein they discussed regarding the development of Mandir.

The residents amicably decided to frame a women wing Satsang committee in which Kailash Kesar was made as president, Gudo Sharma and Darshan Sharma as senior vice presidents, Kusam Gupta as general secretary, Mohinder Ahel as Jt secretary/cashier, Kamlesh Gupta, as secretary, Chanchal Gupta as storekeeper and Manjeet Kour as executive member.

The direction was passed in a petition filed by Anjum Ahali Islam, who submitted that Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo, who is an active worker and district president of the National Conference, in order to grab the Waqaf land had constituted a trust deed on May 27, 2002 by virtue of which Islamia Faridia Educational Institute, Kishtwar, which is a property of Waqaf Kishtwar, was brought under the purview of the Islamia Faridia Educational and Research Institute Trust, Kishtwar.

After hearing Senior Advocate AH Naik with Advocate D S Chouhan, Justice Tashi Rabstan issued notice to Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary Revenue, Commissioner Secretary Aquaf, IGP Crime and Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo returnable within four weeks.

In the meanwhile subject to

Don't extend term of Administrator Waqaf: HC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: State High Court today directed the respondents not to extend the term of Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo as Administrator Waqaf Committee Kishtwar.

The direction was passed in a petition filed by Anjum Ahali Islam, who submitted that Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo, who is an active worker and district president of the National Conference, in order to grab the Waqaf land had constituted a trust deed on May 27, 2002 by virtue of which Islamia Faridia Educational Institute, Kishtwar, which is a property of Waqaf Kishtwar, was brought under the purview of the Islamia Faridia Educational and Research Institute Trust, Kishtwar.

After hearing Senior Advocate AH Naik with Advocate D S Chouhan, Justice Tashi Rabstan issued notice to Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary Revenue, Commissioner Secretary Aquaf, IGP Crime and Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo returnable within four weeks.

In the meanwhile subject to

objections from other side and till next date of hearing, official respondents were directed not to extend the term of Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo as Administrator Waqaf Committee Kishtwar, Moreover, the Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar has been directed to submit the Action Taken Report on the observations made by Administrator Waqaf/Shrines, Kishtwar.

41 cases settled in Lok Adalat

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 31: Month long mobile Lok Adalat organised at Sub Judge complex, Nowshera under the chairmanship of OP Thakur, Chairman, Tehsil Legal Services Committee concluded today.

During the Lok Adalat, 50 cases were taken up out of which 32 cases were decided and award of Rs 15,000 received was given to the concerned person.

9 cases were also settled through mediation, conciliation and amicably.

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