

More organizations condemn theft in Durga Nag temple, demand probe

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: More organizations have expressed their concern over the theft in historical Durga Nag temple, Srinagar during Sunday night.

Expressing concern over the incident of theft in holy temple of Durga Nag temple, State VHP has demanded that the gold ornaments of the Maa Durga be traced immediately and the burglars punished under law.

In a statement issued here today VHP State president Dr Rama Kant Dubey said the temple of Maa Durga is very old and commands a great respect among the locals especially Hindus. The theft incident has hurt the sentiments of the Hindu community and administration should leave no stone unturned in tracing the same.

National Conference (NC) leader and MLC Vijay Bakaya has also expressed his shock over the theft in the holy temple.

In a statement issued here today he urged the district administration and the Director General of Police to take urgent steps to book the culprits and to recover the gold and jewellery worth lakhs of rupees that adorned the presiding deity goddess Durga in the temple.

Mr Bakaya expressed dismay that this incident has happened in the back ground of mis-

management of the Durga Nag Trust properties by the trustees who have been openly indulging in unseemly bickering and encouraging persons with dubious credentials to meddle in the affairs of the Trust.

Bakaya warned that the KP community will be compelled to resort to whatever legal and administrative means are necessary, to put the management of Durga Nag Trust back on the rails.

All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS) has demanded a thorough probe into the matter while expressing its serious concern over the theft incident.

AIKS which held an emergency meeting here today under the leadership of C L Sadhu, its convener, said that the incident has hurt the sentiments of entire KP community as the Durga Nag being an ancient temple in Kashmir was also the seat of Shankaracharya and has a lot of significance as the shrine is the first halting point of Amarnath yatra.

Social activists also held a meeting here today under the leadership of Dr Ramesh in which grave concern was expressed over stealing of gold ornaments and jewelry from the temple of Mata Durga in Durga Nag Srinagar. The meeting demanded immediate recovery of the ornaments and arrest of

the burglars besides conducting of the thorough probe into the incident. It expressed grave concern over the mismanagement of the Trust since 1990 and demanded probe into the alleged bungs and allotment of the land and shops during these years.

The meeting warned that the property belongs to KP community as a whole and it will not allow it to go into wrong hands.

All Migrant Camps Coordination Committee (AMCCC) while expressing concern over the theft and mismanagement in the Trust has demanded a CBI probe and action against the guilty. AMCCC president Desh Rattan, Ajay Bharti chairman, R L Sharma its vice president and Deepak Kakroo have demanded that the Trust be made broad based by inducting more trustees from the community.

The AMCCC warned community intervention in the matter in case the management fails to put the house in order and demanded that the trustees be made accountable. It warned those KP activists who indulge in selling of religious places in Valley.

Rattan said AMCCC had warned the same over 10 years back but community leadership did not pay any heed to the same.



Minister for Horticulture Raman Bhalla and Minister for CAPD Ch Ramzan during visit to nursery on Tuesday.

Govt introducing new schemes to rejuvenate horti industry: Bhalla

Excelsior Correspondent

HANDWARA (KUP-WARA), June 4: Minister for Horticulture and Housing, Raman Bhalla today said that Government is intending to introduce various new schemes to rejuvenate horticulture industry in the state.

He was addressing an awareness camp of Progressive Farmers/orchardists at Handwara today. Minister for CA&PD, Chowdhary Mohammad Ramzan was also present on the occasion.

Mr Bhalla said that the process for replacement of old/sterile orchards by high density plants have been started in all parts of the State which has shown good results with the increase in fruit production. He said nurseries are also being accredited to maintain the quality of plant material.

He said organizing awareness camps means to transform latest technology from experts to farmers, adding such camps would be held at block level to facilitate the orchardists living in far off areas.

The Minister for CA&PD while addressing the awareness camp said that horticulture industry is the backbone of the economy of the state and gives annual income of Rs 4000 crore to the State. He said 55 percent of the total land is under orchards, adding that last year fruit production was 22 lakh metric tonnes.

Earlier, both the Ministers visited Model Orchard-cum-Nursery at Chogul and inspected the one year old high density walnut plant growing up in the green house. These plants shall give fruit after next two years. Later, the Ministers inspected fruit mandi at Braripora Handwara and interacted with fruit growers.

Mr. Bhalla on the occasion announced that fruit mandi will be equipped with internet and ATM facilities, besides, improvement in drainage and water supply facility.

Shiv Dham Yatra arrangements discussed

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, June 4: A delegation of Shiv Shakti Seva Sanstha Padder led by its Chairman Thakur Kartar Singh today met with Deputy Commissioner Kishthwar Saleem Mohd to discuss arrangements for the annual Shiv Dham yatra to Pallali, Padder.

Thakur while giving details regarding the yatra apprised the DC that the yatra will proceed from Jammu to Huryangwari Gulabgarh on June 26 and stay at Mev Nag Mandir at Hoko on 27th of June while it will reach Pallali on June 28, 2013. Besides, hawan and kirtan will be performed at Shiv dham Pallali on June 29, 2013.

The Deputy Commissioner discussed all necessary arrangements and assured full cooperation in providing security, drinking water and other amenities enroute and at the shrine.

Youth thrown into gorge after beating, dies

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, June 4: A youth was killed after he was allegedly beaten up and then thrown into a gorge by some people led by an Army jawan Ajay Singh near Dangri on Rajouri-Budhal road.

The deceased has been identified as 22-year-old Rakesh Kumar, son of Sham Lal, resident of Kewal in Budhal. The youth along with his Tata Sumo driver relative, Ramesh Kumar, resident of Kewal had gone to Dalori in Budhal from Rajouri to drop some passengers last evening. When they reached at Dangri Chowk, they were intercepted by some people led by an Army jawan Ajay Singh, who was on leave to his village. They had some altercation with driver and his relative Rakesh on some petty issue of lifting some more passengers. They also allegedly exchanged some abuses during the tiff.

When both Ramesh and Rakesh were coming back after dropping passengers at around 4.30 pm on Monday, Ajay Singh, Rakesh Kumar-2, son of Bawa Ram, Chamail Singh, son of Balak Ram, Bal Ram and others intercepted both of them and started beating. During the process, they threw Rakesh Kumar into the gorge. Some more people gathered there. The injured Rakesh was provided first at nearby dispensary and then shifted to District hospital Rajouri at around 7 pm. One Ashok Kumar relative of Rakesh stayed with the injured during the night. The relatives of youths who attacked this boy also arrived there later and assured to provide better treatment. The police was not informed by doctors attending the patient during the whole

DDC seeks public cooperation to expedite development

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, June 4: District Development Commissioner, Reasi, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary today convened a meeting of prominent citizens and sought their cooperation for evolving a conducive atmosphere for development in the district.

The DDC said all efforts are being made to ensure progress and better services to the people of district and informed that soon a "Common Service Centre" would be set up in the district to facilitate the people, adding that 'Public Grievance Cell' would also be started in the district at the earliest.

He also informed that the administration has also decided to set up a library to benefit the readers.

The DDC said that all departments have been asked to make people aware about Public

DDC Doda reviews development works

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA, June 4: District Development Commissioner, Doda, Mubarak Singh today convened a meeting of district officers to review the ongoing development activities besides discussing strategies for further streamlining of the functioning of Government offices.

Additional District Development Commissioner, G.N Balwan, Chief Planning Officer, Dr. Yassir Balwan, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Niraj Kumar, Chief Education Officer, M.A Rather, Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Ajay Gupta besides Superintendent Engineer Hydraulic Circle Doda, Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Doda and other senior officers attended the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, the DDC enjoined upon the officers to strengthen work culture in their respective offices and ensure punctuality of their staff to ensure time bound redressal of public grievances. He said habitual absentees and non-performing officers and officials shall face disciplinary action under law.

The DDC asked the officers to project big and enthusiastic projects with a long term opti-

Gandhi Sewa Sadan observes 100th birth anniversary of Mehta

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: The one hundredth birthday of Krishna Mehta first women MP from J&K, the freedom fighter and the founder of Gandhi Sewa Sadan was observed with enthusiasm and charm by Shri Gandhi Sewa Sadan here today.

On the occasion a book written on Krishna Mehta by the senior manger Ashok Kumar Dikshit under the name Ateet Kay Lekha Chitar was released by Comrade Jaswant Singh and Pushpa Mehta.

2 held for attempting to encroach forest land

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: Two persons were today arrested for attempting to encroach forest land.

An official spokesman said that after receiving specific information regarding encroachment of forest land in Ragoora area, a special team was constituted by Dr V S Senthil Kumar, Divisional Forest Officer, Jammu.

The team comprising Ajeet Chander, Range Officer Bahu with forest field staff along with SHO Police Station Bagh-e-Bahu Noor Ahmed reached the spot and found that the forest land in Compartment No.65-B was being levelled by deploying JCB for construction purposes.

The team immediately stopped the work and two persons namely Madan Lal, son of Parkash Singh of Pathankot (driver of JCB) and Meharban, son of Ghulam Rasool of Upper Ragoora, who were involved in the illegal act of encroaching forest land were arrested. The JCB bearing registration number JK02U-2463 was seized for violation under Section 6/39 of J&K Forest Act.

Due to the swiftness of the Forest Department, around 100 kanals of land valuing worth crores of rupees has been saved from the clutches of encroachers.

Dr Senthil Kumar has said that encroachment in the Jammu Forest Division had been carried out in last few years due to high rise in the value of land and increasing population. "There are attempts by the organized land grabbers to encroach upon the forest land", he said, adding "the Forest Department in the recent past launched many operations against the encroachers and saved the forest land".

He said that Forest Department has been making all efforts to erect chain link fencing in most vulnerable and encroachment prone forest areas.

Jewellery shops to remain closed from June 13 to 16

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: Jewellery shops across Jammu province will remain closed from June 13 to 16.

This decision was taken in a meeting held under the chairmanship of Raj Kumar Babbar, president, Sawarankar Sangh Jammu Province and Vice President, All India Swarankar Sangh.

While speaking, Babbar said that swarankars and jewelers will observe summer holidays and the jewellery shops will remain closed from June 13 to 16.

Among others present were Parjan Jain, Raghubir Saraf, Raj Pal Verma, Kulbhushan Anand and Jagdish Sehdev.

HC directs against conversion of agrarian land

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, June 4: High Court today directed the Advocate General Mohammad Ishaq Qadri to ensure that the conversion of agricultural land into residential or commercial should not take place.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice M M Kumar and Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey

while hearing a petition filed by Human Watch over the conversion of agricultural land into residential land, also observed that the Advocate General should assist the Court with regard to the action taken by the Srinagar Development Authority (SDA) and Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) in respect of the General Bus Stand, Batamaloo.

The court observed, "under which provision the SDA has allotted the space of the bus terminal for business purposes to the squatters". It also asked the SMC and SDA to file upto date status report in the case.

Advocate NA Beg, who appeared for the petitioner, had sought strict enforcement and implementation of the laws which ban conversion of agrarian land into residential colonies.

The court was also hearing a petition that sought its direction on illegal construction from Khanabal to Pahalgam in South Kashmir, that was represented by Advocate Jahangir Iqbal Ganai.

Power shut down

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: In order to carry out the shifting of load and commissioning of 33 KV Salehar Ckt-I line from Grid Station Layana, the power supply to Salehar, Baispur, Sai-Kalan and adjoining areas being fed from Receiving Stations 2X6.3 MVA, Salehar, 1X6.3 MVA Baispur and 1X6.3 MVA Sai-Kalan will remain affected on June 6, 2013 from 5 a m to 10 a m.

The shut down is subject to fair weather conditions.

One more held in petrol pump robbery case

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, June 4: The police has nabbed one more youth for the robbery of Rs 1.61 lakh cash from a petrol pump located in Kandi area of Rajouri district.

The accused has been identified as Mohd Ashraf, son of Mohd Hussain, resident of Kakora village in Manjakote area of district Rajouri. The police has already nabbed his two associates, namely Ajay Kumar, son of Kuldip Kumar Sharma, resident of Link Road Akhnoor and Mohd Farooq, son of Hussain Khan, resident of Kakora in Manjakote while they were fleeing after committing the broad day robbery on Sunday. All the three came in an Alto car to Shafi Petrol Pump in Kandi area of Kotranka and snatched Rs 1.61 lakh cash after entering into the pump room at weapon point.

The pump staff including



PK leaders releasing document on threats posed by surrendered policy at Jammu on Tuesday.

PK disapproves surrendered policy, to present report in VHP meet at Goa

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: Panun Kashmir (PK) while disapproving the rehabilitation policy for surrendered militants said that it has raised many apprehensions among the peace loving people of the country in general and J&K State in particular.

Talking to reporters here, today while releasing a comprehensive report on policy and procedure for rehabilitation of the ex militants in the state, PK president Ashwani Kumar Chrungeo questioned the basis of the policy saying that the rehabilitation of terrorists, their Pakistani wives and children over the refugees of 1947, who are living in the State for last 66 years and are struggling for their citizenship rights, compensation and voting rights since then. These peace loving and patriotic people have been sidelined by the policy, he added.

He said the wives and children of these returnee ex militants who are generally Pakistani citizens and have been brought up in Pakistan social set up where India baiting is common cord after entering India via illegal route will be provided relief, cash assistance, jobs and package at the cost of public exchequer.

Others present in the press conference included Prof M L Raina, chairman Political Affairs Committee, PK, Virender Raina, national Spokesperson, PK, O P Sharma, Commandant BSF (ret'd) and S Prem Singh Raina, president KSDF.

BGSBU announces B-Tech Entrance result

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, June 4: Within a record time of 8 days, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University has announced results of B-Tech Entrance Test which was held on May 26. A total of 300 seats shall be filled from amongst the 1466 candidates who have appeared in the Entrance Test for pursuing 5 Engineering courses.

As per the handout, the result of B-Tech Entrance Test has been declared and made available on University website www.bgs-buniversity.org. The University's College of Engineering and Technology will start counseling and admission of first round on June 10 and June 11 following which the next round will be announced.

Atleast 1466 candidates appeared in Entrance Test for admission to 5 Engineering courses in Computer Science & Engineering, Electronics & Communications (ECE), Electrical and Renewable Energy (ERE), Information Technology & Engineering & Civil Engineering (CE) in the College

Candidates called for counseling on June 10 & 11

Excelsior Correspondent

of Engineering & Technology. The candidates belonging from almost all the 22 districts of the State appeared in the Entrance.

It is pertinent to mention here that all the programmes are approved by All India Council for Technical Education and main reason behind tremendous response in the courses is due to the high placement graph of the pass outs.

Among the total passouts, about 70 percent have been absorbed in various government, semi-government and corporate sector. Companies viz Caggemni, Fujitsu, Phoenix Mari, HCL, ICICI Lombard, Perot System, IBM, JPH Technologies, J&K Bank, L & T Infotech, BSNL, Vision InfoTech, Zonic Soft, Nelito Co., Global InfoTech, BQE & CS Infotech have given jobs to the B-Tech degree holders of this University.

Congratulating the qualified candidates, Prof I A Hamal, Vice Chancellor expressed satisfaction over the overwhelming response of the candidates from all regions of the State and successful conduct of the process of entrance.

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MLA S S Slathia laying foundation stone of irrigation tubewell at Ramgarh on Tuesday.

Slathia lays foundation stone of irrigation tubewell

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: Former Minister and MLA Vijaypur, S S Slathia today laid foundation stone for construction of irrigation tubewell at Chak-Jawahar in Ramgarh town Vijaypur which will be completed at an estimated cost of Rs.65 lakh.

The tubewell will have a capacity of discharging 20,000 gallons water per hour which will help irrigate 80 acres of land.

VC JDA visits various areas

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: Vice Chairman, Jammu Development Authority, Satish Nehru along with a team of senior officers of JDA including Superintendent Engineer, Chief Town Planner, Director Land Management, Executive Engineer, Tehsildar and Chief Khilafwazi Officer visited Raihead Complex, Trikuta Nagar, Housing Colony, Sunjwan, Chuadhri and Bir Pur areas.

The Vice Chairman found several encroachments in these areas and directed the DLM to remove these encroachments immediately and fence the sites by putting sign boards. He asked the Tehsildar and Chief

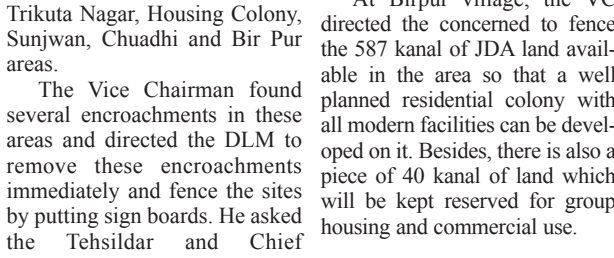
While speaking on the occasion, Slathia said that the Coalition Government is committed to provide basic amenities like road connectivity, safe drinking water, power supply and better quality education to the people of far flung areas.

Slathia assured the people that all their demands like construction of lane and drains, repair of roads will be taken up with the concerned authorities for an early redressal.

Khilafwazi Officer to issue notices to such encroachers and demolish the unauthorized constructions on left side of Trikuta Nagar Canal.

At Trikuta Nagar Colony, the Vice Chairman directed the CTP to submit the proposal for construction of mini shopping complex on available vacant site along the canal.

At Birpur village, the VC directed the concerned to fence the 587 kanal of JDA land available in the area so that a well planned residential colony with all modern facilities can be developed on it. Besides, there is also a piece of 40 kanal of land which will be kept reserved for group housing and commercial use.



S K Sharma inaugurating LG outlet at Narwal on Tuesday.

LG opens outlet at Narwal

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 4: LG Electronics opened its authorized outlet "Mohan Electronics" at Narwal here today.

The showroom was inaugurated by General Manager (incharge-projects), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, SK Sharma.

Speaking on the occasion, SK Sharma lauded this new venture for providing services to the people and congratulated the LG Electronics and owner of the outlet SL Sharma for taking a lead in this direction.

He also praised LG Electronics for their efforts to provide latest technology and superb designs loaded with the latest feature to the customers.

Owner of the Mohan Electronics assured that quality products backed up with quality service will be provided to the customers.

Speaking on the occasion, Deepak Lekhy, Branch Manager, LG Electronics said that it has been their endeavour to create a store which would not only stand out, but also showcase the values of LG brand.

Adarsh Gupta, Area Manager said that Mohan Electronics will go beyond the concept of a normal exclusive store, by having a more interactive environment and a more lifestyle orientation in the display, so that customers actually experience the LG products in their home settings.