



National Youth Corps volunteers protesting in front of Press Club on Saturday. -Excelsior/Rakesh

NYC volunteers stage protest, demand regularisation

JAMMU, June 22: National Youth Corps (NYC) of Jammu today held a protest at Press Club here against the Government for not redressing their demands including continuation of their services in the same department.

A large number of National Youth Corps under the Umbrella of All J&K National Youth Corps Association assembled at Press Club under the leadership of its State vice-president, Asif Ali Bhat to rise the voice for justice to 8000 NYC youth and raised slogans against the Government for playing with their future.

Holding letters in their hands written to PM regarding for his personal interference in resolving their grievances, the NYC's were demanding continuation of their services in the same department where they are rendering their services under a perfect policy, enhancement of honorarium and its conversion into salary.

While addressing the protesting youth, Bhat said NYC volunteers had also gone on hunger strike last year for pressing their demands, however they called off their strike following the assurance of the Minister for Sports RS Chib that their services would be regularized and a formal order in this regard would be soon after having consultations with the Ministry of Sports, Government of India. But nothing in practical was done by

Wani inaugurates motorable bridges

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, June 22: Minister for R&B and Mechanical Engineering, Abdul Majid Wani accompanied by G M Saroori, MLA Inderwal and various officers of different departments today visited far flung areas of Sigdi Bhata, Passerkoot and Chatroo Tehsil of Kishtwar district.

The Minister inaugurated 35 metre Span Steel Bridge over Sigdi Nalla and 25 metre span bridge at Vohal on Singpora Nalla. Both constructed under PMGSY.

Addressing a series of public meetings at Dadpeth, Sigdi, Passerkoot and Chatroo, the Minister said that Government is committed to provide road connectivity to the people living in these remote areas as roads are the basic necessity for the effective development of people. The Minister also announced that those habitations that have been left out will be covered under the second phase.

The Minister expressed his concern over the delay in completion of different projects by contractors and directed the concerned authorities to terminate their contracts and blacklist them. Speaking on the occasion, G M Saroori apprised the Minister of different problems being faced by the people and demanded that work on Singpora Vailoo Tunnel should be started, free ration be provided to all on equal basis, electrification of left out villages under RGGVY and compensation for acquired land be provided.

He said the Government has devised a mechanism where-under steps have been initiated to meet the infrastructural requirements of academic institutions in a phased manner. He said the schools lacking facilities especially in the rural areas have been identified and

included in the plans for their phased development.

The Minister urged the student community and the teaching fraternity to put in their best for achieving the goals set in the field of education. He also stressed the role of the parents in maintaining close rapport with teachers for monitoring the performance of their children.

On the occasion, the Minister highlighted the measures taken by the Government under the stewardship of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah for rural uplift and economic emancipation of the people. The Minister said that the progress of the state would remain a distant dream unless adequate opportunities are created for the youth.

In this context, he gave resume of initiatives taken under various schemes like Sher-e-Kashmir Employment and self employment schemes, tailored for opening up the avenues of employment among them.

Sadhotra for harmonious growth of children

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 22: Minister for Planning, Development Labour and Employment, Ajay Kumar Sadhotra today stressed the need for outreach of education with adequate infrastructural facilities to enable rural children grow in standard and quality academic environs.

Laying the foundation stone of a new school complex at Lachmanpura in Marh Constituency here this afternoon, the Minister said the Government has taken several initiatives in this regard with focus on raising adequate infrastructural facilities apart from quality faculty and other requirements related to teaching.

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Reject divisive, vested elements for J&K's development: Taj

Excelsior Correspondent

SOPORE, June 22: Appealing people to co-operate with the Government in its efforts to bring a developmental turn around in the State, Minister for Medical Education, Youth Services & Sports, Taj Mohi-ud-Din today asked them to reject the divisive politics practiced by certain groups which is to the detriment of the State.

Addressing a public meeting at Hatlung, Sopore today, the Minister asked the people to remain cautious of the designs of vested interest groups who create division among people in the name of catchy slogans and ideas. He said their aim is just to hoodwink the gullible and innocent people and not to make any positive contribution to people's lives.

"They have nothing to offer you except impede the growth of the state which has undergone a turnaround after the hard efforts of the present Government", he said.

Mr. Taj said the present Government is working hard to ameliorate the living standards of people particularly those living below poverty line, in far flung areas and those belonging to weaker sections of society. He said many schemes and programmes are in vogue for the purpose.

The Minister said many path breaking steps were taken during the last four years of present Government. He said raising of water usage charges, which constitutes one-third of State's revenue, would give power generation in J&K a big boost. He said similarly in other sectors like education, health, social welfare etc. J&K has seen phenomenal growth and progress.

Termining sports as a means to shape up one's personality, Mr. Taj said youth are the future of society and the Government has started giving sports infrastructure a re look so that youth are engaged in positive and constructive ways. He said every block in the State would have a sports complex and every panchayat would have play field.

The Minister announced Rs. 5 crore for the development of sports complex at Hatlung, Sopore. He said the complex would be equipped with all the accessories and equipments. He asked for identifying land for the complex immediately. He also directed the Department of Youth Services & Sports to make three teams each in the disciplines of football, hockey and cricket in all the high and higher secondary schools of the area.

Earlier, former legislator, Haji Rasheed outlined the achievements of the present Government during the last four years.

Boy drowns
SRINAGAR, June 22: A boy drowned in a water reservoir in north Kashmir's Kupwara district, police said.

Adil Hussain, 9, son of Ajaz Ahmad Rather of Tikpora, Lolab, drowned in water reservoir in his village while bathing on Saturday evening. His body was later fished out, police said.

3-day Agar Jitto Festival begins

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, June 22: District Development Commissioner Reasi, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary today inaugurated 3-day Agar Jitto Festival amidst beating of drums and display of rich cultural traditions of the area.

The three day festival will have rituals, prayers, departmental stalls, dangal competition and play on Bawa Jitto. Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Handicrafts, Rural Development and Employment have displayed their stalls.

J&K Bank, State Bank of India, HDFC and Reserve Bank of India have supported the arrangements and also established informative stalls especially for rural youth and farmers. The stall are expected to be visited by thousands of pilgrims.

A play "Bawa Jitto" organized by District Administration through Natrang will be held on 23rd and 24th June. Pooja will continue in the main temple whole night till 24th June. Ethnic food stalls will also be available at the venue of various functions during the Mela.

Mechanical Engineers Association highlights demands

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 22: All J&K Mechanical Engineers Association held a meeting under the chairmanship of NN Thusu, in which large number of mechanical engineers participated.

RK Kohli, president of the association highlighted the demands of the mechanical engineers including promotion of engineering staff against vacant posts of Asst Engineer (Mech) to Executive Engineers Mechanical and creation of two posts of Hydraulic Chief Engineers Mechanical in both the regions of J&K.

The members demanded creation of mechanical divisions in the newly created districts, regularization of mechanical engineers from Asst Engineers to Superintending Engineer Mechanical, restoration of 85 posts of junior engineer mechanical Grade I sanctioned and running grades for mechanical engineers as has been applied for MBBS doctors.

The association urged the Minister for PHE, I&FC Department and R&B and Mechanical Engineering

Two bovine smugglers held

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, June 22: Police today rescued two bovine animals and arrested two smugglers from Bishnah.

Police spokesman said that, on specific information, police party from Bishnah Police Station laid a naka and intercepted two autos bearing registration numbers JK08C-6422 and JK08C-6834.

During checking, police recovered 2 bovine animals and arrested two smugglers, who have been identified as Dwarka Nath, son of Sardari Lal and Rakesh Kumar, son of Bishan Dass, both residents of Sanji Morh.

A case under FIR number 78/13 under Sections 188 RPC 3 PCA Act stands registered at Bishnah Police Station and investigation started.

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DDC inaugurates 3-day Sudhmahadev Mela

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, June 22: District Development Commissioner, Udhampur, Yasha Mudgal, in presence of MLA, Chenani, K.C. Bhagat, today inaugurated 3-day Historic Sudhmahadev Mela in Chenani tehsil.

The 3-day mela got underway amidst colourful festivity as thousands of devotees thronged the Sudhmahadev temple shrine to seek the blessing of Lord Shiva on the first day.

The devotees took bath in the Beenisangam called Budhisudhi rivulet. The stream flows from top of the Dhar Shivgarh and is considered as an abode of

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Welcome MELA BABA MAI MAL (23rd & 24th June, 2013) At Dori Dager, Akhnoor. 31 Jammu Engineers selected for placement under UDAAN. DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, J&K Govt.