

J&K have ample talent, caliber to bring laurels for State: Bhalla

*Felicitates Anmol, Vidhi Jaswal

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: Minister for Housing, Horticulture and Culture, Raman Bhalla, today felicitated the Indian Idol Junior runner up Anmol Jaswal and his younger sister Vidhi Jaswal, who was on 20th place in the competition, at a function held at Trikuta Nagar here this afternoon.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, the Minister congratulated Anmol and his sister Vidhi Jaswal for their outstanding performance in Indian Idol show on Sony Television. He appreciated Anmol for his talent and encouraged him to continue his singing with same devotion to enter successfully in the world of world known singers.

Member DRUCC Northern Railways Nitish Mahajan besides hundreds of music lovers, prominent citizens, civil administration, family members including large number of people of City of Temples were present on the occasion.

The Minister said that Anmol Jaswal's performance as a singer has won him a lot of accolades besides making the state proud. He said he is a role model for others of his age.

Bhalla said that youth of Jammu and Kashmir have ample talent and calibre to bring laurels for State in every competition, adding that they have



Minister for Housing, Raman Bhalla felicitating Anmol and Vidhi Jaswal at Jammu on Sunday.

proved their mettle in various fields. He asked the teacher fraternity to give their best while imparting education to the youths as they are the real builders of the nation.

Bhalla said such events not only provide a platform to the youth in presenting their hidden talent but also acquaint them with the culture and heritage of other parts of the country. He urged upon the younger generation to take part in co-curricular activities side-by-side academic education for their overall personality development.

Interacting with the gathering, Anmol Jaswal expressed gratitude to the people of Jammu for showing great love and affection to him. He also highlighted some of his achievements

like winner of Bollywood music academy award, Inter-school competition, Rangbhoomi, Devotional song competition and 3rd prize winner of Sangam Kala group competition. He also attended Rangbhoomi and Bollywood Music academy competitions as guest of honour and received Jammu star award.

Anmol Jaswal informed that during the competition of Indian Idol Junior in Mumbai he learnt a lot about singing as the participants were being imparted training by two teachers regularly.

Later, Bhalla presented cash awards amounting Rs. 51000 to Anmol Jaswal and Rs. 11000 to his sister Vidhi Jaswal. Indian Idol junior participants for their wonderful performances.

Six bovine smugglers held

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA, Sept 8: Police today rescued 53 bovine animals and arrested six smugglers from Doda.

A police spokesman said that, on specific inputs, police party from Doda Police Station intercepted a flock of bovines and put six persons to questioning.

All the accused failed to give satisfactory reply and were arrested, he said, adding that the accused persons were taking the bovines to Valley by road.

The accused persons have been identified as Gul Mohammad Bhat, son of Sattar Bhat of Kapran, Farooq Ahmed, son of Shafi Mir, Pervaz Ahmed, son of Maqbool, Nazir Ahmed, son of Mohammad Din, all resident of Tapneel, Mohd Rashid, son of Ibrahim Gujjar of Keandi Dhar and Bhasharat Ali, son of Roshan Sheikh of Gurmial.

A case under FIR number 24/13 under Section 188 RPC and 3 PCA Act has been registered at Doda Police Station and investigation started.

Police party led by SI Dheeraj Nagpal made the arrest under the supervision of SP Doda Mohammad Arif Rishu.

Settle refugees on pattern of Kashmiri Pandits: Singh

Excelsior Correspondent

VIJAYPUR, Sept 8: Former Minister and senior Congress leader Manjit Singh today appealed Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to send details about the one time settlement of the refugees to Government of India.

"The Government should not further delay the process and send the details about the package for the one time settlement of refugees of 1947, 1971 and 1965," he said while addressing a gathering at village Jard.

Singh said that the refugees/displaced persons should be settled at par with the Kashmiri Pandits and they should also be given reservation in jobs as well as in professional institutions.

He further also demanded proprietary rights for the refugees/displaced persons of 1965 and 1971 who have been living under difficult conditions.

"The people along the International Border should be given same reservation at par with the people living along the LoC", he demanded.

There are some parties which want to exploit the refugees' issues for their political gains but they did not work for the welfare of the community which has been facing difficult period since decades, he added.

Among others present were block president Amarnath Bhatti, Karpal Singh, Mohinder Singh, Chain Singh, Deepak Choudhary, Rajnesh Sharma, Jia Lal, Barita Ram, Nagar Mal, Dharam Chand, etc.

CM lays foundation of Tehsil Office, Community Centre

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 8: Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah on Sunday laid the foundation of Tehsil Office Srinagar North and a Community Centre in Hazratbal here.

The Tehsil Office is expected to cost about Rs. 2.75 crore and the Community Centre Rs. 1 crore.

Talking to people on the occasion, Omar Abdullah said that the facilities coming up in the area would be of greater benefit to the people.

District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Farooq Ahmad Shah who was present on the occasion stated that the

modern Tehsil Office coming up in Hazratbal area would be a state-of-the-art facility to accommodate various offices and provide up to the mark meeting halls and interaction rooms besides housing Tehsildar, Naib Tehsildar and other officers.

He said Tehsil Office would prove highly beneficial for providing better service to the people. He said the need for a Community Centre in Hazratbal area was being felt for a long time. He said the laying of foundation of Community Centre by the Chief Minister would provide great relief to the people in the area.

JKLTF highlights problems of teaching community

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: A day-long session of All Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh Teachers' Federation (JKLTF) was held here today under the chairmanship of Balwan Singh Jamwal, wherein the representatives of Central Executive body participated and discussed threadbare the problems being faced by the teaching community.

Addressing the session, Jamwal, expressed serious concern over the present unjustified transfer policy, which he alleged is causing a lot of harassment among the honest and dedicated teachers and affecting negatively the education of the students.

He requested the Education Minister, Tara Chand, to intervene personally to frame a transparent transfer policy to save the education system before it collapses.

Drivers, Cleaners Union affiliates with Medical Employees Federation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: Drivers and Cleaners Union of State Health Transport Organization, Jammu Province, has announced its affiliation with the Jammu and Kashmir Medical Employees Federation.



—Excelsior/Rakesh Employees' leaders addressing a press conference at Jammu on Sunday.

This was informed during a joint press conference by the Medical Employees Federation chief Sushil Soodan and newly elected president of the Drivers and Cleaners Union, Anoop Singh.

Mr Soodan welcomed the union in Federation fold and assured full support in getting demands of the drivers and cleaners fulfilled. He also threatened to resort to agitational path if the Government does not consider the demands like removal of pay anomalies of drivers, filling up the vacant posts in SHTO workshop, enhancement in the budget of SHTO Jammu and

regularization of adhoc, contractual and consolidated workers, etc.

Pertinent to mention that Anoop Singh was elected as president of Drivers and Cleaners Union of SHTO last week by securing 54 out of 69 votes.

On the occasion, Anoop Singh also announced other office bearers of the Union and executive members.

Vijay Sharma and Kundan Lal have been nominated as general secretary and chairman respectively while Naresh Kumar has been given the position of secretary. Madan Lal Angural, Vijay Singh and Gian Singh have been given the responsibility of office secretary, senior vice-president and vice-president, respectively. Vijay Kumar has been nominated as cashier, Baldev Raj as spokesman, Joginder Kumar as advisor to the president and Akram as member secretary.

Rehmat Ali, Avtar Singh, Vijay Bali and Shashi Kant are executive members of the union.

Block presidents of the union were also announced on the occasion. They include Rajinder Singh (Dansal), Daulat Ram (R S Pura), Ishiq Hussain (Bishnah), Kuldeep Singh (Sohanjana), Jang Bahadur (Akhnoor), Raman Kumar (Palanwalla) and Kamal (Kot Bhalwal).

Govt hoodwinking KPs: KPC

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Sept 8: Kashmiri Pandit Conference (KPC) has termed the holding of Apex Committee meetings a ploy through which the Government was hoodwinking the community by showing lollipops to it and making only hollow promises.

Rejecting the Apex Committee meeting, KPC chief Kundan Kashmiri in a statement issued here, today asked what happened to previous decisions taken in the Apex meetings and have they ever been implemented on ground.

He said there has been no headway on much talked about Temples and Shrines Bill and except a passing reference on it the issue was not discussed at all though the aspirations of KPs all over globe are attached to temples and religious shrines of Valley.

He said likewise the CM could not give a time frame on implementation of PM's employment package which is hanging in balance for over last six years now and out of 6000 posts only 1500 displaced youth have been adjusted till date. By CM's statement in the

Apex that he would take up issue with Union Government reveals that it will take a decade or so again, he added.

Kashmiri said nothing was said about the over aged youth and no assurance was given on enhancement of relief or paying oft loans to them to open their own business establishments.

Ridiculing the return move of the Government, he said the situation was not conducive for the same. He reiterated the demand of carving out of Kashyap State within Valley for rehabilitation of displaced Pandits with free flow of Indian Constitution.

Meanwhile, Jagti Tenement Committee chief Shadi Lal Pandita while terming the Apex Committee meet an eye wash said that there will be no compromise on power tariff. He said the camp inmates not accepted power supply less than 16 hours a day while rejecting the Apex decision in this regard.

However Subash Raina a youth representative of the camp welcomed the decisions in Apex Committee especially Chief Minister's assurance on employment package for the youth.



Provincial President NC, Devender Singh Rana alongwith party workers paying tributes to Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah at Jammu on Sunday.

Tributes paid to Sher-e-Kashmir on death anniversary

NC won't allow peace inimical elements to divide J&K people: Rana

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: Provincial President National Conference Devender Singh Rana today complimented people for foiling the vicious game plan of repeating 2008 in the wake of unfortunate Kishtwar incidents by maintaining peace, amity and brotherhood.

"This is the spirit of high values reinforced and professed by Sher-e-Kashmir by deeds and actions all his life", the Provincial President said while paying tributes to Babe-e-Quom Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah on his 31st death anniversary at a huge gathering at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhavan here.

Mr Rana said the biggest tribute to the towering leader of the last century is to carry forward his mission by cementing the bonds of amity and isolating elements inimical to peace, tranquility and single entity of Jammu and Kashmir. He referred to the recent unfortunate incidents in Kishtwar and said the Bharatya Janata Party got so excited by disturbed conditions that it attempted to exploit the situation country-

wide to derive cheap political mileage. "That BJP wanted to vitiate the atmosphere became evident when Narendra Modi gave an ugly twist to the incidents during his public meeting in Hyderabad and Arun Jaitley created hype by landing at Jammu airport amid media glare when the administration was making sincere efforts to restore peace", he said and expressed satisfaction on people seeing through their hidden agenda.

Referring to personal attacks and vilification campaign unleashed by frustrated BJP leaders after peace heralding in Kishtwar, the Provincial President said if bringing people closer, strengthening bonds of brotherhood and building trust between various communities is a crime, he is proud of committing it. He said National Conference will not stand a mute spectator to the machinations of disruptive and destructive elements, who are out to polarize the situation by creating wedge between various segments of population.

"Being inheritors of Sher-e-Kashmir's grand movement, National Conference will fight

tooth and nail elements inimical to peace and brotherhood", he declared, saying this is the legacy the people of Jammu and Kashmir are proud to inherit. "This message is to be bequeathed to the posterity in view of the tentacles of rowdy elements".

Recalling the contribution of Baba-e-Quom, the Provincial President said the role of Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah did not remain confined to a particular party, particular religion or a particular region. "He fought for the just cause of people of Jammu and Kashmir and left an indelible mark of sacrifice and selfless service", Rana said.

The Provincial President called upon party workers to have self-introspection and make a resolve to steer Jammu and Kashmir as per his vision and dreams.

Those who paid tributes to Bab-e-Quom included, Surjeet Singh Slathia Senior vice President, Bimla Luthra MLA, Rattan Lal Gupta State Vice President, Vijay Laxami Dutta Provincial President Women Wing, Sheikh Bashir Ahmad Provincial Secretary, ex-Legislators Th Kashmiria Singh, Babu Ram Paul, Haji Mohammad Hussain, Satpal Lakhotra, Bhushan Lal Bhat, Begum Zubaida Salaria, besides other party leaders.

Earlier, the Provincial President inaugurated a photo exhibition at Sher-Kashmir Bhavan which depicted various facets of the life of Sher-e-Kashmir.

The National Conference leaders led by Mr Rana paid floral tributes to Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah.

The death anniversary of Sher-e-Kashmir was observed at all the district headquarters across the Jammu region with speakers paying rich tributes to Baba-e-Quom and recalling his contribution towards political empowerment of Jammu and Kashmir.

RS Sharma for exploring tourism potential of Nowshera

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 8: Vice-Chairman, Kissan Advisory Board, Radhaya Shyam Sharma, who is also MLA from Nowshera constituency, has stressed the need for exploring the tourism potential of the area.

Mr Sharma, while attending the meeting of Rajouri Development Authority two days back, highlighted several issues related to tourism promotion of Nowshera. He underscored the need for development of varied tourism potential areas with stress for upgradation of infrastructure facilities at pilgrimage sites, besides conservation and preservation of historical monuments especially Nowshera Fort.

He also impressed for exploring of tourism potential of scenic spots of the area by bringing them under the ambit of Rajouri Development Authority. He also said that tourism promotion in the area would boost the economy of the people of the area.

In the news-item published on September 7, the name of Vice Chairman Kissan Advisory Board and Member Legislative Assembly, Nowshera, was inadvertently written as Dr Ramesh Sharma.

Gujjars list demands

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: All India Gujjar Mahasabha has alleged that the Gujjars in the State are still deprived of benefits.

In a statement issued here today it demanded immediate relief be paid to flood affected people in the State, restoration of damaged houses, kullas and immediate compensation for damaged crops, construction of Gujjar colonies in the State, regularization of colonies where the nomadic Gujjars are residing, appointment ST/SC youth on Government jobs, Gujjars be given reservation in Parliament, Assembly and Panchayat and Gojri language be brought in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

Dr Jitendra addresses Army doctors at Delhi

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Sept 8: In an enlightening lecture to an audience of medical specialists from Army Medical

forces at Delhi's Superspecialty Army Hospital (R&R), renowned Diabetologist and National Professor of Diabetes, Dr Jitendra Singh, made a power-point presentation to highlight new and latest techniques of "Continuous Glucose Monitoring" aimed at ensuring a strict, uniform Blood Sugar control throughout the 24 hours with the objective of minimizing the risk of various diabetic complications affecting heart, eyes and kidneys.

The lecture was a part of an update programme organized under the chairmanship of Chief Endocrinologist at Delhi's premier (R&R) Army Hospital, Dr (Col) Narendra Kotwal and inaugurated by DGMS (Navy) Surg Vice Admiral S. Rohtagi, VSM.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the significance of continuous monitoring of Blood Sugar is that it helps a safe pregnancy outcome for diabetic women and reduces risk of future incapacitation in young diabetics. He said the challenge in next 20 years will be "diabetes in pregnancy" and "diabetes in young".

Dr Jitendra Singh also gave an update of the gadgets currently available for monitoring Blood Sugar and added, the continuous self-monitoring of Sugar is also now possible with the help of a device which is very feasible and convenient.

He said prevention of the spread of Diabetes is imperative not only to reduce the number of people affected with it but also to put a halt on increasing number of young heart attacks and end-stage kidney failure. Even though new modalities like gene therapy and stem cell are being tried, lifestyle modification will always remain the cornerstone for Diabetes control, he added.



Ex-MP Janak Raj Gupta donating consumable items to Veer Naris on Sunday.

CPMFs retired personnel highlight problems

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: All J&K Central Paramilitary Forces (CPMFs) retired personnel criticized the Central Government for not redressing their demands.

A meeting of All J&K Central Paramilitary Forces (CPMFs) retired personnel was held in which Ex-MP Janak Raj Gupta was the chief guest.

CPMFs President Kartar Chand Bhagat while addressing the meetings at Vijaypur and Sarore criticized the Central Government for not redressing their demands including anomalies in pension structure of pre 2006 retirees, enhancement of medical allowances from Rs 300 to Rs 2000, martyr status to CPMFs, ECHS facility instead of CGHS, establishment of Add Sainik Zila Board, reservation in Government jobs and profes-

sional colleges for their wards and dependents.

He further elaborated the benefits of the Ex-CAFP status but stressed upon the Central and State Governments to implement it in its true spirit, otherwise it is of no avail.

General secretary Darshan Kumar and spokesman Netar Singh lamented the Central Government for having no policy for the CPMFs and treating them like a civil employee under the CCSR.

Redress our genuine problems sympathetically, otherwise a mass agitation would be started in coming months, they warned.

While speaking, Janak Raj Gupta donated some kitchen stuffs to the widows (Veer Naris) of CPMFs soldiers and extended his full cooperation and help to CPMFs soldiers and widows in their problems.



SDNS members during 'Pooja' at Jammu on Sunday.

SDNS performs 'Muharat' to commence Ramleela activities

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: To commence the activities related to "Ramleela", to be staged during forthcoming 'Navratras' at the historic Dewan Mandir complex, Sanatan Dharam Natak Samaj (SDNS) today performed "Muharat" with performing pooja.

SDNS Chairman Yudhvir Sethi said the eight days' long Ramleela will conclude on Dussehra at Parade Ground Jammu. During Navratras number of artists will act on the stage to depict various chapters and characters of Ramayana, he said, adding that this religious event has produced number of Bollywood artistes, like Om Parkash and KL Sehgal and many others who became prominent actors and singers. This platform is good feeder to the theatre and film industry, he informed.

Sethi said one of the distin-

guished features of Ramleela is that the characters are played not only by Hindus but Muslims too have been the part of the Natak Samaj for decades. Jammu is gearing up for Ramleela festival as special arrangements are being so that families can be a part of the audience, he added.

Sat Samotra, president said during the event, various characters showing unity, power, devotion and fight against evil will be depicted on the stage.

He appealed to the people, particularly the youth, to visit in the ancient religious event, which is a part of life for the people living in the Indian sub-continent.

Natak samaj vice-president Anil Masoom, general secretary Sat Sharma, secretary Ramnik Mahajan, joint secretary Rajinder Singh Jamwal, office secretary Billu Palhawan and other office bearer and artists were also present.

LIC celebrates 57th insurance week

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 8: The LIC of India Srinagar division organized a mega cultural programme at Govt Women College Gandhi Nagar in which Sr Divisional Manager, D.C Thakur, was the chief guest while Marketing Manager, CS Bhawani was the guest of honour.

The programme was the part of ongoing 57th insurance week celebration.

While speaking on the occasion, Thakur apprised the audiences of various highlights of the Corporation and informed that the Corporation is holding 83% share in policies and 73% share in premium income. He further revealed that LIC will open satellite and mini offices in the State during the current year.

On the occasion, prizes were distributed among the winners of painting, essay and quiz competitions held in local schools by Bimla Thakur and Bindu Bhawani.

Meanwhile, "Master Anmol Jaswal" runner up of Indian Idol Junior was also honoured on the occasion by DC Thakur.

Anmol entertained the audiences by his melodious voice.

The cultural programme was presented by Information Department in which renowned ghazal singer Jeevan Sharma performed. Besides, regional dances of Jammu, Kashmir and Rajasthan were presented by the artists.

Marketing Manager CS Bhawani, presented vote of thanks.

MHRD SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME 2014-15

The scholarship forms are available for the session 2014-2015 MHRD scholarship scheme. The students who are appearing/passed 12th class/equivalent from a college/school located within J&K and are resident of J&K state can purchase form now.

Courses: B.tech (LEET), BBA, BCA, BHM, B.Com, B.Sc Nursing B.Pharm, Biotechnology, Microbiology & BBM

Place of form Purchase

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