

# Severe administrative inertia grips J&K: Sajad Lone

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 13: The Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference Chairman Sajad Gani Lone today said that J&K has been gripped in severe administrative inertia and its people have been suffering on all the fronts.

In a meeting of senior leadership of the JKPC held here at the party head office today wherein the party chairman and other leaders expressed dismay over the present dismal State of administration in Jammu and Kashmir, observing in unison that the wedge between the common people and those at the helm is only widening with each passing day.

The leaders in a detailed meeting maintained that the woes of the common masses on ground are mounting with each passing day and that the administration is only plunging them into the deep and dreadful cycle of perturbation.

Sajad Lone observed further that Jammu and Kashmir is in severe grip of administrative inertia and the bureaucratic hurdles and dilatory mode of functioning has become a new normal in the State administration. He maintained that the gulf between



JKPC Chairman Sajad Lone at a meeting in Srinagar on Tuesday.

the administration and the common masses must end at an earliest and that the euphoria about good governance and prompt delivery of services is menacingly misplaced to the core.

He also urged the LG administration to go beyond the rhetoric and deepen the process of dialogue and make sincere efforts to engage the people for a lasting solution to the present embargo.

The leadership made a fervent appeal to the LG administration to take remedial measures and prioritize the resolution of the problems people in Kashmir are facing amid the multitude of torments prevalent due to the political and economic crises.

They further deliberated upon the party structure and measures

needed to be taken to strengthen it further on ground. The meet also emphasized upon the democratization of the plans and policies of the party so that people could carry it forward in a bid to get Jammu and Kashmir out of the present morass of uncertainty and chaos.

The leaders also prayed for the speedy recovery of veteran political leader Muzaffar Hussain Beigh and his wife Safena Beigh who recently tested COVID-19 positive.

Besides PC chairman Sajad Lone, the leaders who attended the meeting included, Imran Ansari, Abdul Gani Vakil, Syed Basharat Bukhari, Bashir Ahmad Dar, Mohammad Khurshid Alam, Abid Ansari, Mansoor Hussain Soharwardy, Raja Aijaz Ali, Abbas Wani, Mohammad Ashraf Mir and Irfan Panditpuri.

# DDC inspects development projects in Sunderbani

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Apr 13: District Development Commissioner Rajouri, Rajesh K Shavan visited Sunderbani sub division and inspected progress of work on development projects, including upcoming Government Degree College building there.

The DDC was accompanied by the Additional Deputy Commissioner Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal and Assistant Executive Engineer PWD Nowshera, Tilak Raj.

The PWD Assistant Executive Engineer informed that the project has been approved at an estimated cost of Rs. 18.58 crore and the work was going smoothly.

The DDC expressed his satisfaction over the progress of work. He directed PWD to work in double shifts to complete the work within the shortest possible time so that the sufferings of the students are mitigated. He also directed to maintain quality while executing the work on the project.

He also inspected the beautification work of the Sunderbani Chowk. He directed the concerned to complete the work in stipulated time. The work includes widening and beautification of the Chowk-the first contact point with the town.

The DDC also visited Sub

District Hospital Sunderbani and inspected the Medicare services being provided to the common masses. The public apprised the DDC that there is a huge rush of people in the OPD ward and demanded completing work on the new SDH building being executed by the PWD.

The DDC informed that the work on the project is withheld due to a shortage of funds and the same would be resumed once the funds are available.

He also visited the cafeteria of the Tourism Department at Chingus and asked the concerned to maintain cleanliness and sanitation in the Cafeteria. He informed that several projects on which the work was held up due to some reasons have been restarted. He said the District Administration Rajouri is making every effort to ensure that the work on the vital projects is completed within the set deadlines to provide necessary benefits to the common masses.

# KPs pledge to celebrate next Navreh in Kashmir

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: Kashmiri Pandits at a special function today took a solemn pledge at the banks of Suriya Putri Tawi near here to celebrate next "Navreh" in Kashmir. The function was also attended by BJP J&K UT president, Ravinder Raina.

Ravinder Raina who participated in the 'Sankalp Diwas' organised by Mata Bhaderkali Asthapan Trust at Thalwal Mandal Jammu was accompanied by former MLC and BJP spokesperson, Girdhari Lal Raina.

Renowned Jyotishacharya Shiv Prasad Raina was also present.

The Sanakalp Diwas is the part of three-day Navreh Mahotsava being celebrated by Kashmiri Pandit community throughout the world. Day one of the Navreh Mahotsava was observed as Shriya Bhat Tyag Diwas in memory of 15th centu-



BJP J&K President, Ravinder Raina leading KPs during a pledge ceremony on the occasion of Navreh at Jammu on Tuesday.

ry Vaidachary of Kashmir who successfully treated life threatening poisonous Bowl on the chest of then Sultan Zainul-Abidin.

The programme at Thalwal on the banks of Surya Putri Tawi was a collective oath taking ceremony. A large number of members and devotees of Maa Bhaderkali along with huge number of youngsters participated and reaffirmed their resolve to work for peace, tranquility and rehabilitation of the displaced community back in Kashmir Valley.

Ravinder Raina led the procession from the shrine site to Banks of River Tawi and in his brief address appreciated the efforts of the community to preserve civilizational and traditional ethos of Kashmir. He was particularly happy over the participation of youngsters. He also reassured the community of the continued support in their fight for Justice.

Oath of affirmation was administered by Girdhari Lal Raina. Ravinder Raina also participated in the Samoohik Aarti and had Prasad.

# Ex-MLA expresses concern over rising prices of fuel

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Apr 13: Former MLA from Ramban, Ashok Kumar has expressed serious concern over the issue of perpetual price rise of fuel and other essentials.

In a statement issued here, Ex-MLA expressed concern over the rising prices of essential commodities and urged upon the concerned Ministry to swiftly act in maintaining inflation as the people are suffering badly. He said the economy is successively declining since 2019 onwards from a high of 8.2 percent to a low of 3.1 percent. Subsequently, the jobs are lost, income that this job provide are lost and families which are only dependent on those income are badly suffering to maintain their livelihood.

Former legislator further said that we cannot only blame COVID-19 pandemic but this situations has arisen over the unplanned monetary policy by the BJP Government in the Centre. It is because of their economic management in last few years that we have an economic

tragedy. He said our economic downfall has begun in post-demonetisation as after every quarter there was a down slide of our economic growth. Ashok has urged upon the Government of India to swiftly act against the recent inflation trends in our country as the common people are suffering badly due to financial crunch in their families budget. He also stressed upon the Finance Ministry to reduce the price of diesel, cooking gas and other essential commodities.

# Kidnapping & rape accused arrested after 9 years

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, Apr 13: Reasi Police today apprehended an absconder who was evading his arrest for the last nine years in a case of kidnapping and raping.

The accused, namely Mohd Mushtaq, son of Abdul Aziz of Thuru (Arnas), Reasi was absconding in case FIR Number 10/2012, dated 24/01/2012, under Section 363/376/343/109 RPC at Police Station Reasi, after commissioning of crime.

Accused had neither appeared before investigator nor was apprehended. A warrant under Section 512 CrPc was issued by Court of JM Reasi dated 22/03/12, against the accused.

Reasi Police is also on hunt to arrest another accused Mohd Sharief, son of Asghar Ali of Chana Thuru, who is absconding in the same.

# Tributes paid to famous Dogri poet Padam Dev Singh Nirdosh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 13: Tributes were paid today to world famous Dogri poet Padam Dev Singh 'Nirdosh', who has great contribution for making the Dogri language recognized in whole world. He is the poet who has written symbolic lines for Chenab river-- a symbol of love.

On his birth anniversary, a program was organized today at 'Nirdosh' Chowk in Akhnoor in which SDPO Varun Jandial and Station House Officer Hilal Azhar along with civil society members and media persons paid floral tributes to the great soul.

Padam Dev Singh Nirdosh, who wrote a classical song 'Balle Balle Bag Ha Chinab Deya Paniyan, Aaj Ghar Chutti Aunaa Saade Dil Janiaan', was born on 13 April 1940 in Kaleeth. Nirdosh lived with that section of the society who has been marginalized. The lines of

one of his works are "Tere Raja Ch Ner Peda Krishna Murari, Zamindar Ai Pukhka Marda Kukad Kha Patwari Kukad Kha Patwari Oh Bhi Kudki Kudki, Salam Bottle Piya Firda Budki Budki".

Nirdosh died on September 7, 1994. He is only Dogri poet on whose name a 'chowk' is established. The fountain chowk of Akhnoor was renamed as Nirdosh Chowk and statue of Nirdosh was also established there.

Others who paid floral tributes to the great poet were Rabia Khajuria, Vikrant Bral, Vishal Sharma, Sunny Sharma, Adarsh Bakshi, Ashwani Kumar, Atul Sudan, Avinash Bassan, Rakesh Kumar, Shiv Beragi, Vishal Gadgotra, Rajan Beragi, Shamsheer Singh, Ashwin Bhardwaj, Anil Sharma, Vishal Sapolia, Raghuvir Singh, Raman Gupta, Ritesh Gupta, Sunny Sharma, Rahul Langer, etc.

# Krishna Dhaba back in business after 2 months

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 13: After an attack was carried out by militants on the famous food-outlet Krishna Dhaba, the Dhaba today resumed its business with scores of people relishing their food throughout the day.

The food outlet was attacked by militants two months ago in February in which the son of the Dhaba Owner-Aakash-was seriously injured and later succumbed to his injuries at SMHS Hospital in Srinagar.

However, as the Dhaba returned to the business, Ramesh Kumar, the owner of the food outlet said that he feels safe in Kashmir and while he was born here, he said, he will prefer to die here in Kashmir.

"I feel safe and secure here in the Valley. This is my place as

I was born and raised here. There is no threat to me," he said.

Pertinent to mention here, that the shop has remained closed ever since the attack was carried on and has reopened after a gap of around two months.

The owner, however, said

**\* Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)**

that he does not have anything against those who carried out the attack and even went on saying that the police should release those who have been arrested in connection with the attack.

"I have lost my son and he is not going to return; in my opinion, those who have been arrested in this connection, should be released, they are also children of their parents; I am leaving the matter to God," he said.



Department of Social Justice and Empowerment  
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment  
Government of India

# Inviting nomination for Vayoshreshtha Samman

## National Award, 2021

The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India invites nominations for conferment of "Vayoshreshtha Samman (National Award)", 2021 for eminent senior citizens and institutions involved in rendering distinguished service for the cause of elderly persons, especially indigent senior citizens, under the following categories:-

S.No.	Category	Description/ Eligibility	Nature of Awards
<b>INSTITUTIONAL CATEGORY</b>			
1.	Best Institution for Research in the field of Ageing	For institutions with a record of outstanding work in research and dissemination of knowledge in the field of ageing.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of five lakh Rupees.
2.	Best Institution for providing services to Senior Citizens and Awareness Generation	For institutions with a record of providing services to the elderly, especially indigent senior citizens.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of five lakh Rupees.
3.	Best District Panchayat in providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens	To the district Panchayats, which have done outstanding work for senior citizens.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of ten lakh Rupees.
4.	Best Urban Local Body in providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens	To municipal bodies, which have done outstanding work for senior citizens.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of ten lakh Rupees.
5.	Best State in implementing the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, and providing services and facilities to Senior Citizens	To the State or Union Territory which has taken a lead in implementing various provisions of the Act and has highest percentage of settlement of claims of maintenance or best security programme for elderly.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento.
6.	Best Private Sector Organisation in promoting the wellbeing and welfare of Senior Citizens	Corporate Houses, addressing the problems of elderly either by providing them gainful employment, or utilising their skills and experience to the benefit of the society or creating infrastructure in geriatric medical care or any other similar step for the benefit of senior citizens as a community. The activities taken for benefit of senior citizens should be away from the mainline business of the organization.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento.
7.	Best Public Sector Organisation in promoting the wellbeing and welfare of Senior Citizens	Public Sector Undertakings undertaking service to the community through activities under corporate social responsibility and also through programmes for retired employees.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento.

S.No.	Category	Description/ Eligibility	Nature of Awards
<b>INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY</b>			
8.	Centenarian	For renowned individuals who are above ninety years and are still physically active, independent and contributing to the society	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.
9.	Iconic Mother	For women senior citizens who in the face of great odds, brought up their children and supported them in being high achievers in the field of their choice.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.
10.	Lifetime Achievement	To senior citizens, preferably above seventy years, who have worked in the field of ageing and made significant contribution in the field.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.
11.	Creative Art	For winners of National/International acclaim for their contribution to literature, theatre, cinema, music, dance, painting, sculpture, photography, etc. and who continue to be active in their field well into their old age.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.
12.	Sports and Adventure (one each for Male and Female)	To senior citizens who have won international acclaim and who continue to contribute in the field of sports and adventure.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.
13.	Courage & Bravery (one each for Male and Female)	To senior citizens who have displayed extra ordinary courage in the face of grave danger.	(a) Citation; (b) Memento; (c) Cash award of two lakh and fifty thousand Rupees.
<p>2. The following agencies or individuals are eligible to make nominations of suitable persons/institutions for the Awards:-</p> <p>(a) The Ministries or Departments of the Government of India and their autonomous organisations. (b) The State Governments or Union Territory Administrations. (c) Past recipients of Padma Awards, Vayoshreshtha Samman and other National Awards in both individual and institutional categories. (d) Members of the National Council of Senior Citizens (NCS/C) constituted by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. (e) Renowned Apex Chambers like Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM), National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) etc. (f) Any other category of persons or institutions authorized by the Ministry from time to time.</p> <p>3. Detailed eligibility criteria, proforma for nomination for the Awards and the procedure for nomination etc., are available on the website of the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment as indicated : <a href="http://socialjustice.nic.in">http://socialjustice.nic.in</a>.</p> <p>4. Nominations in the prescribed proforma complete in all respects with the requisite supporting documents of the nominee, photograph and bio-data of the nominee (in the case of individual category), may be sent to the following address: <b>Shri Bharat Lal Meena, Director (Social Defence) Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Room No. 637 A-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi - 110001.</b></p> <p>5. The last date for receipt of nominations is 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2021. Self nominations and applications from individuals or institutions not recommended by the prescribed agencies/individuals shall not be entertained and shall be liable to be summarily rejected.</p>			