

PM to launch COVID-19 vaccination drive on Jan 16

NEW DELHI, Jan 14:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch India's COVID-19 vaccination drive on January 16 via video conferencing and adequate doses of the two made-in-India vaccines have been delivered across the country to all States and Union Territories, the Government said today.

This will be the world's largest vaccination programme covering the entire length and breadth of the country and all preparations are in place to initiate the programme on the principles of 'Jan Bhagidari', the Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

Prime Minister Modi will launch the pan-India rollout of the COVID-19 vaccination drive on January 16 at 10:30 AM via video conferencing, the PMO said.

A total of 3,006 session sites across all States and UTs will be virtually connected during the launch and around 100 beneficiaries will be vaccinated at each session site on the first day, the state-

ment said.

Separately, sources said Modi is likely to interact via video link with some healthcare workers from across the country who will be receiving the shots on the first day.

Officials at New Delhi's AIIMS and Safdarjung Hospitals, which are among the shortlisted facilities, said they are "ready for a two-way communication".

The PMO statement said the vaccination programme is based on principles of priority groups to be vaccinated first. Healthcare workers, both in the Government and private sectors, including Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) workers, will receive the vaccine during this phase.

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) had earlier this month approved Oxford COVID-19 vaccine Covishield, manufactured by the Serum Institute, and indigenously developed Covaxin of Bharat Biotech for restricted emergency use in the country,

paving the way for a massive inoculation drive.

Adequate doses of both Covishield and Covaxin have already been delivered across the country to all States/UTs with the active support of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. These have been further delivered by the State/UT governments to the districts, the PMO said.

The vaccination programme will use Co-WIN, an online digital platform developed by Union Health Ministry, which will facilitate real-time information of vaccine stocks, storage temperature and individualised tracking of beneficiaries for COVID-19 vaccine.

This digital platform will assist programme managers across all levels while conducting vaccination sessions, the PMO said.

A dedicated 24x7 call centre - 1075 - has also been established for addressing the queries related to COVID-19 pandemic, vaccine rollout and the Co-WIN software. (PTI)

Apni Party alleges unregulated prices of essential commodities

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Jan 14: Apni Party Provincial President Kashmir, Mohammad Ashraf Mir today expressed deep anguish over the situation emerging out of price rise of essential commodities in Kashmir division primarily being attributed to the closure of Srinagar-Jammu national highway.

While speaking to the media at the party headquarters here in Lal Chowk, Mir said, "The closure of Srinagar-Jammu National Highway has caused huge price rise of essential commodities in Kashmir division. Even vegetable prices have hiked up to skies. There seems to be no price regulating authority on ground which is causing immense sufferings to the people."

Teams of the Department of Food must be deputed across Kashmir division so as to put a check on the markets rates, Mir demanded, adding that the traders found responsible for hoarding of ration and other essential commodities or planned inflation in markets must be dealt with sternly.

Apni Party Provincial

India, China continue to maintain close communication: MEA on Ladakh standoff

NEW DELHI, Jan 14:

India and China continue to maintain close communication through diplomatic and military channels with the objective of ensuring complete disengagement at all friction points along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said today.

The MEA spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said the two sides have agreed to hold the next round of military talks and are in constant communication in this regard.

"India and China continue to maintain close communication through diplomatic and military channels with the objective of ensuring complete disengagement at all friction points along the LAC in the western sector and for full restoration of peace and tran-

quillity," he told a media briefing.

Srivastava was responding to a question on the status of talks between the two countries on the military face-off in Eastern Ladakh.

The troops of the Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army(PLA) are locked in a standoff for over eight months.

Last month, India and China held another round of diplomatic talks under the framework of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China border

affairs.

"As you are aware, the latest round of WMCC was held on December 18. The two sides have agreed to hold a next round of senior commanders meeting, and are in constant communication through diplomatic and military channels in this regard," Srivastava said.

The eighth and last round of military talks between the two sides took place on November 6 during which both sides broadly discussed disengagement of troops from specific friction points. (PTI)

Talab Tillo, Bhawani Nagar, Puran Nagar face water crisis

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: People of Talab Tillo, Bhawani Nagar and Puran Nagar are facing water problem as the motors at supply station tube wells frequently develop some technical snags.

Locals of these areas informed that water supply pipes in these areas are 35-40 years old and have developed cracks at many places.

They also said that as these pipes pass through sewerage lines, people are getting contaminated water which may lead to some epidemic if things are not corrected soon.

Other residents of the area said, a lot of water gets waste for days together in leaking pipes which also damages the roads as water accumulates there.

Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Councillor, Sucha Singh of Ward 31 when contacted informed that it was for the fourth time that motor at Agriculture Station Tube Well near Gole Pully in Talab Tillo developed snag and there was no water supply to the locals there for many days as authorities take many days to repair the damaged motor.

He said that similar was the

case of another supply station tube well at Puran Nagar behind Amarnath Yatri Niwas where the motor got damaged thrice within few days and people of Puran Nagar and Bhawani Nagar got water after five days.

The Councillor informed that in emergency time, tube well at cremation ground in Gole area used to supply water earlier to Puran Nagar but as pipes are broken for construction of Nallah in the area that source of water supply is also cut off now for Puran Nagar and Bhawani Nagar people.

"X-En, JE, AEE and other officers concerned in Jal Shakti Department not even picks our phones when we try to inform them about problems being faced by the people because of poor water supply," the JMC Councillor claimed.

He also informed that no mechanical wing personnel remains available at tube wells for emergency calls and general linemen is requested for help even in case of repair of an electric fuse.

"If this is situation in winters one may imagine how we are going to face summers with poor water supply," Singh maintained.

Hit and run case solved, motorcyclist arrested

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: Bus Stand Police solved a hit and run case within 24 hours with the arrest of accused motorcyclist.

As per police sources, yesterday an information was received at Police Station Bus Stand from reliable sources that a pedestrian namely Shakuntla Sharma, a resident of Bhawani Nagar Janipur was hit by a motorcycle bearing registration number JK02AP-1067 from behind. The rider fled away from spot along with vehicle.

Acting over the information,

a case under FIR Number 3/21 under Sections 279 and 337 IPC was registered at Police Station Bus Stand and investigation started.

During the course of investigation, a team from Police Station Bus Stand led by SHO Inspector JJ Bhagat after hectic efforts arrested the accused rider of the vehicle, who was identified as Rajat Kumar, a resident of Sikanderpur tehsil Bishnah district Jammu. On his disclosure, vehicle involved in the accident was also recovered and seized.

Further investigation of the case is going on.

PNB's Jammu Cantt branch dedicated to Hony Capt Bana Singh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: Punjab National Bank (PNB) dedicated its Jammu Cantt branch to Param Vir Chakra recipient Subedar Major and Honorary

Veterans' Day". Event co-ordinator enlightened the sitting audience that PNB was formed by Lala Lajpat Rai ji and Dayal Singh Majithia in the year 1894, and is the first Indian bank.

From the very onset Punjab National Bank has been committed to pay obedience to defense personnel and is competent enough to render each and every possible service to them. Among the various veterans, Circle Head PNB Sanjeev Kumar Dhupar, Deputy Circle Head Neeraj Kumar Anand and Branch Head Ravi Kumar were also present.

Senior PNB officers at Jammu Cantt branch of the Bank on Thursday.

Captain Bana Singh to commemorate Armed Forces Veterans' Day.

Every year, January 14 is celebrated as "Armed Forces

AAP supports farmers protest

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: Claiming that over 70 farmers have died in the ongoing protest against Farm Laws, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) stated that its volunteers dedicated this year's Lohri festival to the farmers martyred in the agitation.

AAP Jammu leaders paid tributes to these martyrs and appealed to the leaders and workers of BJP to quit their party and come in open support of the protesting farmers.

A handout stated that AAP national convener and CM of Delhi, Arvind Kejriwal has extended full help to the protesting farmers at Delhi borders by making arrangements for WiFi facility, mobile toilets, food, drinking water and hot water during the chilly weather conditions.

It also said that AAP stands with the farmers and the nationwide agitation will continue till the government repeals the "anti-farmer laws."

JKNPP submits memorandum to NHAI on Udhampur-Chenani section of NH

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: A delegation of Panthers Party, led by Harshdev Singh, Chairman JKNPP and former Minister, today called upon the authorities of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and submitted a memorandum to Regional Officer alleging abandonment of work on four laning of Udhampur-Chenani road by the construction company, causing huge inconvenience to commuters besides heavy traffic jams due to dilapidated condition of road.

In the memorandum, JKNPP explained that the stretch from Udhampur to Chenani in particular is in complete shambles with even the earlier two lane having been badly damaged and rendered unfit for traffic. There are huge traffic jams with vehicles remaining stranded for several hours each day on the same stretch due to dilapidated condition of the road whose plight has been worsened due to highly negligent and lackadaisical rather criminal approach of the construction company in executing the said work, said the memorandum adding that the Valley bound vehicles and

other traffic to Doda and Ramban districts and tourist traffic to Patnitop is also delayed by several hours due to extremely pathetic condition of the road stretch.

"There are frequent accidents on the said road due to its shabby condition. Moreover the resentment among the locals of the area is brewing with each passing day against the said company. And while the construction company has miserably failed to execute the work, the NHAI is also accountable to the public for having given undue concessions and leverage to the construction company without any justifiable reason," said the memorandum, asking the NHAI to take remedial penal action against the said company besides termination of the contract and its immediate completion failing which the people under the aegis of Panthers Party would be forced to gherao the concerned authorities besides approaching the Central vigilante organizations.

Harshdev Singh was accompanied by Gagan Pratap Singh (State Secretary), Purshottam Parihar (State Secretary PTU) and Surinder Chouhan (District President -Jammu Rural).

‘Remote Sensing and GIS Laboratory’ inaugurated

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: A 'Remote Sensing and GIS Laboratory' was inaugurated via video conferencing at Corporate Office of



AK Singh, CMD, NHPC inaugurating Remote Sensing and GIS Laboratory via video conferencing.

NHPC, India's premier hydropower company.

The Laboratory was inaugurated by AK Singh, CMD, NHPC in presence of all directors and senior officers.

Speaking on the occasion, AK Singh said that NHPC has always been committed to the

use of modern technologies and this laboratory also shows our corporation's commitment towards environment and will enable NHPC to monitor and study the environment more effectively through satellite images.

This remote sensing laboratory has been established by the Environment and Diversity Management Division of NHPC. The laboratory has been started with the objective of continuously monitoring the environment of all NHPC projects and also to carry out research and development work through this medium. Remote sensing is an advanced technique through which the earth's surface and resources are studied by scientific method without any physical contact.

The inauguration was conducted through video conferencing keeping in view the conditions of COVID-19.

People's service top priority in public life: Chrungoo

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: Ashwani Kumar Chrungoo, senior BJP and Kashmiri Pandit leader and Incharge Department of Political Affairs and Feedback, J&K-BJP today said that some politicians today said that some politicians of J&K believe that the developments of August 5/6 2019, have dug graves for their future in politics since scope for exploitation of the masses in the name of the so-called special status, Articles 370 and 35A and separate Constitution and symbols has come to a permanent end.

He was addressing an 'Anna-Dannum' function organised here today on the occasion of Makkar Sankranti. The humanitarian aid programme along with 'Anna-Dannum' was organised for the benefit of the migrant labour families and the poor and deserving sections of society.

In their heart of hearts these politicians know that there is no possibility of any reversion of the August 5/6, 2019 happenings for the next 100 years.

On the occasion, the BJP leader said that in the public life service to the people is of top priority. An intent of service to the people is the biggest motivation for the politicians to get involved on a perpetual basis in public life and the same has no alternative. The programme was organised with the help of youth and women volunteers.

Chrungoo said, "We recently came across a statement of former Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah complaining that he has lost motivation in politics. The motivation of Omar like politicians was mostly about their participation in the Government by hook or crook, regardless of their ideology or principles".

Demotivation seems to be a natural thing to happen to those who see an end of their road of selfishness, sub-national rigmarole, scope for religious and regional politics and an easy track to reach or access the corridors of power with little scope coupled with loot of public exchequer and lack of accountability and transparency, he added.

Youth dies due to asphyxiation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: A youth died due to asphyxiation in Gangyal area here, a police official said.

The deceased has been identified as Sharafat Ali (20), son of Sardar Ali of Uttar Pradesh, at present Gangyal.

After completing medical and legal formalities, the body of the deceased was handed over to legal heirs for last rites.

Gangyal Police has taken cognizance in this regard.



Two wheel chairs being provided by Army to needy during ex-servicemen rally in Mendhar on Thursday.

Army organises ex-servicemen rally

Excelsior Correspondent

MENDHAR, Jan 14: On the occasion of Veterans' Day, Bhimber Gali Brigade, organised a rally for the Ex-servicemen and Veer Naaris of Mendhar Sub Division near the Line of Control.

The Veterans' Day Rally was preceded by an earlier outreach program on Dec 30, 2020 which was used to record grievances of the veterans, war widows and their dependents. The outreach provided a platform for the Ex-servicemen to resolve their problems and grievances, especially due to prolonged lock down and related COVID protocols.

Officials from Zila Sainik Welfare Office (ZSWO), Defence Pension Disbursing Office (DPDO), Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) and representatives from various regiments were present to provide prompt solutions to problems of Ex-servicemen and their dependents.

CSD and Medical facilities were made available to the veterans. Civil administration was represented by Dr Sahil Jandyal, SDM Mendhar and Zaheer Abbas, SDPO, Mendhar to hear the problems and suggestions of the Ex-servicemen.

The Ex-servicemen were also informed about various Govt welfare schemes from which they can benefit.

Speaking on the occasion, Commander, Bhimber Gali Brigade

NHIDCL organizes eye testing camp

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: Regional Office of National Highways & Infrastructure Development



A doctor testing eyesight of a man during a camp at Fruit Mandi, Narwal in Jammu.

Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), a fully owned Company of Union Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways

expressed gratitude to all the Ex-servicemen for their selfless contribution and sacrifice during the prime of their life. He assured them that all their problems will be resolved proactively.

He said that such interactions will be conducted often and better facilities will be provided to Ex-servicemen by setting up of Veteran Sahayta Kendriya (VSK) at Bhimber Gali, to address the problems of the Ex-servicemen on daily basis. The services of the CSD will also be refined to provide better services to the ESM. Wheel chairs and walking aids were distributed to the needy Ex-servicemen.

ITBP constable duped by online fraudsters

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: A constable of Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) has been duped by online fraudsters of around Rs 10 lakh.

As per police sources, a constable of IPBP namely Maidul Islam, posted in Gandhi Nagar, lodged a complaint with Police Station Gandhi Nagar stating that he has been cheated by online fraudsters of Rs 9.83 lakh cash.

Acting on the complaint, a case under FIR Number 11/2021 under Section 420 IPC has been registered at Police Station Gandhi Nagar and investigation started.

The camp was organized today under the leadership of Dr J P Singh, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Jammu. During the camp, a large number of drivers and cleaners got tested their eyesight. The organizers distributed free medicines to the visitors in the camp.

The awareness on 'how to maintain good eyesight' was also spread among the participants by a team of doctors from Health Department, Jammu.

NCERT book on Mughals rebuilt temples misleading: Kavinder

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: Former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta termed the response of NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training) over an RTI filed to know the source of claim made in 12th class history book on Mughals reconstructing temples after devastating them as classic case of twisting history.

Expressing concern, the senior BJP functionary said that the instance is highly condemnable as wrong facts are being taught to the pupils studying in the crucial class forming pedestal of their career. He said that NCERT's reply to RTI claiming that it has no information on source of claim made in its textbook that Mughals had rebuilt temples after destroying them is quite unfortunate and needs immediate rectification as teaching groundless facts to the generation next is nothing less than a crime.

It is pertinent to mention that the NCERT book 'Themes of Indian History (Part II)' for class XII claimed that grants were issued for the repair of temples destroyed in war during the reigns of Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb, a 'fact' which the Council has itself negated in a response to RTI filed in this regard saying that it doesn't have any record supporting the statement.

Kavinder in a statement issued today averred that there

are already many instances when the NCERT has brazenly twisted the facts especially in case of Indian history. He cited other examples of NCERT books claiming things contrary to facts like defeat of Rana Pratap in the battle of Haldighati and understating Chattrapati Shivaji's glory.

The former Deputy CM asked the concerned officials of NCERT to immediately take action and remove all such lacunae from its textbooks. He said that the incumbent Government under Prime Minister, Narendra Modi will not allow such machinations to undervalue the glorious past of the country as was the case of Governments under Congress leaders which seldom gave importance to highlight the heritage and valour of our countrymen living in the past. He said that no one has the right to undervalue the enormity of India and its people.

Meanwhile, the senior BJP leader greeted people on the auspicious occasion of Makarsankranti and served Bhandara at Swami Hriday Deep Ashram, Jeevan Nagar and Shivaji Chowk Nanak Nagar.

Prominent among those who were present on the occasion included Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta, Vinay Gupta District President BJP, Swami Haridey Deep, Vikram Randhawa, Ankush Gupta, Baldev Balaria, Sanjay Jandial, Lekh Raj, Nayan Gupta, Narinder Koki and Kulbir Kour.

Tarigami urges LG to release salaries of Anganwadi workers, helpers

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Jan 14: Thousands of Anganwadi workers and helpers working under the Social Welfare Department's Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) in Jammu and Kashmir are without wages for the last more than eight months and there is also liability of some months of year 2019 which is unfortunate.

In a letter to Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, the CPI (M) leader Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami highlighted the issues confronting Anganwadi workers/helpers and supervisors and urged him to fulfill their genuine demands without any further delay.

The letter read that these employees have been working tirelessly as most of the Government schemes are implemented through them. Even during the ongoing fight against COVID-19 pandemic, they have been on the forefront.

But, unfortunately over the years they have been treated with utter contempt by the Government. In 2018, the Government had announced to

enhance the honorarium of the workers and helpers by Rs 500 per month. However, more than two years down the line, the promise is yet to be fulfilled.

Another category which is Helpers to Supervisors and whose number is 852 are without wages for the last three years. The Central share for their wages for the year 2019 has been released but the UT share is yet to be released.

The administrative apathy towards their genuine issues is against justice and fair play. They are being denied social security benefits including promotion, gratuity, pension, provident fund, medical facilities, etc. He said more than 1500 ICDS supervisors are without salaries for the last eight months, resulting in immense hardships for them. These employees have to feed their families, but despite working hard, they are not paid their wages and salaries in time.

Tarigami in his letter to the LG said "We hope not only the wages and salaries of these employees are released immediately, but their other genuine demands are also fulfilled at the earliest".

SSP Crime decorates newly promoted ASIs

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 14: SSP Crime Jammu Shailender Singh decorated newly promoted Assistant

ASI Parveen Kumar, ASI Balraj Kumar, ASI Surinder Singh, ASI Dev Anand, ASI Rakesh Kumar, ASI Satvir Singh, ASI Mohan Singh, ASI Ashok Kumar and ASI Mohinder Paul Singh.



SSP Crime Jammu Shailender Singh and newly promoted ASIs posing for group photograph.

Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) of Police of Crime Branch Jammu at Zonal Crime Headquarters here today.

The promoted officers are

Speaking on the occasion, Shailender Singh SSP Crime Jammu congratulated all officers and their families and wished them to keep their spirits high while performing their duties.

Other officers, who were present on the occasion, were DySP Vishal Manhas, DySP Abid Rafiqi, SrPO Anil Dev Jamwal and SrPO Raj Kumar.



**The Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited**  
General & Estates Deptt.  
Zonal Office Jammu Central-1  
Rail Head Complex, Jammu.

**CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**  
In continuation to this office notice no. JKB/ZOJC-1/Gen-1008 dated 05.01.2021  
  
Following corrections have been made:  
**S. No.4** of the tender notice & **clause 4** of the tender document: -  
"Rupees One lac forty two thousand only" be read as "Rupees One lac sixty thousand only".  
In the **clause 7** of the tender document, **15.01.2021** be read as **25.01.2021**.  
**All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.**  

JKB/ZOJC-1/Gen-1052  
Dated 15.01.2021

Vice President  
ZOJC-1

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE						
Sr.DEE/GFZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders (www.ireps.gov.in) against below titled Tenders. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only.						
Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Comple-tion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect-T-24-2020-21	Electrical work in c/w Repair, Maintenance Improvement & Special maintenance of Electrical assets for proposed GM inspection from Jalandhar (Including)-Amritsar (Including).	33,43,781.09/-	66900/-	04 Months	29.01.2021 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
251-Elect-T-25-2020-21	Annual maintenance contract of Power cars Of Greaves Cotton make DG sets for one year over Firozpur Division.	9698362.20/-	194000/-	12 Months	08.02.2021 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
251-Elect/T.Notice No. 29-Elect/2020-21, Dated: - 14.01.2021						
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE						
						107/21