

# GKPD delegation calls on Reddy, submits memorandum

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: A delegation of Global Kashmiri Pandit Diaspora (GKPD) led by Upal Koul its leader today called on Union Minister of State for Home, G K Reddy in Union Capital and submitted a memorandum to him highlighting the demands of the community.



GKPD representatives submitting a memorandum to MoS Home, G K Reddy in New Delhi on Tuesday.

The delegation demanded that the time for promulgating an ordinance for Shrines and Temples Bill has come. It said that in order to protect, preserve and promote the ten thousand year old civilizational legacy of Kashmir, an appropriate legislation covering the objectives of the Bill may be now promulgated and a Board be accordingly constituted to manage the affairs of these shrines and temples. This will go a long way to build the necessary confidence to move ahead in Kashmir regarding the restoration of faith to re-establish the Hindu community back in Valley, eventually, the delegation added.

It said the Hindus of Kashmir have been struggling on this issue for a long now and it is requested to accord the necessary urgency to Jammu and Kashmir affairs.

The delegation demanded establishment of a Special Crimes Tribunal to investigate the crimes against the humanity committed with minorities of J&K including Hindus and Sikhs over last 35 years. This will go a long way to

bring justice to the wailing , weeping and crying victims of genocide who have been deprived of the same till date.

It also demanded that a recruitment drive on the analogy of PM package may also be launched for the displaced Pandit youth in Central Government departments in view of rising unemployment in the community.

It further demanded a one time settlement plan be framed for over-aged educated youth of the community who could not get adjusted over the years. This will be a great gesture of relief to the vast section of the society which bore brunt of terrorism, displacement and unemployment together for last over three decades.

The delegation also demanded settlement of displaced Hindus and Sikhs at a one place in Kashmir Valley after having a structured and serious dialogue on the issue of return as per the geo-political aspirations of the community.

The delegation also complimented the Narendra Modi Government for taking bold decisions on Jammu and Kashmir and termed the abrogation of Article 370 and 35 A a revolutionary step for full integration of erstwhile State with Indian Union.

The other members of the delegation included Sanjay Ganjoo, Sidharath Zarabi and Kashi Akhoun.

# Traffic Police Rural introduces e-challan system

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: To maintain the high degree of accountability, transparency and discipline in traffic management system, Sr. Superintendent of Police, Traffic Rural, Jammu, Mohan Lal Kaith, today launched e-challan system in Samba & Kathua districts.



Traffic Police Rural Jammu starting e-challaning system.

The challaning officers have already been given training regarding use and configuration of e-challan devices by the IT Section, THQ J&K from time to time.

The aim and objective of launching the e-challan system is to realize the imposed fine on the spot from the violators as per the provisions of New Motor vehicle Act.

Similar, joint special drives were also launched in Rajouri and Poonch Districts under the close supervision of DySP (Traffic) Rajouri-Poonch, Mohammad Zabir Mirza.

The SSP Traffic Rural Jammu directed the challaning officers to ensure the wearing of body cameras, while challaning

Vijaypur, and sought their full cooperation with the traffic officers.

The SSP (Traffic) Rural Jammu stressed upon the motorists and commercial transporters to keep all the documents and get the same checked at established Traffic checking point/nakas. He advised the owners of the vehicles, transporters and agents to extend their full co-operation to the traffic cops, to keep a close watch on the violators.

Meanwhile, during the e-challaning drives, 93 vehicles were challaned and a fine to the tune of Rs.79, 800 was imposed and realized from the violators, as per the provisions of New Motor Vehicle Act.

# Katra Police busts inter-State gang of bike lifters

**Excelsior Correspondent**

KATRA, Jan 19: Katra Police has busted an inter-State gang of bike lifters and seized stolen motorcycles from their possession besides arresting the accused persons .

The arrested accused were identified as Anmol Dogra, son of Prem Kumar, resident of Ward Number 13, Matyal Katra, Anku, son of Majeed, resident of Railway Road Katra

# Woman found dead

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: A woman was found dead under mysterious circumstances in Gandhi Nagar area.

As per police sources, a woman identified as Rupali Vaid (54), daughter of late Shashi Vaid of Gandhi Nagar was found dead at her residence under mysterious circumstances.

After conducting autopsy at GMCH Jammu, the body has been handed over to legal heirs for last rites.

Gandhi Nagar Police has taken cognizance in this regard.



Casual labourers staging protest in Jammu on Tuesday.

**Excelsior/ Rakesh**

# Casual labourers stage protest

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: Casual labourers of various Government departments today held strong protest demonstration at Press Club here in support of their pending demands.

A large number of daily rated/casual workers from PHE, I&FC, PDD, R&B etc under the banner of J&K Casual Labourers United Front led by Tanveer Hussain, president, senior members Deepak Gupta, Imran Parry (Kashmir Div) and others assembled near Press Club Jammu today and started protest demonstration. They were shouting slogans in support of their demands.

They were demanding their regularization, release of pending wages and implementation of Minimum Wages Act in J&K UT as per Central norms. They said most of the Central laws have been implemented in J&K after coverting it into UT but no change has

been brought in the wages, perks and Medical Allowance etc. The Govt is depriving the workers of their legitimate demands and justified issues.

Tanveer said they had met the Union MoS in PMO, Dr Jitender Singh about one and half month ago. He had asked the protesting workers to suspend their agitation with assurance of solving their issues with regard to Minimum Wages Act and payment of wages besides regularization but nothing has been seen on the ground so far. He said the workers have high hopes from Dr Singh and the Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha. After staging protesting dharna for over three hours, they dispersed.

Prominent among those present included, Jeevan Singh, Lucky Chida, Jyoti Rajput, Dinesh Sharma, Ajay Kumar, Mushtaq Ahmed Qadri, Abid Hussain Bhat, Firoz Ahmed, Sher Singh and others.

# Teachers Forum calls on Secretary School Education, submits demands

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: A deputa-tion of Jammu Kashmir Teachers Forum, led by Chairman Ganesh Khajuria, called on B K Singh, Administrative Secretary, School Education Department and submitted a memorandum to draw his attention towards long pending demands and issues of the various cadres of the teaching community.

Suggesting that the schools may be re-opened in view of significant improvement in situation arisen during pandemic COVID-19, the delegation said that it would help the needy students who have no access to android phones .

The Forum also suggested launching of scheme " Aao School Chalein " in Jammu division also to improve the enrollment in Govt schools, upgradation of smart infrastructure in Govt schools by launching E-Smart classes and Smart boards.

Besides, the Forum demanded creation of posts of Masters in upgraded Middle Schools under erstwhile SSA Scheme, early regularisation of Incharge Lecturers, Headmasters , Masters , Teachers ,

Lab Assistants, DPCs of all cadres to fill vacant posts, post facto permission in favour of In-service Teachers / Masters who have improved their qualifications for further promotion avenues, regularisation of Contingency Paid Workers as Class IV employees, repatriation of Lecturers , Headmasters and Masters working in Doda & other far-flung areas for more than five years, transparent and clear cut Transfer Policy for Summer & Winter Zones of Jammu province, revision of Pay Scales as per Union Territory Grades, removal of pay anomaly of Masters, early adjustment of left out promotee Lecturers in various subjects and renaming the nomenclature of Class IV employees as Office Assistants.

The Administrative Secretary gave a patient hearing to the issues mentioned in memorandum and assured to take prompt action to resolve the genuine demands in an effective and time bound manner.

Those who were the part of deputation, included Jamat Ali Agah, Darshan Sharma, Roop Lal, Kuldeep Singh Bandral, Thoker Bashir, Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Rakesh Shavan and others .

# JU organizes capacity building programme for promotees

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: For sensitizing the newly promoted Junior Assistants in Jammu University and its offsite campuses towards Financial and Service Rules, a 60-day capacity building programme is being organized by the UGC-Human Resource Development Centre of JU.

Prof Rahul Gupta, Director UGC-HRDC, said that the training programme is aimed at building capacity of the work force at the entry level in the University besides their grooming and personal-ity development so that work culture in the Universities at the secretarial level improves, particularly in view of fast changing financial and service rules and to make them abreast to the latest policies of the Government related to Finance and Services.

The training would be conducted by experts in the field of Finance, Secretarial Practices, University Rules, Regulations, Acts, Office Automation, Basics of E Governance, Gender Sensitization, GFR 17, GEM etc, Purchase Rules etc, by trainees from Academics, Industry, Administrative Services, Faculty of JKIMPARD etc.

On the first day, Dr Subash Chander, Department of English; Dr V K Shivgotra, Department of Statistics, besides Director HRDC and Ranjeet Kalra, Faculty HRDC, interacted with the trainees.

About 100 experts in their respective fields are being engaged for the training in the next 60 days. The training programme is being Coordinated by Dr Amit Sharma, Micro-Analysist, Department of Chemistry, JU.

# Pipping ceremony of newly promoted Inspectors held

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: Inspector General of Police Crime Branch J&K, Jammu Manish Kishore Sinha decorated newly promoted Inspectors of Police of Crime Headquarters J&K and Crime

Inspector Sumit Mangota, Inspector Arun Bhagat, Inspector Tariq Ahmed and Inspector Waseem Gul.

Speaking on the occasion, Manish Kishore Sinha congratulated the officers and their families and wished them to keep their spirits high while performing their duties.



IGP Crime Branch J&K Jammu Manish Kishore Sinha and newly promoted Inspectors posing for group photograph.

Branch Jammu with ranks at Crime Headquarters J&K, Jammu today in a simple but impressive ceremony.

The officers were brought on promotion list and subsequently promoted.

The promoted officers are Inspector Ashwani Kumar,

Other officers present on the occasion were Shailender Singh SSP Crime Branch Jammu, Vinay Kumar Sharma, SSP Anti Narcotic Task Force and Amarjit Singh, SSP (Staff Officer to IGP Crime). They also congratulated all the officers on their promotion and wished them all the very best.

# DC Ramban inspects patient care facilities in District Hospital

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAMBAN, Jan 19: Deputy Commissioner, Ramban, Mussarat-ul Islam today visited the District Hospital and inspected the healthcare facilities being extended to patients, especially amid COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chief Medical Officer apprised the Deputy Commissioner about staff position and diagnostic facility available in the hospital for the treatment of patients.

The DC also inspected the Trauma Centre and ongoing construction work on Eye Block and doctors' residential quarters. He sought physical and financial report of ongoing works from the executing agencies.

The DC reviewed the sanitation condition, stock position of medicines and functioning of diagnostic and other sections. He

directed the CMO to ensure cleanliness of the hospital for the convenience of patients and strict adherence to social distance norms.

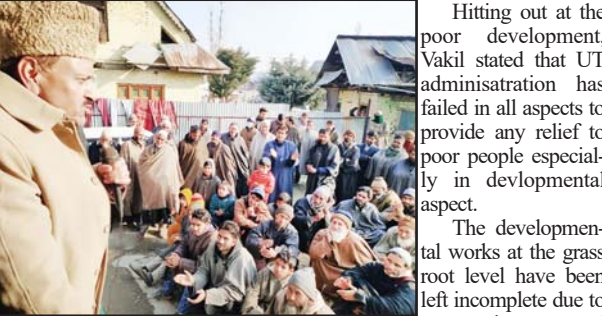
He also interacted with the patients and attendants and enquired about the facilities being provided to them in the hospital. He directed the CMO to display the duty roster of doctors and paramedical staff, besides stock position of medicines and other available facilities on the Notice Board for the convenience of the patients.

The DDC also asked the hospital management to submit a report of deficit facilities, supplies and other matters to improve healthcare facilities in the hospital. He also directed for issuing a token to all the hospital employees to regulate the parking in the premises of the hospital.

# Frame concrete job policy for youth of J&K: Vakil

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, Jan 19: Senior vice-president People's Conference (PC) and former minister Abdul Gani Vakil today said that promises made by Union Territory Government for the unemployment youth have proved to be hoax pushing the youth to the wall.



Former Minister Abdul Gani Vakil addressing workers meeting in Rafiabad.

Addressing the workers convention in Drusoo, Rafiabad in north Kashmir's Baramulla and said promises and claims made by the Government for thousands of educated youth have not yielded any results so far.

" The previous Governor Satya Pal Malik during his tenure had promised employment to 50,000 youth in J&K but nothing was done on the ground and similarly the present Lt Governor Manoj Sinha too, has promised 10,000 jobs but those announcements remained on restricted to state-ments only, " he said.

The senior leader said although different departments had notified several posts for which unemployment youth applied but their application forms were thrown in dust-

Hitting out at the poor development, Vakil stated that UT administration has failed in all aspects to provide any relief to poor people especially in developmental aspect.

The developmental works at the grass root level have been left incomplete due to non-seriousness and incompetence of the Government. The condition of road is same as they were, there is lack of basic facilities including drinking water shortage, electricity and poor treatment in Government hospitals but the administration is doing nothing on the ground, he added.

Vakil urged UT adminis-tration to come with a concrete job policy for the unemployed youth. "Once the employment opportunities are created the youth would be converged towards the Government, which is the need of the hour," he added.

Besides others who addressed the convention include newly elected DDC member Rafiabad Parmeet Kour, president Women wing Rafiabad Advocate Rugaya Jan and president Rafiabad Block Tariq Ahmad Mir.



Two JCBs seized by Forest staff in Kalakote.

# Bid to construct road illegally in forest foiled, 2 JCBs seized

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAJOURI, Jan 19: The Forest staff in Rajouri Division, assisted by Forest Protection Force (FPF) men and police, today foiled an attempt of some influential people to construct a road illegally on forest land in Kalakote area last night and seized two JCBs.

Official sources said that Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Rajouri, Dr Arsh Deep Singh, received information last evening about illegal digging of forest land in Dhanwan-Dalyot area of Kalakote Forest Range by some people using JCBs. He directed Range Officer, Kalakote Sanjiv Kumar to carry out operation.

The Forest team assisted by FPF and police men organized a joint operation during last night and seized two JCBs. Despite initial resistance from some villagers

and people on the spot, the team completed its operation smoothly and brought the machines to Range office, Kalakote. It was initially discovered from the local field staff that this work was being initiated on the behest of one Abdul Qayoom, son of Abdul Khaliq of Dhanwan village in Kalakote.

Conservator of Forests, Jammu West Circle- Rajouri-Poonch-Reasi, B Mohan Dass when contacted said that concerned Range Officer has been directed to proceed for confiscation proceedings in the matter under J&K Forest Act U/S 26 (h) of IFA 1929. He said SSP Rajouri Chandan Kohli was requested for providing police assistance. They both were closely monitoring the operation from the headquarters, he added.

# SDRF 2nd Bn celebrates Annual Raising Day

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) 2nd Bn- today celebrated its 9th Annual Raising Day at its Battalion Headquarters.

Commandant General HG/CD & SDRF J&K, B.Srinivas was the chief guest on the occasion and inspected the Bn. Quarter Guard and took salute.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest appreciated the role of SDRF personnel and their dedication and professionalism shown during various rescue operations in J&K and other allied duties performed by the Jawans time to time. He also conducted the darbar of SDRF personnel on the occasion and gave the patient hearing to the grievances of the officers/Jawans of

the unit. Moreover, an investiture ceremony of the recipients of DGP commendation Medal was also held on the occasion.

Earlier, in her welcome address, Commandant (SSP) SDRF 2nd Battalion, Nisha Nathyal, congratulated the officers/Jawans of the Bn. on the occasion of its 9th Raising Day. She gave a brief account of the achievements during the year-2020, especially excellent work done by the SDRF personnel in conducting Rescue operations during Fire incident at Talab Tillo Jammu, recovery of five bodies of a family in flash flood at Udhampur district, besides various rescue operations during road accidents conducted at Ramban District by the SDRF personnel.



DC Udhampur Dr Piyush Singla chairing a meeting on Tuesday.

# Udhampur DC reviews progress of PMGSY projects

**Excelsior Correspondent**

UDHAMPUR, Jan 19: District Development Commissioner, Udhampur Dr. Piyush Singla today reviewed the progress achieved under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the district here at a meeting with officers of concerned department .

Detailed discussions were held on various issues, which included physical/financial progress, status of hot mixing plant, black topping, forest clearance issues, felling of trees, land acquisition and compensation etc were discussed in detail.

At the outset, SE PMGSY, Ajay Kumar Raju briefed about the progress of various developmental projects and centrally sponsored schemes being executed in PMGSY sector in the district.

The DDC appreciated the progress of PMGSY divisions of Udhampur district being the high-

est performer in the UT and second in the country and stressed to improve further as road connectivity eases the life of rural areas.

While reviewing the road and division wise progress of PMGSY projects, the DDC directed the concerned authorities to expedite the progress of work and achieve the targets set by the Government as per the timeline. During the meeting sub division wise targets and achievements were also discussed and asked the concerned AEEs to enhance the progress on priority.

The DDC directed the concerned authorities to resolve the pending issues and remove bottlenecks, if any, on priority so that execution of roads and projects shall not be delayed.

Among others, Chief Planning Officer, Rajeev Bhushan, Executive Engineers PMGSY Divisions and other officers of concerned departments were present in the meeting.



DDC Rajouri R K Shavan and Director Horticulture Jammu Ram Savak inspecting stalls of various departments at Kissan Mela in Nowshera.

# Fruit Show-cum-Kissan Mela organized at Nowshera

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAJOURI, Jan 19: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Rajouri Rajesh Kumar Shavan and Director Horticulture Jammu Ram Savak inaugurated Fruit Show-cum-Kissan Mela at PWD Dak Bunglow in Nowshera today.

During the Mela, the farmers were made aware of different horticulture schemes being implemented in the district along with live demonstration of horticulture mechanization, drip/sprinkler irrigation system, vermi compost, INM/IPM, tool & implements, private entrepreneurs etc.

Department of Agriculture, Horticulture (P&M), Sericulture, Sheep and Animal Husbandry and other private entrepreneurs installed their stall for public demonstration as well as sale of their products.

In his welcome address, Chief Horticulture Officer Rajouri Madan Lal Tak gave a detailed briefing on horticulture activities and schemes being implemented in district Rajouri.

District Development Commissioner, Rajouri emphasized on development of horticulture for livelihood and sustainability of general public and farming

community in particular.

While speaking on the occasion, Director Horticulture Jammu told the orchardists of district Rajouri to adopt latest technologies to improve the productivity of their fruit crops along with better quality which in turn shall fetch better price for their produce.

More than 530 farmers from 11 horticulture zones of district Rajouri participated in the event wherein 52 ladies were given certificate by the Director for completing one month training programme in fruit and vegetable preservation conducted at Thanamandi. Besides, sanctions for low cost preservation unit under MIDH scheme were also provided.

Additional Deputy Commissioner, Nowshera, Sunderbani, Additional SP Nowshera, DDC members, BDC chairpersons, Sarpanchs and Panchs of district Rajouri also graced the occasion.

Among others, Jyoti Parshad DL-SMS, Sunil Mahnoori MCC Rajouri, Shaifqat Hussain Khan DHO, Arun Sharma HDO Sunderbani, Darvinder Kumar Sharma HDO Nowshera, Sansar Chand HDO Rajouri and officers of allied departments were also present on the occasion.



OBC Cell of PCC staging protest in Jammu on Tuesday.

# Cong OBC Cell protests price hike of essentials, farm laws

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, Jan 19: OBC Department/ Cell of Pradesh Congress Committee protested against Modi led Government for price hikes and for roll back of the three farm laws.

The protest was headed by the Chairman of the Cell Suresh Kumar Dogra. Accusing the Modi led Government Suresh Dogra said that the rapid increase in prices is causing anxiety amongst the people of India and the Modi led Government is busy in taking Kumbhkarana's sleep.

Dogra said prices of everything are sky rocketing, even of the essential commodities like gas, pulses, sugar, edible oils, tea, food grains, petrol, etc are beyond the reach of the common man and Government has no control on it. It's a big slap on the face of the poor. Every section of the society is feeling suffocated.

He pointed out that when the price of the crude oil in interna-

tional market is very low and Indian Government can afford the price of the petrol and diesel on low rates then why the Modi Government is not justifying with their people by providing them fair prices of the same. He further added that the farmers of the nation are also crying in bloody tears and demanding the roll back of the three black farm laws framed against their wishes and aspirations. But despite more than sixty farmers have sacrificed their lives, this government has become a mute spectator and not listening the grievances of the poor farmers who are continuously protesting for their demands on the way to Capital in this severe winter for more than 5 months. He alleged that Modi Government has failed in every respect.

Prominent among those who participated in the protest included Vijay Verma (gen secy) Som Raj Verma, Abhishek Kumar, Jagdish Kashyap, Raj Kumar Mehra, Surjit Kumar and others.