

Most of DCs submit replies to SEC, others to follow

Delimitation Comm seeks suggestions on 290 memorandums/queries received by it

Sanjeev Pargal
 JAMMU, Oct 6: Expediting the process for delimitation of Assembly constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir to meet March 2022 deadline, the Delimitation Commission headed by Justice (Retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai has sought suggestions/replies on 290 memorandums received by it during its first four days visit to the Union Territory from July 6-9.

The Commission had received at least 290 representations from political parties and stakeholders, ranging from partially un-freezing 24 seats falling in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, postponing the exercise till Statehood is restored, adequate reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Kashmiri Pandits, PoJK and West Pakistani refugees among others and ensuring every region gets its due share in the Assembly seats when it

Process expedited to meet March 2022 deadline

undertook its first visit to the Union Territory for four days visiting different districts of both the divisions.

Official sources told the Excelsior that the Delimitation Commission had forwarded all 290 representations to the State Election Commission (SEC) which, in turn, referred them to 20 Deputy Commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir, who also happen to be the District Electoral Officers (DEOs).

"Most of the Deputy Commissioners have replied to the suggestions/queries while some others are in the process of doing so," sources said, adding that the DEOs have submitted or will submit their suggestions/replies to the SEC which will forward them to the Delimitation Commission.

According to sources, majority of suggestions/queries raised in the memorandums submitted to the Delimitation Commission, totalling 290, pertained to reservation of seats for different communities and castes including Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, PoJK and West Pakistan refugees, Kashmiri Pandits etc.

Certain other suggestions were regarding early completion of delimitation process and conduct of Assembly elections, restoration of Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, inclusion of certain areas in particular districts/constituencies etc.

"Some other suggestions were just political in nature but the Delimitation Commission has forwarded all memorandums/suggestions to the State Election Commission

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Numerous instructions from GAD fail to yield desirable results

Annual administrative inspection of Govt offices least priority in J&K

Step imperative to bring accountability, efficiency in functioning

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Oct 6: Annual administrative inspection of all the Government offices is the least priority in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir despite the fact that such an exercise is imperative to point out shortcomings and take corrective measures to bring much-needed accountability and efficiency in the functioning.

Official sources told EXCELSIOR that from time to time the General Administration Department issued formal instructions to all the Administrative Secretaries to ensure strict compliance to the rules, which lay thrust on administrative inspection of the subordinate offices so that general functioning of the offices is improved up to the desired level.

Even the issue was debated in numerous meetings of the Committees of Secretaries

chaired by the Chief Secretary from time to time and it was observed that the administrative inspections of the subordinate offices, as required under rules, are not being conducted regularly.

"Due to lack of administrative control over the subordinate offices, general functioning of some of the offices has not been found up to the mark", the Chief Secretary had observed in such meetings. Accordingly, instructions were issued for strict compliance to Circular No.18-GAD dated September 9, 2010.

Vide this circular, the Administrative Secretaries were advised to ensure conduct of regular administrative inspections, at least once in a year, of all the subordinate units as per the laid down mechanism and progress be continuously reviewed at the apex level.

As per the mechanism, each Administrative Department is

required to conduct administrative inspection of all Heads of the Departments and all Autonomous/Corporate units at UT and Divisional levels. Similarly, the Heads of the Departments are required to conduct administrative inspection of provincial level offices and provincial level offices are supposed to inspect district level offices. Likewise, the district level offices are supposed to conduct inspection of block/tehsil level offices.

Even the departments were given the permission to devise their own suitable formats keeping in view their requirements as also nature of their working.

"However, annual administrative inspection of all the Government offices in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir continues to remain least priority for majority of the Administrative

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)



Navratri Greetings To All Our Readers.

Documents on DigiLocker to be recognised

Excelsior Correspondent
 SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Documents on DigiLocker platform of the Union Ministry for Electronics and Information and the mParivahan mobile app of Union Ministry for Road Transport and Highways shall now be deemed to be legally recognized documents at par with the original documents as per the provisions of the Information Technology (Contd on page 6 Col 3)

Two die, 73 new cases in Kashmir

16 more students, two staffers of Poonch school test +ve

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU/SRINAGAR/LEH, Oct 6: Two persons died of COVID-19 and 73 tested positive in Kashmir today while 54 fresh cases were reported in the Jammu region including 16 more students and two staff members of a Higher Secondary School in Poonch district.

Sixteen students and two staff members including one Lecturer and a teacher of Government Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Sabjan in Poonch district today tested positive for the virus.

Chief Education Officer (CEO) Poonch Abdul Majid has ordered closure of the school for five days. Staff members and students of the school have been quarantined at their houses.

"Students who tested nega-

tive will be subjected to fresh testing on reopening of school after five days. Only those testing negative again will be allowed to resume classes," Majid said, adding the school building is being sanitized.

Only yesterday, 35 students of Government Girls Higher Secondary School Mandi in Poonch district had tested positive for pathogen. Prior to that, seven students of Government Higher Secondary School Lassana in Surankote tehsil of the same district had also tested positive.

Other COVID positive cases in the Jammu region include six in Jammu district, five Rajouri, four Reasi and one in Kathua.

Twenty two persons today recovered from the virus leaving active cases to 279.

Meanwhile, the Union Territory of Ladakh today

reported five new COVID positive cases, all in Leh district. The UT of Ladakh now has 52 active positives---49 in Leh and three in Kargil.

Meanwhile, Kashmir today reported 73 fresh cases of COVID-19 while two persons succumbed to the viral infection.

The number of cases in Kashmir division has reached 206,124 including 203,086 recoveries and 2,252 deaths.

The number of active cases in Jammu and Kashmir are 1,065 including 786 from Kashmir division.

With 134 more recoveries, the tally of total recoveries in Jammu and Kashmir has reached 324,627 which is 98.33 percent of the total cases.

Those who tested positive include 44 from Srinagar, 8 from Baramulla, 7 from Budgam, 3

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

Bindroo's daughter challenges his killers

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: A day after prominent pharmacist Makhan Lal Bindroo was shot dead by gun men in Srinagar, his daughter today challenged his killers that if they have the courage they should come out and face her.

Speaking to media persons, Dr Smridhi Bindroo challenged the perpetrators to come out in public and have a face-to-face debate with her. "I am ML Bindroo's Kashmiri Pandit daughter. My father will be alive

on'. I am so proud he died with his shoes on. Today my father is no more, still I have a smiling face. Because I know my father was a warrior" she said.

Smridhi said her father had taught her to live without fear. "Why do we fear anything? They say fearlessness is life. Fear is death...I used to ask my father, 'don't you get afraid?' He said 'If I live in fear, then I will die every day. If I die, it will only be once'," she quoted her father as saying.

She said that her father's spirit would always remain alive. "See what kind of children he has made. I am an Associate Professor and I have started from zero level. My father started from a bicycle. My brother is a famous Diabetologist. My mother, a female lady, sits in a shop. That is what Makhan Lal Bindroo has made us," she said.

"As a Kashmiri Pandit he will never die. I, being a Hindu have read the Quran. And the Quran says the physical body can disappear but not its spirit. Makhan Lal Bindroo will be alive in spirit," she said.

Dr Sidharth Bindroo, son of the deceased, said that the entire Kashmir was aware about the persona of his father.

"Everybody from Baramulla to Banihal knew what kind of a person he was. He was a chemist but he made a personality of his own, and that is why everybody loved and respected him," Bindroo said.

Bindroo said his father was a man of principles and he would never do anything which was unethical and lived his whole life with that principle.

"This man gave 40 years of life to Kashmir without expecting anything in the return. There was a time when proper medicine was not available in Kashmir, and he used to rush, by booking the costliest air tickets, to get those medicines which

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

8 JKAS officers transferred

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, Oct 6: The Government today ordered transfer and postings of eight JKAS officers and assigned additional charge to two others.

Nazim Zai Khan, Secretary in the Skill Development Department has been transferred and posted as Secretary to the Government, Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, relieving

Don't entertain time-barred claims: Govt

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, Oct 6: The Government has issued fresh directives to all the Administrative Departments asking them not to entertain such claims which are time-barred and close all such old cases which cannot be resolved on account of inordinate delay.

It has been observed that in service matters,

SIM cards seized from jail

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, Oct 6: Two SIM cards were recovered from a parcel addressed to an inmate of a high security Kot Bhalwal jail in Bhalwal area today.

As per police sources, two SIM cards were recovered by the jail authorities during scanning of a parcel, which was addressed to a murder and rape convict identified as Mohammad Sadiq Mir, a resident of district Kupwara. The

(Contd on page 6 Col 3)

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