

'Remove Minister, arrest son for Lakhimpur incident' Shah should explain failure to check targeted killings in Kashmir: Sapra

*Rs 8546 cr Amazon scam needs proper investigation: Cong

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 6: All India Congress Committee (AICC) spokesperson, Charan Singh Sapra today said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should immediately seek the resignation of Union MoS Home, Ajay Mishra for the involvement of his son in the Lakhimpur (UP) gruesome incident of crushing agitating farmers, while Home Minister Amit Shah must explain failure to check targeted killings in Kashmir.

Addressing a Press Conference at Congress office along with senior leaders of JKPC, including chief spokesperson JKPC Ravinder Sharma, former minister and vice president Raman Bhalla, general secretaries Balwan Singh, Yogesh Sawhney and president JKPYC Uday Bhanu Chib here today, Sapra said that the Lakhimpur incident has reminded the nation of the British Raj, when Indians were being dealt with such kind of brutalities for their demand for freedom. He said that the way farmers agitation is being physically crushed and farmers threatened by the BJP leaders, especially sitting Ministers, after BJP Govt failed to weaken the farmers resolve to fight against black laws, is very unfortunate.

The top opposition leaders, especially from Congress are being detained and not allowed to meet the victims and the AICC



AICC spokesperson, Charan Singh Sapra, flanked by other Congress leaders addressing a press conference in Jammu on Wednesday.

general secretary, Priyanka Gandhi has been booked under false charges when she wanted to go to share the grief of the victims and their families, the culprits are roaming freely.

Terming the present regime as worst assault on democracy and equating to Hitler Raj, Sapra said that the way Haryana Chief Minister has threatened the farmers and the Union MoS Home Ajay Mishra had warned them followed by Lakhimpur incident, shows complete frustration and 'Jungle Raj' of BJP against farmers. The farmers are being crushed physically as the son of Union Minister is named in the FIR, but the culprits are roaming freely while top leaders of opposition are detained and arrested illegally. Is it democracy? he questioned. Today it is the farmers, next the businessmen and likewise, every section will be

targeted, he added.

Raising the issue of seizure of huge consignment of drugs over 3000 kg worth crores of rupees from the Adani airport in Gujarat, Sapra questioned why the huge consignment meant for a destination near Vishakhapatnam airport, was brought through Adani airport in Gujarat. He sought a high level probe into a such serious issue and all those involved in this anti-national incident need to be booked strongly.

Sapra along with senior JKPC leaders earlier strongly condemned the dastardly killing of three innocent civilians in Kashmir Valley on Tuesday and termed the series of targeted and selective killings in Kashmir directly under Home Ministry, as very serious issue. He termed it as a grave failure of the Home Ministry which directly deals with the law and order in the UT of J&K. Sapra demanded that the culprits should be identified and dealt sternly while seeking answer from the Home Minister Amit Shah about the series of incidents of selective and targeted killings especially of the minority community and KPs in the recent past.

AICC leader raked up the issue of alleged huge scam worth Rs 8546 crore in the Amazon Company, which has been shown as legal fee. The total budget of the Law Ministry is around Rs 1100 crores, how such a huge amount has been shown as legal fee. Terming it as a big scam, he said that the promotion of Amazon Co. has led to closure of over 2.5 crores of small business units in the country, such a huge scam needs to be investigated thoroughly.

Pak design to push in militants by ceasefire violations: GOC

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR Oct 6: The General Officer Commanding (GOC) 15 Corps, Lt Gen DP Pandey, today said that there is a design of Pakistan to push militants into Kashmir by ceasefire violations but the army is there to foil such attempts.

Speaking to reporters at Keran in district Kupwara, during Keran Mela-2021 in northern district of Kupwara, the GOC said that the situation along the LoC is peaceful.

He said that the Army will continue to organize the events even whether the LoC is peaceful or not. "When the LoC is peaceful it is beneficial for the people who live on the border to have a better life. So the LoC must remain peaceful for them", the GOC said.

"When the situation on the LOC remains peaceful, it is beneficial for the people living here; they have a better life, therefore it is important that the LOC remains peaceful for them while there always is a design by the enemy who violates the ceasefire to enable the terrorists to come. But all such infiltration bids are being foiled", he said.

The army commander said: "But for the fact of the matter, there is a thaw, it is peaceful and we hope that it continues to be peaceful".

"Everybody wants to live

life. They require an opportunity and a place to happen. It is the responsibility of civil society to ensure, and in that, we are only enablers", he said.

He said that common people have nothing to do with the conflict and it is duty of military to deal with it. "People on both sides should live happily, particularly the civilian population. They have got nothing to do with the conflict; that is a matter of the military to deal with whenever such a situation arises", he said.

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

"On the border or even the hinterland, the connection of people with the Indian Army is pretty established. There is a requirement to conduct such events and, we have the facilities and we reach out on the requirements of people", he said.

The GOC said that Art, Cultural events and Music is something that the youth of the Valley want for enjoyment.

While appreciating the people of Keran for their cooperation with the Army, the Corps Commander said that the population of Keran is the first and frontline defence not the Army. "They are with us even during the shelling, ceasefire, and other operations and that's how we have always been very successful due to their support", he said.

"We come for a transit movement but the local population is with the nation and they want to continue contributing towards India and it's our responsibility to ensure they get all that is required including roads, medical help and education for girls", he said.

He assured that whatever "we can do will be done and anything done for them is less compared to their contribution and support."

On border tourism, he said that the Army has been doing that. "There have been off road events. People are visiting places like Gurez, Tangdhar, and tourists are going there who are coming from the rest of the country since there was nothing as such before", the GOC said.

He also said that the security situation has become so good that people are going to the remotest parts of the country. "People wouldn't visit places like Keran, Tangdhar, Gurez, and Tulail but now the tourists have started to visit these remote places even the women are traveling alone and staying in the tents", the GOC said while replying to a query related to the border tourism.

He further said that there is a change in the atmosphere and the security situation is better and the people want tourists to come and stay. "Everybody wants a good peace and a stable situation", the GOC said.

LG's greetings on Navratri

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his heartiest greetings on the auspicious occasion of Sharad Navratri.

In a message, the Lt Governor said Navratri signifies the triumph of good over evil.

It is an occasion to nurture righteousness within and to radiate peace, love, and harmony.

The Lt Governor expressed hope that the 9-days festival will inspire people to lead a virtuous and noble life and it will bring peace prosperity and happiness for all.

74 vehicles used for terror activities seized

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Jammu and Kashmir Police Headquarters has accorded sanction for seizure of two vehicles used by OGWs for terror activities.

Under a PHQ order, the sanction has been accorded to seizure of Maruti Alto K-10 bearing Registration Number JK05G-5626 and Alto K-10 bearing registration number JK21C- 8461, which were used by OGWs on 22-04-2021 for looting cash and one 12 Bore rifle from Guard of J&K Bank, Business Unit Khore, Sherabad Pattan.

During the investigation of FIR Number 75/2021 under Sections 392 and 307 IPC, 7/25, 7/27 Arms Act 16, 20, 39 UA(P) Act of Police Station Pattan, it came to fore that OGWs namely Nisar Ahmad Bhat and Arif Mir

were affiliated with LeT outfit.

The evidence collected during the course of investigation substantiated that vehicles bearing Registration Number JK05G-5626 and JK21C- 8461 were used for commission of incidents/robbery and fall within the ambit of "proceeds of terrorism" in terms of Section 2(g) r/w Sec.25 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967 and were accordingly liable to be seized in said case.

In exercise of powers conferred by section 25 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967, the DGP J&K has accorded sanction for seizure these two vehicles.

With seizure of these two vehicles, PHQ has accorded sanction for seizure of 74 vehicles, which include mostly four wheelers and two wheelers, 5 houses, 6 shops, land and cash so far.

BoI to open maiden branch in Leh on Oct 22

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Announcing to open another branch of the Bank of India (BoI) in the Kashmir valley, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the BoI A K Das today said maiden branch of the Bank will start functioning at Leh in Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh from October 22.

He was speaking at "Customer Outreach Programme" organized at Srinagar on Wednesday by the BoI, one of the premier nationalized banks of the country.

This outreach programme marked the beginning of a series of similar programmes planned Pan India, during this festive season by Bank of India, predominantly with a view to take banking to the doorsteps and for the bank to be an active partner

in the ongoing economic revival process.

Mr Das, on this occasion, interacted with several existing and potential customers during which field General Manager A K Jain, General Manager (HR) Ashok Pathak, Zonal Manager Vasudev and Branch Manager Zahid Mansoor were also present in the outreach programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Das said that valley has vast untapped potential for banking business growth, which needs to be tapped immediately to pass on the benefits of the various banking products viz. housing, vehicle, education, agriculture etc. and other Banking schemes like PM Svanidhi, MSME Mudra Loan and social security schemes to the common man.

He emphasized that it will not only boost and accelerate the socio-economic growth of the region but will contribute to

uplift the livelihood of the people at large.

He assured that bank will continue its efforts to support and provide quality banking facilities to its customers. He also said that BoI is actively considering opening of one more branch in the valley to enter mainstream banking with fully digitized facilities.

In addition, BoI is also opening its first branch in Leh on October 22nd. Mr Das also distributed sanction letters to several beneficiaries under various loan products and schemes of the bank viz. housing, vehicle, MSME, CC, Agriculture and PM Svanidhi.

At this occasion under Bank's CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) Mr Das presented Photo Copy Machine to the J&K orphanage (Yateemkhana) and track suits to inhabitant children.

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