



Lt Governor speaking during Gulmarg Lit-Fest.

J&K has always been a land of rich literary tradition: LG

Excelsior Correspondent

BARAMULLA, Oct 27: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today addressed "Gulmarg Lit-Fest", organized by the J&K Government as a part of the Iconic Week celebrations under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

The literary festival brought together renowned literary personalities, acclaimed writers, emerging poets, intellectuals from across the country, who discussed and analyzed several aspects of literary traditions.

Addressing the gathering, the Lt Governor highlighted Government's objective behind holding such literary festivals.

"Gulmarg Lit-Fest is a sincere effort from the J&K Government to promote literary talent and revive the culture in true sense", said the Lt Governor.

Jammu and Kashmir has always been a land of rich literary tradition. Some of the world's greatest creations of literature had come through J&K. Lal Ded Vakh, Habba Khatoon and Nund Rishi's meditative expressions could not have

been conceived elsewhere, observed the Lt Governor.

J&K has a historic connection with Art, Literature, and music. Confluence of diverse religions is the essence of J&K. The main genres of music - Hindustani and Carnatic have originated here from Jammu and Kashmir, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said that the UT government recognizes the vital contribution of writers in preserving the linguistic and cultural wealth of J&K and lending its full support to every initiative taken for the welfare of the artists of alphabets.

Youth has always remained the priority of the present dispensation. A department - Mission Youth is dedicated to the youth of J&K under which several youth-oriented programmes have been initiated aiming at supporting their creative and entrepreneurial talent, said the Lt Governor.

Art, Literature and Music are limitless, beyond all boundaries. Today there is a need to once again strengthen the spiritual, cultural, social emotional unity and this sacred work can be done only by writers, thinkers,

Academia, industry to be essential stakeholders in scientific innovation: Dr Jitendra

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Oct 27: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here today that an institutionalised mechanism will be evolved to make Academia and Industry essential stakeholders in scientific innovation.

Addressing the Academia Sub-Committee of the CSIR Society, the Minister called for bridging the trust deficit between Academia and Industry and underlined the need for liberal and rational funding for development of cutting-edge technologies.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed that he had recently addressed the meeting of representatives of prominent Industry houses who are members of CSIR Society for developing stronger CSIR-Industry linkages. He said, this congregation of the leading academic experts from the country present in the meeting should deliberate on how the academia, industry and government can work together to foster innovation and catalyse entrepreneurship in the country.

The Minister said that the three stakeholders in the triple helix model of innovation i.e. industry, universities and government have a vital role in stimulating socio-economic development in the country through knowl-

edge generation, invention and innovation.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shown strong commitment to innovation through various initiatives and reforms such as the New Education policy and the STIP policy. He added that the recent reforms in drone usage or liberalisation of policies govern-

it celebrates 100 years of Independence.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that CSIR, being the largest government funded organization with a strong IP portfolio, can strengthen the innovation ecosystem in Universities and this partnership will not only benefit the Universities and CSIR but also catalyse the industry by bringing



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the Academia Sub-Committee of CSIR Society, at New Delhi on Wednesday.

ing the acquisition and production of geo-spatial data reaffirms the commitment to innovation. The investment and commitment to new age technologies such as cyber physical systems and quantum computing show the government's resolve to foster an innovation ecosystem, the Minister added.

The Minister said, the report of re-orientation of CSIR led by Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India Prof Vijayaraghavan could be used as a reference to formulate PPPs and innovation parks that allow universities, CSIR and Industry to partner together that allows flexibility and agility to deliver the innovation and technologies for the sustainable development of the country in the next 25 years to make India a leading scientific power in the world, when

in new inventions and innovations that can fuel the growth. He called upon CSIR to come up with suitable models of engagement such as innovation parks where, on the one hand it will leverage the excellent fundamental research of Universities and national institutions and on the other hand, strengthen the industries in technology translation and dissemination. This will promote interdisciplinary and Trans disciplinary R&D stimulating the innovation quotient, he added.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed that 108 units of the MEDICAL grade Oxygen (MO2) concentrator systems developed by CSIR-IIP technology based on the Advanced PVSA Technology were installed with funding from PM CARES and executed by CSIR in a very short time.



Director Industries inaugurating Swayam Rozgar Mela.

Director I&C inaugurates 4-day Swayam Rozgar Mela

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: District Industries Centre, Jammu today organised a four days "SWAYAM ROZGAR MELA" at Jammu Haat, Exhibition Ground, Jammu to facilitate the unemployed youths to avail loans under "Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme [PMEGP]" to start their ventures under the Manufacturing and Service Sectors.

While inaugurating the Mela, Director, Industries & Commerce, Jammu, Anoo Malhotra appreciated the initiatives taken by the District Industries Centre, Jammu to facilitate the youths to start their ventures by getting the finance from the Banks under the "Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme [PMEGP]" where the prospective entrepreneurs can avail the loans under the scheme i.e. upto Rs 10.00 lakh under service sector and up to Rs 25.00 lakh under manufacturing sector.

The Director also highlighted different initiatives taken by the Industries & Commerce Department towards empowering the unemployed youths to become self employed after availing the loan and set their ventures by setting the example of becoming the "Employment Generator" instead of becoming the "Employment Seeker".

General Manager, District Industries Centre (DIC), Jammu, Subah Mehta also highlighted the benefits of PMPGP. She informed that the eligible beneficiary can avail a loan of Rs 10.00 lakh and up to Rs 25.00 lakh under the service and manufacturing sector with a provision of

15% to 35% margin money (subsidy). The applicant with minimum 18 years age and minimum 8th standard pass can apply under this scheme. Moreover, the beneficiary under this scheme becomes eligible for expansion of previous PMPGP units for up to Rs. 25 lakh in Service Sector and up to Rs. 1 Crore in Manufacturing Sector after adjustment of Margin Money claim (subsidy) and repayment of first loan within stipulated time.

The General Manager also highlighted other schemes launched by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and Central Government under the new package of incentives, 2021.

Listing the requirements, she said that a minimum documents are required under the scheme i.e. Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, Passport Size Photographs- 2 Nos., Detailed Project Report (DPR), Highest education Qualification Certificate, Rural Area Certificate - attested by Sarpanch (in case of Rural Area Units) and Category Certificate- SC/ST/OBC/ Handicapped / Ex-serviceman (if any).

Later, the Director also handed over the loan sanction letters to Alisha Sharma for Shuttering Material amounting to Rs. 10.00 Lakh and Anju Bala for Boutique amounting to Rs. 7.00 Lakh in addition to on spot registration granted to Raj Kumar for Rs. 10.00 Lakh and Bachan Lal for Rs. 03.00 lakh.

The Director along with the General Manager and other staff members also took the round of the stalls installed in Jammu Haat for exhibition.

Name CUJ after Brig Rajinder Singh: Manjit Singh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: Apni Party provincial president Jammu and former Minister, Manjit Singh today demanded that the Central University (CU) of Jammu should be named after Brig Rajinder Singh in recognition of surprise sacrifice and service to the nation for defending J&K's borders.

Manjit Singh was speaking at Rajinder Singh Pura in Samba district which is the native village of Brig Rajinder Singh. A simple but impressive function was organised by the villagers to remember the contribution of the brave Brigadier of Indian Army during which the statue of the Army Officer was garlanded.

Speaking on the occasion, Manjit Singh demanded that the Central University (CU) is in Vijaypur and therefore, the Government should name the CU

Jammu after the name of Brig Rajinder Singh as a mark of respect and recognition of his service to the nation.

After paying respects to the statue of the brave Brig Rajinder Singh who laid down his life while fighting against the enemy and defended J&K from the Tribals sent by Pakistan, Manjit Singh said that the Army officer was leading Indian Army troops on the front and fought bravely till the last breath of his life.

"He was the only reason that J&K's boundaries were protected and Tribals were defeated," he said.

He said that the youth should be taught about the bravery of the Indian Army especially Brig Rajinder Singh. "Brig Singh is an example of how bravely he led the Indian Army and successfully defended J&K's borders," he added.



Div Com chairing a meeting on Wednesday.

Div Com reviews winter preparedness in Jammu districts

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Dr Raghuvar Langer today chaired a meeting of heads of various departments and Deputy Commissioners of Jammu division to review the stock position of essentials and overall winter preparedness in the districts of the division.

The meeting was attended by Chief Engineers of PWD, Mechanical Engineering Department, PMGSY, JPDC, Director FCS&CA, Deputy Director Health Services, besides senior officers of Jal Shakti, BRO, NHAI, Oil Companies, Traffic Police and other concerned officers while Deputy Commissioners along with other concerned officers attended the meeting through video conferencing.

The Div Com took district wise review of power supply scenario, snow clearance and overall winter preparedness in the districts of the division. The Deputy Commissioners apprised the Divisional Commissioner about the water, power supply position, availability of ration, fuel, LPG and other essentials in their respective districts.

While reviewing the status of power supply scenario in each district, the Chief Engineer informed about the areas prone to breakdowns during the winters. He informed that necessary buffer stock of transformers has been maintained in these areas.

The Div Com instructed the Engineers of JPDC to keep men and machinery ready for restoration of power supply in case of disruption due to snowfall.

He had a detailed review of the snow clearance mechanism of PWD, PMGSY and BRO. The concerned Chief Engineers

informed about the roads which get affected during snowfall. The Chief Engineer PMGSY informed that 2210 KM road length face disruption in winters and the department has deployed an adequate number of machines for snow clearance in these areas.

Dr Raghuvar directed the concerned Engineers to make special arrangements for snow clearance in the districts which experience heavy snowfall to keep the roads traffic worthy.

The Divisional Commissioner directed the Heads of Departments and Deputy Commissioners to activate 24x7 Divisional and district level control rooms and notify helpline numbers and put them in public domain. HODs were asked to issue duty rosters of staff on a regular basis. He also directed for adequate stocking of essentials to avoid inconvenience to the people.

He sought details of availability of food grains, LPG medicines and other essential commodities in the districts. The DCs apprised the Div Com that sufficient stocks of essentials are available in their respective districts and the process of distribution at different locations of the districts has been completed.

The Div Com also passed directions to the health department to keep an adequate stock of life saving medicines, surgical goods and other necessary medicines to avoid deficiency in the districts.

Dr Langer instructed the DCs to hold a meeting with all the concerned officers and make winter preparedness plans. The DCs were also told to put in place a quick response mechanism to maintain essential services so that people don't face any inconvenience.

Talash App to be launched soon to track 'Out of School Children'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: Director Samagra Shiksha, J&K, Er Deep Raj Kanethia disclosed that Talash App to track Out of School Children (OoSC) will be launched soon to identify and mainstream out of School Children in Jammu & Kashmir.

He said this in the valedictory function of a two-day workshop on Home Based Learning (HBL)

education got affected by COVID-19 Pandemic.

Rajiv Khajuria, President & Chief Executive Officer National Development Foundation (NDF) gave a brief account of ECCE intervention in light of RTE Act, 2009 & National Education Policy 2020.

Er Deep Raj Kanethia, Director Samagra Shiksha, called upon all other departments like Social Welfare and Labour



Director Samagra Shiksha addressing the valedictory function of two-day workshop on Home Based Learning.

under early childhood care and education, organized by National Development Foundation in partnership with UNICEF and in collaboration with Directorate of School Education Jammu and Directorate of Samagra Shiksha (J&K).

Director Samagra Shiksha J&K was the chief guest in the valedictory function. Jaswinder Kour, Coordinator ECCE, Dr Sareeta Sharma, Asstt Coordinator ECCE and Isha Bal, PO Education NDF were the Resource Persons.

Around 60 Education Facilitators were trained during the training programme. Sunny Kumar, Programme Manager, NDF presented the welcome address. Participants were trained on various modules of the workbook to be delivered at the door step of children whose edu-

Department to join hands with School Education Department in the best interest of the children. Joint efforts of the Govt & civil society can help get children out from child Labour and mainstreamed in school, he added.

He asked National Development Foundation (NDF) & UNICEF to continue work on ECCE without any gap. He said that Government is keen to closely work with credible and reputed civil society organisation like NDF.

Director Samagra appreciated the joint efforts of School Education Department, ICDS Directorate, NDF and UNICEF for developing "AANGANSHALA" a home based learning workbook for children, who need it the most. He appreciated the efforts of NDF for making it bilingual i.e. in Hindi & Urdu for wider reach and acceptability on ground.

Two injured as dumper, car roll down after collision

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Oct 27: A dumper and a car rolled down the road in Panthalya area after colliding with each other, resulting into injuries to drivers of both the vehicles.

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

The mishap occurred around 9:30 this morning at Panthalya area when the dumper (registration number JK19-8206) being driven in a rash and negligent manner by Bashir Ahmad son of Makhna, resident of Sangaldan Gool, from Banihal to Ramban, hit a Swift Dzire vehicle bearing registration number JK02AK-6061.

As per police sources, both the vehicles rolled down about 80/100 metres from National Highway after the collision. In the mishap,

dumper driver and driver of the Swift car namely Aamir Ahmad son of Mohd Azad Shaw of Choorat (Kulgam) received injuries. Both the injured were shifted to Primary Health Centre Ramban from where they were referred to Sub District Hospital Banihal, where their condition was stated to be stable.

After the mishap, the Swift car was found loaded mercilessly with two bovine animals in its boot (dikki) without any permission. Sources said, the crash barriers along the National Highway at accident site were not in place. "Had the crash barriers been in place, the vehicles might not have rolled down the road," they said.

A case FIR number 124/2021 under Section 279/337, 188 IPC 11 PCA Act was registered in this connection at concerned police station.



MP Jugal Kishore Sharma inaugurating development works in Gangyal on Wednesday.

Jugal inaugurates development works

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: Jugal Kishore Sharma, BJP Member of Parliament from Jammu - Poonch Lok Sabha constituency along with corporator Ward No. 56 Baldev Singh Billoria visited Babliana area of Gangyal and inaugurated lane and drains at Ward No. 56 and also dedicated 250 KVA transformer at Ward No. 56 Gangyal in Gandhi Nagar Assembly constituency.

Baldev Billoria Corporator Ward No. 56 complimented MP for visiting the Ward. He, while appreciating the efforts of Member of Parliament said that Jugal is always ready to provide support to his workers. He said that by his efforts a great issue of Nallah at Gangyal Mohalla has been resolved and after completing slab work road has been constructed.

Baldev also said that a great share from MPLAD funds also dedicated for development of Ward No. 56 thus construction of community hall, bathing toilets and development of

Ramleela Ground made possible.

Jugal, while speaking on the occasion said that Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is working on the agenda of "Sabka Sath Sabka Vishwas" and to develop every corner is our responsibility. He, while admiring the efforts of Corporators said that they are doing great job by putting best efforts for development of their wards. He said that under the stewardship of our Prime Minister, Narendra Modi India has been now enlisted into the developing nations and tremendous development has been observed in all the sectors and segments. Many mega projects have been kick started for the development of the area, he added.

District president, BJP Vinay Gupta, Mandal president, Bharat Bhushan, senior BJP leaders, Narinder Gupta Koki, Sunil Sharma, Romy Singh, Ranjeet Singh, Mulkh Raj, Om Nath, Rakesh Sangral, Jatinder Singh, Prem Sharma and others were also present at the occasion.

RRC visits Durga Nagar to ascertain problems of migrants

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: The Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner, Ashok Kumar Pandita today visited Durga Nagar to ascertain the problems of the people in the area.

The Residents Welfare Committee of the area led by Roshan Lal Raina and Ravinder Bakshi submitted a memorandum of demands to him and sought their early redressal.

They demanded enhancement of relief benefits from Rs 13000 to Rs 25000 in view of hike in prices of essential commodities, SRO 194 should not be adopted on PM package policy which is a return and rehabilitation policy for displaced people, construction of 1000 more TRTs at Purkhoo for the migrants putting up in old quarters there and in rented accommodations at different places, migrant employees in Valley residing in rented accommodations be provided Government quarters and quarters for this purpose be constructed at district headquarters, six thousand more posts for displaced youth under PM package be announced, PM package employees be given promotion benefits and discriminatory treatment in this regard be

ended as this is sending a wrong message among the community members especially about present Government, non camp migrant areas be provided basic amenities like medical and educational facilities, roads, water and electricity, the compensation be given to community for the and losses of property suffered since 1989, the daily wagers in Relief Organisation be regularized, the nuclear family be considered of four souls and not more than four souls, issuance of Ayushman Bharat Cards to migrants who had paid money and also completed other formalities in this regard in 2019 and the PM package employees be given proper security in Valley.

The welcome address was read by Ravinder Bakshi, chairman of the Committee who also highlighted the plight of displaced people from Valley while Roshan Lal Raina president of the Committee highlighted the problems. Others who addressed the meeting included P K Raina, Satish Kishu, Prem Nath, Satish Kumar, Bharat Bhusan Gosani, Bihari Lal general secretary, Desh Rattan, president AIMCC, and Bushan Lal Raina Mandal president.

TNA delegation meets JMC Commissioner, VC JDA; highlights various issues

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: A delegation of Transport Nagar Association (TNA) Narwal (Jammu) led by Association chairman Rahul Sahai separately met Avny Lavasa Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) and Pankaj Magotra (VC JDA) and sensitized them about the problems faced by traders of Transport Nagar, besides submitting a memorandum for the overall development of Transport Nagar.

Rahul Sahai said that the area is neglected from last 20 years and from last 3 years they have highlighted it before the

Transport Nagar, only 4 High Mast lights are presently installed by JDA. He demanded that more High Mast lights be installed on main roads and streets to prevent unlawful activities that could be happened due to darkness. He also emphasized on construction of two Shulabh Shauchalyas in the area.

In his meeting, with the VC JDA, Sahai raised many issues like black topping of roads, installation of High Mast lights, repairs of dividers, plantation, encroachment, conversion of lease hold to free hold rights, lease deed issues, building bye laws at par with JMC, transfer



TNA chairman Rahul Sahai presenting a memorandum to JMC Commissioner Avny Lavasa.

LG, Commissioner Secretary Housing, Commissioner Secretary I&C (Logistics Incharge) but since years they have been passing the ball from JDA to JMC and vice versa.

Apprising Avny Lavasa about poor sanitation services in the area, Sahai emphasized on starting door to door garbage collection (paid services) from shopkeepers/transporters/logistics plots, clearing of old garbage from existing drains in front of shops, plots and make those drains active, constructing two big nallahs.

Sahai said for last many areas, garbage is lying open in various corners of the Transport Nagar, which should be lifted at the earliest. Regarding lighting, he said in 28 km area of

policy, JDA departmental processing issues, parking concerns and time bound transfer of property.

Avny Lavasa and Pankaj Magotra gave a patient hearing to the delegation and assured that Transport Nagar will see positive actions by both the departments very soon.

Others present in the meeting were Dr Sanjogita Soodan (Health Officer JMC), Dheeraj Jandial (Chief Accounts Officer, JMC), Harvinder Singh (CTO JMC), Ashwani Pandoh and Mohd Ashraf (president, Yard 7).

HM must talk to Pak: Soz

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 27: Former Union Minister and veteran Congress leader Prof Saifuddin Soz today said that Home Minister Amit Shah should talk to Pakistan and not only Kashmiri youth.

In a press statement here today Soz said, "Home Minister of India is right when he says that he would like to talk to youth in J&K State. But, he is not right when he says that he won't talk to Pakistan. How can India not talk to Pakistan, when that country happens to be its first neighbour?" Soz asked.

"Prime Minister Modi rightly described this relationship recently to the Prime Minister of Pakistan. Modi had correctly described this relationship in his letter to Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan as recently as on March 22, 2021, that as a neighbourly country, India desired cordial relations with the people of Pakistan and for strengthening this relationship, an environment of trust happened to be an imperative. PM Imran Khan's gesture to PM Modi's message was in the right direction when he said that the people of Pakistan equally desired peace and cooperation with India. Let us hope that kind of relationship grows by the day," Soz added.

Purchase Committee for procurement of pipes under JJM

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 27: In pursuance of the Administration Council's decision, Government today constituted a UT Level Purchase Committee for finalization of rate contract and approval of Standard Bid Document prepared by the Jal Shakti Department for procurement of Pipes under JJM for rural water supply scheme.

Headed by the Development Commissioner, Works (PWD), the committee shall finalize and approve the Standard Bid Document on the basis of the requirement submitted by the Chief Engineer.

The committee shall analyse and approve the Tender Evaluation Report to be submitted by the concerned Chief Engineer before placing of supply orders for the manufacturers.

The Purchase Committee shall frame a Tender Evaluation Committee, which shall fix the technical particulars of the material to be procured.