



Former Union Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde presenting award to a filmmaker at closing ceremony of 1st Jammu Kashmir International Short Film Festival in Pune.

## 1st Jammu Kashmir International Short Film Festival 'Foot Prints' wins best feature film award

**Excelsior Correspondent**

PUNE, June 15: 'Foot prints' by Javid Bandy won best feature film award in the 1st Jammu Kashmir International Short Film Festival that concluded on a positive note, here today.

40 films of different genres were screened in the 3-day-long festival. 'Foot Prints' bagged best feature film award while 'Ye Rodiya' by Sachin Dhar was given 2nd best feature film award. In short film category, Qandeel by Rabiya Nazki was adjudged best film while Kalam by Rohit Shilwant and Khalil by Raahul Sharma shared 2nd best film award. The Stitch by Asiya Zahoor and Good Shot by Shahnavaz Baqal won special jury award.

Daughters of Paradise by Bilal A Jan won best film award in short documentary category while as Climate Change by Abdul Rashid Bhat bagged 2nd best and Cinessence in Kashmir by Pankaj Saxena got special jury award. In the category of feature length documentary, The Last Hope by Raja Shabir Khan was adjudged best film.

In music video category, Koi Nahi by Syed Mudavar and Bilal Bhagat bagged best film while the 2nd best film award went to Sahibo by Shahnavaz Bhat and the special jury award went to Wattan by Umar Imtiaz, Ameen Bhat and Waheed Jeelani. In student section category, Schizophrenia by Nayeem Ahmad won best film award and Khattay Angoor by Ubaid Zargar got 2nd best film award.

The awards were presented to the winners by ex-Home Minister Sushilkumar Shinde. Speaking on the occasion, Shinde said, "This festival has made an effort of

spreading peace and equality, and should get Government's recognition next year. He said that Sanjay Nahar of NGO Sarhad is always concerned about the well-being and progress of the Country and its youth and this Film Festival is the result of his concern.

Sant Singh Mokha, the chief organizer of 400th era of Light of Togh Bahadur was the chief guest of the closing ceremony. He was accompanied by Rajiv Jalnapure (Director, CEO, Ramoji Film City), Nilesh Navlakha, Sanjay Nahar (Director, Sarhad), Yuvraj Shah, Mushtak Ali Khan (Director, Film Festival) and Shahir Sambhaji Bhagat on the dias.

"We have taken efforts for this film festival from 2019. Our only condition for accepting entries for this festival was the film should have reference of Jammu Kashmir, and we are glad to receive 74 entries for this festival," said the Director of Film Festival. He said though Jammu Kashmir has no single theatre, the festival receiving such a huge response is certainly commendable.

On the occasion, Rajiv Jalnapure was given by lifetime achievement award. Kashmiri Music Director Nissar Lon and Kashmiri Singer Rani Hajarika were honoured by conferring the first Kundanlal Sehgal National Award by Sarhad Pune.

Some more special awards were also given during the ceremony. Mohammad Salim Aarif, Ashok Kaul, Khwaja Saeed, Dr Payal Sudarshan Lodha (Guide of the UPSC aspirants of Jammu Kashmir), Mushtak Ali Ahmed Khan, Lubna Salim and Shahir Sambhaji Bhagat were also honoured in the ceremony.

## ADGP reviews Amarnath Yatra movement plan, security arrangements

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, June 15: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh alongwith IG

convoy movement and the need to brief and sensitize security personnel deployed for yatra duty.

The issues raised by CRPF and Traffic Police were dis-



ADGP Jammu Mukesh Singh reviewing yatra movement plan.

CRPF, IG Traffic, DIG Traffic, DIG Udhampur, DIG Doda, DIG CRPF, SSP Udhampur, SSP Ramban, SSP Traffic and ADC Ramban took a tour of yatra route and reviewed the security and traffic arrangements.

ADGP Jammu also presided over a meeting at Range Headquarters Batote and discussed the security plan and movement timings of the convoy.

He gave instructions regarding security precautions during

conveyed in detail and incorporated in the final deployment plan.

The team also visited Nashri, Chanderkote and Banihal and took stock of preparation work for langars and lodgement centres.

ADC Ramban and engineers present at Lamber briefed regarding progress of ongoing work and the timeline for finishing the project. The issues raised by CRPF were conveyed to them for early resolution.

## Chhari Yatra of Sudhmahadev culminates

**Excelsior Correspondent**

UDHAMPUR, June 15: The Chhari Yatra of Sudhmahadev culminated today with performing of religious rituals at the holy shrine of Sudhmahadev.



Sudhmahadev Yatra leaving from Jammu.

The Yatra commenced yesterday from ancient Panjbakhtar Temple in Jammu to ancient Shiv Temple of Shri Shul Paneshwar ji Maharaj, Sudhmahadev in Udhampur. Hundreds of devotees of Lord Shiva thronged Panjbakhtar Temple early morning chanting Har Har Bhole.

Organized by Sudhmahadev Chhari Yatra Samiti, the Yatra was flagged off by Chander Mohan Gupta (Mayor Jammu) along with president Bahu Association M K Bhardwaj, SP City Ashok Honda and Corporator Ritou Choudhary.

1008 Shri Damodar Dass Ji Maharaj (highly spiritual elevated

saint from Vrindaban) took the Chhari to Sudhmahadev. Talking to media, Maharaj said that this place has its reference in various religions books such Shiv Puran also. He said Lord Shiva solemnize his marriage with Maa Gaura and have "Fere" at Mantalai.

Special Pooja was performed at holy temple of Lord Shul Paneshwar Ji Maharaj amidst chanting of vedic mantras to invoke the blessings of Lord Shiva. Yatra encouraged devotees enroute to take part in this holy event.

Enroute Sudhmahadev, the holy Chhari was welcomed by Shiv devotees in Kolkandoli Nagrota, Devika Ji Udhampur, Shiv Temple Toldi Nallah, Chenani town, Bashat, Gourikund and finally at Sudh Mahadev. At Sudhmahadev, Tehsildar Ved Parkash Sharma, Naib Tehsildar Tanveer Ahmed and SHO Gourab Salathia welcomed the Chhari and accompanied it to holy shrine.

Administration had made all requisite arrangements for facilitating safe and hassle free yatra.

## Advisor Ladakh reviews progress of Geo-Ladakh Project

**Excelsior Correspondent**

LEH, June 15: Advisor, UT Ladakh, Umang Narula reviewed the progress of the projects for which the MoU was signed between the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) and the UT Administration on January 1, 2022.

The Advisor took a detailed review of the presentation prepared by the Director, and officials from IIRS on the Geo-Ladakh Project. They briefed the Advisor on project objectives, goals, and achievements, ecological studies related to key plant species, water resources availability, food hazard, modeling/forecast of renewable energy, solar energy potential estimation, mineral prospects, studies on Red lake, and demonstration of Geo-Ladakh portal. While discussing Seabuckthorn's potential in Ladakh, he urged them to explore the prospects of other local crops.

Advisor, Narula also enquired about the Geo-Ladakh Portal. He was apprised by the IIRS officials that Geo-Ladakh

Portal provides geospatial data visualisation and analytics for UT-Ladakh, consisting of Spatial viewer, Carbon Neutrality, and Geospatial utility mapping and Geo-Tourism.

While reviewing the water resource availability, the Advisor directed the officials to find possible solutions for water shortage and other options for drought-prone areas.

Principal Secretary, Planning and Revenue Department, Pawan Kotwal stated that Geo-Tourism is a promising concept for the locals as it fosters community involvement and local businesses to provide a distinctive, authentic visitor experience.

The Principal Secretary also urged the IIRS officials to set up a particular cell in UT Ladakh to train and orient people. He also suggested having frequent interactions in the future.

The meeting was also attended by Chief Engineer, PWD, Ladakh; Director, Planning Dept; Technical Director, NIC, Ladakh; Deputy Director, Planning Dept, Ladakh; and concerned officials.



MD NHM Yasin Choudhary chairing a meeting on Wednesday.

## Focus on drug addict youth to stop transmission: MD NHM

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, June 15: Yasin M. Choudhary, Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K today chaired a meeting to review status of various National Health Programmes.

The meeting was attended by HoDs of Gastroenterology GMC Srinagar, Chief Medical Officers and Medical Superintendents of District Hospitals including new GMCs, representatives from Director Health Services Jammu/ Kashmir and Nodal Officers of various National Health Programmes. The outstation officers attended the meeting through video conferencing.

It was highlighted in the meeting that there is very high prevalence of Hepatitis B & C

especially among drug abusers/IV users and many patients are facing liver failure.

The Mission Director while speaking on the occasion said that spread of viral hepatitis is a matter of concern and among the identified cases about 60 % reported cases are those of drug addicts/ IV users, which needs to be addressed by creating awareness so as to prevent the transmission of Hepatitis.

He also revived the status of drug distribution, patient status & reporting in Model Treatment Centres in GMC Jammu & Srinagar and District treatment centers for National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme.

Completion of ICUs under ECRP-II; PM-ABHIM; PM National Dialysis Programme; Rashtriya Netra Jyoti Yojna and Training of MLHPs for expanded services was also reviewed.

## PHE Employees United Front declares strike on June 18

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, June 15: PHE Employees United Front has declared to observe complete strike on June 18 as the higher authorities in the department have failed to address their long pending issues.

Talking to media-persons



Senior members of PHE Employees United Front addressing joint press conference in Jammu on Wednesday.

here today, senior members of the United Front - BR Vaid, K C Dubey, Subash Verma and Rajesh Jamwal said that PHE permanent and other temporary employees are raising their issues before the higher authorities since long but the attitude of the higher authorities has frustrated all the employees and other work force of the Jal Shakti/PHE department.

They pointed out that permanent employees are being forced to retire at the entry pay scale because DPC meets are not being held since long. The recoveries are being made from the employees on the name of

SRO-149 of 1973 and SRO 59. The Front is demanding amendment in SRO -380 and scrap SR)-129 so that cases of the retired employees are settled as per SRO-242.

They pointed out that many SRO-43 cases are pending in the GAD for final disposal but the LG administration has blocked all the pending SRO-43 cases for the reason known to the people at the helm of affairs.

Many deserving families who have lost their earnings people are suffering badly. They further demanded that those employees

who have been transferred to JMC, they should be considered on duty basis there but their service matters should be looked after by the Jal Shakti department. They also demanded that Govt must solve the pending issues of daily wagers.

They declared that as the higher authorities have adopted delaying tactics over their issues, they have decided to observe 12- hour strike from 8 am to 8 pm on June 18. The UT Administration will be responsible for the inconvenience caused to the general public in view of suspension of water supply, they added.

## People crying for basic amenities in absence of popular Govt: NC

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, June 15: Present Government of Jammu and Kashmir has miserably failed to ensure delivery of basic amenities like availability of ration, frequent supply of power and water.

This was observed by Provincial president, National Conference (NC), Jammu, Rattan Lal Gupta while interacting with people during a mass contact programme at Block Number 1 (Jammu East). The meeting was organized by Rita Gupta, vice president Central Zone Jammu in which Rattan Lal Gupta was the chief guest. Issues related to Jammu East constituencies were discussed threadbare during the meeting.

The senior NC leader Rattan Lal Gupta termed it unfortunate that people were being subjected to immense suffering for want of basic amenities like

power and water in absence of popular Government in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that due to lack of vision and wrong policies of the Government, people of J&K are facing a crisis like situation with each segment of society feeling abject neglect.

Rattan Lal asserted that the governance failures writ large in almost every field, adding to the miseries of each and every section of the society. He said that people of J&K are fed up with hollow slogans and anti people policies of the Government as it promised the moon but delivered nothing.

Those present in the meeting included Sheikh Bashir Ahmed (provincial secretary), Bimla Luthra (Ex-MLA), Babu Rampal (resident Central Zone), Vijay Lochan (PP SC Cell), Abdul Gani Teli (PP OBC Cell), Ajaz Jan (PP YNC), Vijay Laxami Dutta and Chander Mohan Sharma.

## Youth's body recovered

**Excelsior Correspondent**

POONCH, June 15: The dead body of a 19-year old youth was found in the water channel of local flour mill (water Chakki) near ITI in Surankote area of Poonch district.

Officials said that flour mill owner informed through phone call and soon after that a Police team reached the spot, and shifted dead body to Sub District Hospital, Surankote.

The deceased was identified as Mohd Yasin, son of Abdul Saboor, resident of Mora Bachai at present, Harhi Mohalla, Surankote.

Father of deceased, Abdul

Saboor said that he had developed habit of drugs and had also remained at de-addiction centre, Jammu for last 35 days and had returned home yesterday.

Abdul said boy went out from home at around 3 PM on Wednesday. The family came to know about his death through social media after which he rushed to hospital, he added.

Station House Officer Surankote, Insp Niaz Ahmed when contacted said a case has been registered in this connection. He said dead body has been handed over to family members after performing all the legal formalities.

## Three theft cases solved; stolen mobile phones, accessories, cash recovered

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, June 15: Bahu Fort Police solved three theft cases by recovering stolen mobile phone along with accessories and cash.

As per police sources, on May 23 this year, Police Post Bathindi received a written complaint about theft of 6 Mobile phones, accessories along with some cash from a mobile shop at Bathindi.

Acting over the complaint, a case under FIR Number 143/2022 under Sections 457 and 380 IPC was registered at Police Station Bahu Fort and investigation taken up.

To work out the case, a team from Police Station Bahu Fort led by SHO Inspector Nayat Ali and assisted by Incharge Police Post Bathindi PSI Mohammad Younis Khanday was constituted under the supervision of SDPO East Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari and SP South Mamta Sharma.

The team put in hectic efforts and after connecting various leads and timely human intervention finally arrested the thief, who was

identified as Muzamil Butt, son of Mohammad Sadiq Butt of Phagsoo Thathri District Doda, at present Azad Colony Sunjwan District Jammu.

On his disclosure, all the stolen mobile phones along with accessories and cash were recovered. During further questioning, he disclosed his involvement in a theft case at J&K Grameen Bank Malik Market Narwal Jammu which took place on March 9 this year and a case FIR Number 75/2022 under Sections 457, 380 and 511 IPC stands registered at Police Station Bahu Fort. In this theft case, he has committed the crime along with one of juvenile associate who has also been apprehended by the police.

Further, he has confessed his involvement in theft of cash from one more shop at Doogiyani Bathindi in which case FIR Number 102/2022 under Sections 457 and 380 IPC already stands registered.

Further questioning of the accused is going on to ascertain their involvement in other cases.

## Kidnapped minor girl rescued, abductor arrested

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAMBAN, June 15: Batote Police rescued a kidnapped minor girl from Punjab with the active assistance of cyber team of Ramban Police.

The accused was arrested and is currently in police custody. The minor girl was handed over to her parents after completing legal formalities.

Further investigation into the case is going on. Police team led by PSI Gautam Chaudhary recovered the kidnapped girl and arrested the accused under the supervision of SHO Batote Inspector Rakesh Jamwal, DySP Headquarters Ramban Pardeep Singh Sen and SSP Ramban Mohita Sharma.

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## Several BJP workers join Cong BNP failed to deliver promises made with people: Chib

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, June 15: Influenced by the policies and programmes of Congress Party, scores of BJP workers today joined the Congress during a programme held in Jammu North Assembly segment here today.

During this function Brij Nandan Singh, president Basant Nagar Development Welfare Committee of Ward No 60 along with office bearers today resigned from BJP and joined Congress Party in presence of Hari Singh Chib, president DCC Jammu Rural; Uday Bhanu Chib, president Youth Congress Jammu and Kashmir and Rajni Bala, Corporator Ward No 60.

Speaking on the occasion, Hari Singh Chib welcomed the newly joined members and appreciated their decision to leave BJP and joining country's oldest political party. He asserted that they joined Congress and desired to work under the leadership of Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and JKPCD president GA Mir. Chib said BJP leader-

ship has failed to deliver the promises made with the people after getting huge mandate in the 2014 Assembly elections and 2019 Parliamentary elections in the Jammu and Kashmir.

Rajni Bala welcomed the newly joined members and assured all possible support in addressing civic issues of the people of the area. The Councillor asserted that she will fulfill all the demands of the people of the ward and work for the betterment of the society as well. She assured that all development needs for Mohalla Basant Nagar shall be fulfilled by taking up their issues with the authorities concerned.

Uday Chib appreciated the decision of people for leaving BJP and joining Congress Party. He extended all possible support in addressing the civic issues of people of the area. He asserted that secularism is the strength of the Nation and only Congress can lead the J&K and the country to the path of peace, progress and prosperity by strengthening secular fabric.

## JKTF elects Rakesh Jamwal as Zonal President Chowki Choura

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, June 15: Rakesh Singh Jamwal has been elected as Zonal President of Jammu Kashmir Teachers forum for Zone Chowki Choura.

The election was held during a meeting of JKTF, organized on the direction of Chairman Ganesh Khajuria at Zonal Headquarter of Zone Chowki Choura. The meeting was attended by Subash Singh Provincial Vice President, Yash Paul Provincial Secretary, P D Singh, Provincial Organizer Gautam Singh Provincial Convenor, Ajit Verma, Bishan Lal Zonal President Akhnor & all the prominent Masters/Teachers of zone Chowki Choura.

All the teachers unanimously and in one voice elected Rakesh Singh Jamwal as the Zonal President.

## Protest against Jal Shakti Dept

**Excelsior Correspondent**

RAJOURI, June 15: Alleging failure of Jal Shakti Mechanical Department in providing adequate water supply, the residents of Rahdhani are without water supply for the last couples of days.

They said that several times the matter was brought to the notice of the concerned authorities of Mechanical department, but nothing has been done till today.

"We staged protests many times to highlight our grievance but no action was taken in this regard till date", the residents alleged.

The locals demanded regular supply of drinking water in the area. They said that they are not getting water supply for the last couple of days and concerned department is paying no heed towards this issue. They demanded that the local employees must be transferred to other blocks.