

New Industrial Scheme attracted lot of investment in J&K: Thakur

Excelsior Correspondent

KATRA, Mar 27: A daylong conclave on 'Hospitality & Tourism-2022 & Beyond' was organized by Hotel & Restaurant Association of Northern India (HRANI) in association with Hotel & Restaurant Association, Katra (HRAK) and Federation of Hotels, Restaurants, Industry & Commerce of Jammu Region (FHRICJR).

Principal Secretary Industries & Commerce J&K, Thakur Ranjan Parkash while speaking on the occasion said: "We had set a target of 50,000 investments in J&K till 2023-24 but we will achieve this target in 2021-22 itself and it is more than three times the investment J&K got in last 70 years."

Director Industries & Commerce Jammu, Anoo Malhotra; Deputy Commissioner Reasi, Babila Rakwal; Managing Director J&K Tourism Development Corporation, Syed F. Ahmed; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sanjeev Gupta; Deputy Director Tourism Publicity & Adventure, Naresh Kumar; SDM Katra, Angrez Singh; Assistant Commissioner Food Safety; Assistant Director Tourism, Ambika Bali; president HRANI, Surinder Kumar



Principal Secretary Industries, Ranjan Prakash Thakur giving award of best Restaurant (Katra) to MADHUBAN Managing Director, Sumit Partap Gupta at sixth HRANI Conclave held in Katra.

Jaiswal, former president of FHRAI, Girish Oberoi; president HRAK & FHRICJR, Rakesh Wazir; Wyndham (Ramada), Regional Director (Head South Asia), Nikhil Sharma; HRANI's Honorary Secretary, Amarveer Singh; joint secretary, Rattandeep Singh Anand; general secretary, Renu Thapliyal; Former Minister, Jugal Kishore Sharma; Katra Chamber of Commerce president, Viorender Kesar; president Hotel & Restaurant Association Patnitop, Kushal Magotra and others were also present on the occasion.

On this occasion the award

function was also held and award of Hospitality Leader of Katra was given to Rakesh Wazir, president HRAK/ FHRICJR; Best Luxury Hotel-Jammu award was given to Radisson Blu while Best Luxury Hotel-Katra award was given to Welcom Hotel and Best Leisure Hotel-Katra award was bagged by The White Hotel.

Apart from this Best Business Hotel-Jammu award was given to Trans Asia Hotels Pvt. Ltd, Best Chain Hotel-Jammu award was bagged by Viraj Sarovar Portico while Best Chain Hotel-Katra award was given to Lemon Tree Katra, the Best Hotel Mid Scale (Katra) award was bagged by Hotel Asia Shripati, Katra, Best Boutique Hotel-Katra award was given to The Grand Sharan, Best Restaurant-Jammu award was given to Eden-Botanic Kitchen & Bubbly, Best Restaurant-Multi Cuisine Katra award was given to Madhuban and the Best General Manager award was bagged by Kuldeep Sharma of Country Resort, Katra.

Girish Oberoi delivered vote of thanks while welcome address was delivered by president HRANI, Surinder Kumar Jaiswal and Renu Thapliyal conducted the proceedings of the programme.



Dignitaries inaugurating national level Colloquium on 'NCLT-The Road Ahead' at New Delhi.

National level Colloquium on 'NCLT-The Road Ahead' held

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Mar 27: The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) here organized a national level Colloquium on 'NCLT-The Road Ahead'.

Chief Justice (Retd), Ramalingam Sudhakar, president, NCLT; Rajesh Verma, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Ravi Mital, Chairman, Indian Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) inaugurated the colloquium in which Members of the Tribunal, both Judicial and Technical, representing 15 Benches across India also participated.

Ramalingam Sudhakar while speaking on the occasion said that India is envisioning a multi-trillion dollar economy and industry and commerce, crucial in nation's economy are governed by Company Law besides other laws.

He stated that the Government has come out with Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC) to resolve corporate issues to enable corporates of India to compete with the world.

"NCLT is guardian of the Corporate Law and each of its Members has a role to play in the economic growth of the country," he maintained.

He also said that Artificial Intelligence technology can be used in case resolution, especially in admission of cases.

Rajesh Verma, Secretary, MCA, stated that NCLT is an institution of pride and it has led to faster resolution of corporate disputes under the Company Act and the IBC. He also said that during COVID-19 pandemic NCLT disposed off about 62,000 cases out of 83,000 cases filed before it.

Ravi Mital, Chairman, IBBI, stated that there are two cornerstones of IBC—timeliness in process and the control being given to creditors as against debtors.

He stated that with more standardization, the speed of resolution of cases can be increased.

Inaugural session was followed by the technical session, where Sudhakar Shukla, Whole Time Member, IBBI and Prof. Charan Singh, CEO, EGROW Foundation, also participated.

Members of the Tribunal covered other areas such as Admission of Petitions u/s 7 and 9 IBC, Oppression & Mismanagement, Avoidance Transactions, Insolvency & Voluntary Liquidation- Section 10 and Section 59, IBC and Resolution Plan Approval etc.



A JCB machine dismantling a structure near Majeen on Sidhra Bypass Road on Sunday.

Major crackdown on land mafia, 17 structures dismantled

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: In a major crackdown today, the Forest Department dismantled 17 Pucca structures including famous hotel and restaurant and retrieved 12 kanal prime Forest land in Compartment No. 65/ Bahu on Bypass National Highway in Sidhra, Ragoora, Majeen demarcated forest near Environmental Park Raika.

The joint eviction drive by J&K Forest department in presence of Duty Magistrate amidst heavy deployment of Police and Forest Protection Force personnel was launched under the supervision of senior Forest officers. The evicted area is a prime forest land worth of crores in the Jammu city outskirts on the National Highway.

Conservator of Forest East Circle Jammu B. Mohandass

who led the anti-encroachment drive from front along with DFO Jammu Anup Soni told that the eviction is carried out after providing reasonable opportunity to encroachers for vacating the forest land and after following due procedure laid down under Indian Forest Act, 1927. With the help of JCBs the Pucca structures were razed to the ground amidst resistance from the encroachers.

CF East further stated that the Forest department is showing zero tolerance for the encroachment and today's operation is a step ahead in vacating the Forest land from the clutches of encroachers and department will continue such drives in future. He expressed gratitude to the District Administration and Police for their active support for making this a successful operation. The cleared area was being fenced by the department.

BJP will sweep Assembly elections in J&K: Raina

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, Mar 27: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held a joint All Morcha's Sammelan of organizational district Reasi here, today which was presided over by party JKUT president, Ravinder Raina.

Addressing the Sammelan, Ravinder Raina said BJP has succeeded in winning the hearts of the common masses in Jammu & Kashmir with the selfless working of party activists as a result the party is going to sweep the upcoming Assembly elections in the UT.

Raina also said that the major communities in the J&K have been denied even the basic rights by the previous NC, PDP and Congress led governments. But now all the communities are being taken care of by the public centric policies of Narendra Modi Government at the Centre.

Raina accompanied by other senior leaders of the party addressed the Sammelan focusing upon the role and the importance of Morcha in various organizational activities and taking cognizance of the current socio-political issues and the role of Morcha activists in it.

Raina, said that BJP works for the needy with devotion keeping the national interests in view and the party has earned a special love and respect of the masses and this has all become possible due to the special dedication of the party activists. He stressed that the organizational working is incomplete without its Morchas who have been assigned the crucial job to understand the needs of the particular community they belong to and acting as an important link between the party and their respective communities.

Raina thoroughly discussed the Morcha functioning with the Morcha leaders. Based upon the public working of the

Morcha leaders, prominent persons from their respective communities joined hands with the party to serve the society, so the Morcha leaders must dedicate themselves totally for the public welfare, he added.

Raina also enumerated various welfare and asked the Morcha activists to work for their implementation of programmes at the ground level to serve the masses particularly in their respective communities.



BJP J&K president, Ravinder Raina addressing All Morchas meeting at Reasi on Sunday.

Excelsior/Mengi

VLT dealers allege transporters 'misleading' over tracking devices

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: VLT Dealer's Association J&K Jammu has expressed concern over misleading information being spread by some transporters regarding installation of tracking devices in the vehicles.



VLT dealers addressing press conference in Jammu on Sunday.

Excelsior/Rakesh

Addressing a joint press conference Association president, Javed Bhat said many of them are distributors/ dealers of Vehicle Location Tracking devices (VLT devices) in the UT of J&K and are focused towards effective implementation of the initiative of the Government of India and Transport Department of J&K UT for mandatory fitment of AIS 140 compliant VLT Devices in the public service vehicles and goods vehicles.

He said following the tragic gang rape of a young woman in Delhi in the year 2012 (the "Nirbhaya" incident), the Government of India set up a Committee headed by late Justice (Retd.) JS Verma to recommend amendments of Criminal Laws to enable address the issue of high rates crime against women. Amongst the several issues looking into by the committee, the Committee also looked into the issue of provision of adequate safety measures and amenities for women. In this regard, the Committee

had given several recommendations, one of them being that "all buses should be fitted with tamper proof GPS systems."

Taking a step towards implementing the aforementioned recommendation of the Committee, the Central Government on 28.11.2016 issued a Notification, amending the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 by introducing Rule 125-H of those Rules making the fitment of Vehicle Location Tracking devices with Emergency Button mandatory for public service vehicles and goods vehicles with national permit in the country.

Some Transport associations of J&K for their vested interests

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

and malafide intentions want to do away with this mandate of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India as well as the Transport Department, UT of J&K towards compliance of the same. The transport unions of J&K have been misleading without knowing the facts behind notification of Rule 125H wherein its objective is focused towards safety and security of women and children at the time of distress.

"We strongly condemn and oppose the misrepresentations of the transport associations in J&K and request the Transport Department to neither encourage or support such unlawful and illegitimate demands of these transporters," they added.



JKPCC working president, Raman Bhalla addressing public gathering in Suchetgarh.

Fuel price hike BJP's 'anti-people agenda': Bhalla

Excelsior Correspondent

RS PURA, Mar 27: JKPCC working president Raman Bhalla today hit out at the Centre and LG Government alleging they had "failed" to reach out to the people to address their concerns.

While addressing a large gathering at Dewangarh in Suchetgarh today Bhalla accused the BJP Government of trying to create a wedge between different regions of J&K for political mileage. He held the Government responsible for the deteriorating situation in valley, saying that due to the wrong policies of the Government, people are passing through a very difficult situation and living in absolute fear.

He urged the party cadre to remain vigilant to defeat the designs of BJP which he claimed was hell bent upon to create wedge between the regions in order to gain political mileage. He claimed the people have realized that they were "misled, betrayed and backstabbed by BJP for the sake of coming into power."

The Congress leader said the people were suffering immensely in every respect due to the deteriorating law and order situation adding to the fear psychosis among the people. "But the irony is that both LG Government and Centre have miserably failed to contain the situation. Rather the wrong policies adopted by them have added more problems," he

alleged. Bhalla also lashed out at state Government for failing to curb unemployment. There were announcements and official press releases regarding employment avenues for the youth but in reality Government has done nothing so far, he said.

JKPCC leader said the situation in the valley getting deteriorated despite claims of restoration of normalcy by the Government. Different decision regarding Jammu and Kashmir has been taken in the past 70 years by the Congress but every time the stakeholders were taken on board.

Reacting to the hike in prices of petrol, diesel and LPG, Bhalla termed the BJP Government "insensitive" and "irresponsible" saying that it has "once again displayed its anti-people agenda by raising fuel prices immediately after assembly elections". Referring to an earlier tweet of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi wherein he had appealed to the people to fill their fuel tanks anticipating price hikes after assembly polls in five states, Bhalla said that Gandhi was proved right once again.

Senior leaders- Ajaib Motan, DCC (Rural) president Hari Singh Chib, Ex-PM Tarlok Singh Bajwa, PCC Secretary Pawan Raina, senior vice president Ravinder Singh, Ch Mohinder Singh, Sham Lal Mehra and others were also present.



Senior BJP leader Sham Lal Sharma addressing a gathering during a function at GHSS Ghordi in Udhampur district.

Sham urges people to cherish, preserve Sanskrit Language

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Mar 27: Senior BJP leader and former Minister Sham Lal Sharma today weighed in on the importance of the Indian traditional language, Sanskrit and called on the citizens to cherish and preserve the same.

"Sanskrit is not only the language of rituals but also the mother of Sanatan Dharma and culture," the former Minister said while addressing a function which was held under the joint aegis of Srikalikh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust at Government Higher Secondary School, Ghordi (Udhampur) in connection with birth centenary year of Dr Pandit Uttam Chand Pathak Shastri.

He was the chief guest of the function which was organized with the objective of promotion and expansion of Sanskrit language throughout the year, "Gehe Gehe Sanskritam" in the whole UT. Describing the antiquity of Sanskrit language, Sham said that Sanskrit has emerged on the world stage as the most accurate language of space. He said all the people of J&K should have knowledge of Sanskrit language along with the local dialect of their area.

Other guests present on the occasion were K K Sharma

(Director Agriculture Jammu), SSP Shakti Pathak, Mahant Rohit Shastri (Pradhan Shrikailakh Astrology and Vedic Institute Trust), Professor Sharad Chand Sharma (Chairman of English Department, Central Sanskrit University Jammu Campus) and Acharya Abhishek Kumar Upadhyay (Principal Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, Vishwashali).

Speaking on the occasion, Shakti Pathak while highlighting the present status of Sanskrit language in J&K and the necessary points for fundamental improvement in it, said that Sanskrit is necessary to maintain life and to preserve culture.

Chairman of the centenary year organizing committee, Prof J P Sharma said that Sanskrit should be the language of our practice while guest of honor Dr K K Sharma said that Sanskrit is the oldest and living language of the world.

Prof Sharad Chand Sharma in his speech mentioned the entire life story of Shastri ji. Mahant Rohit Shastri called upon the Sanskrit scholars and youth in Ghordi to move forward, emphasizing that the study and teaching work of Sanskrit language should be conducted across the UT.

Ex-ministers, MLAs owing crores as power dues: Harsh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Lambasting the J&K Govt for disconnecting the power supplies to poor, indigent, BPL masses for failure to pay their nominal bills, former minister Harsh Dev Singh today questioned the non-initiation of action against Ex-Ministers/MLAs owing millions of rupees to the power Department as dues of power consumed by them during the last several years.

He said that the RTI reply received by him had revealed that majority of Ex-Ministers and MLAs who continued to occupy Estates accommodation and ministerial bungalows had neither paid the rent for use of govt accommodation and nor had they paid the bills for power consumed by them which ran in several lakhs in individual cases.

Harsh Dev Singh divulged that the RTI reply stated that VIP Kothi No. 7 was occupied by an Ex-MLA (name not disclosed in RTI) who owed Rs 38,62,852 to the Govt as power dues as on 1st October, 2021. Likewise, it stated that

Chander Parkash Ganga owed Rs 2,74,565. The power dues of various other Ex-Ministers/MLAs for the Estates as on 1st October, 2021, GH Lone Rs 306,544 were Bungalow No. 3 Wazarat road occupied by MOS (name not mentioned in RTI reply)-Rs 4,81,368; Zulfikar Ali former minister Rs 26,51,967; Advisor KK Sharma Kothi No.3-Rs. 4,81,368; VIP Kothi No.8 Ex-MLA (name not given)-Rs 2,89,644; Kavinder Gupta 4-SPL, Ex-Deputy CM-Rs 21,91,223; Sunil Kumar 14-SPL, former minister-Rs 8,38,182; Apni Party office Gandhi Nagar-Rs 1,44,203 and so on.

Singh said that with huge power bills outstanding against these and other Ex-Ministers/MLAs and top bureaucrats, the Govt seemed to have been granted immunity from penal action for power theft in view of power and influence wielded by them. And contrarily the poor and un-influential were being targeted and punished despite their nominal outstandings, Harsh Dev asserted.

DSEK fires teacher for remaining absent, issues show-cause notice to 2 others

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 27: The Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DESK) has terminated the services of one more teacher for remaining absent from the duties while a pre-termination notice and a show-cause notice has been issued against two others.

In this regard, order for the termination of services has been issued against one Heena Ramzan, Teacher in a Boys Middle School, Meemandar in South Kashmir's Shopian even as the concerned teacher was given several opportunities to resume her duties.

The order issued stated that the concerned teacher remained unauthorizedly absent from December 13, 2018, and despite providing enough opportunities to resume her duties. "Neither she responded the notices nor resumed her duties," the order said.

The DSEK said that the teacher was again provided opportunities in April 2021 followed by a joint show-cause notice on 06/07/2021, wherein she was asked to present herself before this Directorate along with a statement of defence within 7 days.

"Instead of presenting herself before this Directorate with a statement of defence she requested for accepting her resignation from service w.e.f 15/06/2021," DESK said. The DSEK said that the case was then placed before the Designated Committee which rejected her application

for resignation and directed for the termination of the services of the said teacher.

It is to be noted here that the DSEK has terminated the services of several teachers across Kashmir earlier for remaining absent from their duties in a bid to create vacancies and side by side, it has been ensuring the regularization of several ReTs across Kashmir who have completed their initial period of services.

Meanwhile, in another case, a teacher of Higher Secondary Lolipora in Central Kashmir's Budgam has been served with a pre-termination notice for remaining absent from duties since 2015.

In this regard, a teacher named Rashmi Dharore has been given a chance of resuming her duties at the school and has been directed to respond to the notice within 10 days failing action under rules will be initiated against her without any further notice

"Despite the issuance of several notices...neither you justified un-authorized absence nor resumed your legitimate duties," the DSEK said.

Furthermore, the DSEK has also issued show-cause notices to one more teacher Rashmi Kaul of Boys Primary School, Furrah in South Kashmir's Anantnag for remaining absent for her duties since 2015. She has also been given a time of 10 days to report to the Directorate failing which action as per rules is going to be initiated.