

CS asks people to play role in weeding out corruption completely

Excelsior Correspondent
JAMMU, Nov 2: As part of observance of Vigilance Awareness Week, 2022, Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today observed the

impactful and messages impressive. He held that the menace of corruption deserves to be dealt with all the means. He encouraged everybody to be vigilant and help the Government in its endeavor to weed out this evil

out the UT at different levels ensuring that all segments are benefited.

The schools which participated in the campaign included Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Canal road and SRML Higher Secondary School at Jammu and at Civil Secretariat, Srinagar Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kothi Bagh and SP Higher Secondary School, Srinagar par-



CS and other officers witnessing Nukkad Natak.

Nukkad Natak organised by the General Administrative Department (GAD) in collaboration with Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), on "Bhrashtachar Mukh Bharat" at Civil Secretariat here.

Secretary, GAD, Dr. Piyush Singla; Secretary Mining, Amit Sharma; other senior officers and officials were also present.

Chief Secretary complimented the organizers for holding this informative event which would help in sensitizing the participants. He emphasized the need of organizing such events on relevant topics to benefit the society at large.

He termed the medium very

completely from the UT. He maintained that more teeth had been given to the anti-corruption bodies and effective laws had been put in place in the last couple of years. He asked people to take advantage of the same and be the conscious citizens of the nation.

While speaking on the occasion, Secretary, GAD highlighted the significance of observing such events especially in present era. "Only a corruption free society can flourish economically, politically and socially so such events gain added relevance", he maintained.

Singla informed that the week is being observed through-

Government SP Higher Secondary School, Srinagar par-

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'Back to Village' aims at making rural economy self reliant: Kansal

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Nov 2: Principal Secretary, Information, Higher Education Rohit Kansal, today visited remote Panchayat Hutt in district Kathua to preside over array of activities during the ongoing Back to Village programme Phase-4.

DDC Chairperson Kathua, Mahan Singh, Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, Rahul Pandey, ADC Basohli Ajeet Singh, District and Sectoral officers, Sarpanch Surinder Singh and others concerned officers accompanied the Visiting Officer.

The Visiting Officer expounded the concept of Back To Village and urged the rural populace to actively participate in the ongoing Back to Village programme which is meant to assess the developmental achievements projected during previous B2V programs. He said that the main aim of B2V4 is to make rural economy self reliant and self sufficient by exposing ruralites to new skills, vocational trainings and covering them under tailor made government schemes of self employment through proper hand-holding.

Referring to the record tourist Footfall in J&K during the current year, the Visiting Officer said Panchayat Hutt also holds tremendous potential to emerge as one of the attractive tourist destinations owing to its picturesque and scenic beauty.

The Visiting Officer directed the officers to focus on saturation of all schemes of their respective departments to provide benefits to deserving people in a transparent and hassle free manner.

While interacting with the students, Rohit Kansal took feedback from them about facilities available for them in the Panchayat.

The Visiting Officer also participated in Gram Sabha wherein he interacted with representatives of

JPDCL raises Rs 17 cr as 50,000 people avail amnesty scheme

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 2: The power amnesty scheme which was approved by the Administrative Council headed by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha few days back is invoking huge response among consumers.

The decision was taken by the Administrative Council in view of domestic consumers not being able to avail the benefits of last scheme due to spread of COVID-19 pandemic during the scheme period.

MD JPDCL, Shiv Anant Tayal disclosed that JPDCL has realized more than Rs 17 crore within the first month of the launch of Power Amnesty

Amit designated as ex-officio Member Secy JJ Committee

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 2: Amit Gupta, Secretary High Court Legal Services Committee, who has been recently promoted as District Judge, has been designated as ex-officio Member Secretary to the Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh.

An order in this regard has been issued by Registrar General Sanjeev Gupta in partial modification to the High Court Order No. 1345 of 2022/RG dated 28.09.2022.

LG Ladakh inaugurates Panchayat Bhawan, CFCs

* Releases 4 years of LAHDC Kargil documentary

Excelsior Correspondent

KARGIL, Nov 2: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur, today inaugurated the Panchayat Bhawan/Common Facility Centre (CFC) at Gongma Minjee and the Panchayat Ghar/CFC at GM Pore during his visit to Kargil.

Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan; Executive Councillor, LAHDC Kargil, Punchock Tashi; Deputy Commissioner, Kargil, Santosh Sukhdev; Senior Superintendent of Police, Kargil Anayat Ali Chaudhary; elected representatives and officials from Rural Development Department were present during the event.

The CFC and Panchayat Bhawan at Gongma Minjee have been constructed under Special Development Package (SDP) and Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSa) at a cost of Rs 35 lakhs and Rs 32 lakhs, respectively. The Panchayat Ghar and CFC at GM Pore have been constructed at a cost of Rs 75.95 lakhs.

Sarpanch, Gongma Minjee, Ali Naqi, on behalf of the people raised several issues related to the development of the constituency, viz. upgradation of Govt Middle School to Govt High School; the establishment of a solar plant; the upgradation of the Medical Sub-Centre to New Type Primary Health Centre (NTPHC) and the creation of posts of paramedical staff; sanctioning of a tunnel to divert Drass River from Kharboo towards Gongma Minjee, etc.

A delegation of villagers of GM Pore led by Sarpanch Ruqayya Bano raised several issues related to the constituency, including intervention in resolving the Karcharai land issue; intervention in making the 20-bedded hospital at HM Pore functional through the creation of posts; upgradation of Govt Girls High School at GM Pore to Govt Girls Higher Secondary School; upgradation of Naib Tehsildar Office to the status of Tehsildar Office; sanctioning of a shelter house at Community Hall, Yokma

participated in the awareness campaign.

Horlam at GM Pore, etc. A delegation from Saliskote led by Councillor SH Armaan met LG Mathur and requested for intervention in the proper demarcation of the Karcharai land. President, Students

departments of Ladakh; 50% direct recruitment for the post of Naib Tehsildar; bringing changes in the District Service Selection Recruitment Board (DSSRB) syllabus, etc. LG Mathur also released the documentary, "4 Years of



LG Ladakh during visit to Kargil.

Educational Movement of Kargil (SEMOK), called on LG Mathur and raised several issues related to the unemployed youth of Ladakh, including the establishment of the Ladakh Public Service Commission; establishment of Ladakh Service Recruitment Board; making Ladakh Residence Certificate (LRC) mandatory for all gazetted and contractual positions in all

LAHDC Kargil' highlighting the achievements of LAHDC Kargil in the presence of Chairman, LAHDC Kargil, Feroz Ahmed Khan; Executive Councillors- Mubarak Shah Naqvi, Syed Mehdi Fazily, Punchock Tashi, Mohsin Ali; Councillors, DC Kargil Santosh Sukhdev; SSP Kargil Anayat Ali Choudhary and Joint Director, DIPR, Imtieaz Kacho.



Seema Devi driving her auto in Nagrota area on Wednesday.

Seema is first lady driver in Jammu to drive battery auto

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 2: A lady driver of newly started battery auto has become talk of the town in Nagrota area near here.

In an interaction with the Excelsior, Seema Devi of Dhok Wazir area of Nagrota said that poverty has forced her to start this venture which is least chosen by the women.

"I have three school going children and husband in my family and we borrowed money from someone and brought the auto," she said, adding that her husband trained her in driving the vehicle in two days after which she started driving the auto.

Seema said as driving is a profession of gents and she is the first lady in her town to join it.

"Seeing me driving an auto many people even laughed at me but I ignored them and continued my work," she maintained.

The lady driver said: "It is very tough to make both ends meet due to soaring prices of commodities these days but after I started this work and got some earnings, things became

easy." She claimed full support from her husband and informed that it is very tough at present as children need everything which forced her to work.

"It is fifth month now for me continuing with auto driving and many gents hesitate to sit in my auto as I am a lady. I would like to ask such people that it

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

makes no difference that the auto is driven by a man or woman and same fare will be charged so there should be no problem in sitting in auto driven by a lady," Seema asserted.

She said that many parents in her Mohalla have engaged her to pick and drop their girl children to their schools in her auto finding it safer with a lady driver.

"I daily earn from Rs. 200-500 and I would like to ask the women to come out of their homes and work for empowering themselves," Seema further said demanding some subsidy from the government on her auto.

BRO allows vehicular movement on newly launched Bailey Bridge over Chenab

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Nov 2: The Bailey Suspension Bridge over river Chenab on Jammu Srinagar National Highway was reopened for vehicular traffic today after 57 days.

The commuters had to make a 12-kilometer detour to reach Ramban from Maitra during the bridge replacement.

Deputy Commissioner, Ramban Mussarat Islam said that the new bridge was thrown open for vehicular traffic movement after successful trial run was conducted by the GREF.

According to Officer Commanding, S K Goutam the 52-Road Construction Company (RCC) of General Reserve Engineering Force

(GREF), the 240 feet long timber decking reinforced Bailey Suspension Bridge (BSB) having 3.27 m carriageway width erected over Chenab River one month ahead of schedule time of completion.

He said in order to avoid undue hardships for the people of Ramban, the competent authorities have decided to throw open this bridge for vehicular traffic.

He said the bridge is suitable for carrying a load of 40T (tone) single vehicle at a time with speed limitation of 10 kilometer

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

per hour. The vital (suspension) bridge over river Chenab connecting the old town Ramban with District Headquarters Maitra was closed for every type of vehicular movement on 6, September 2022, after the bridge was declared unsafe by the GREF.

Locals and political leaders have expressed their gratitude to Deputy Commissioner, Mussarat Islam and concerned agencies for early completing the bridge replacement work.

Elaborating its importance, Advocate Arun Singh Raju said that early completion of the bridge work was most urgent as with the closure of this short and decades old route due to its launching, a common man was to travel about 12 kilometers via

Jaswal Bridge over river Chenab at Karool to reach District Administration complex Maitra, Ramban.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh meeting public delegations at BJP Central headquarters, New Delhi on Wednesday.

Dr Jitendra meets public deputations at BJP Central office

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Nov 2: As a part of Bharatiya Janata Party's "Sahyog" programme, 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 today met a series of public deputations and attended to their issues at party Central office headquarters at 6 Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, here today.

Dr Jitendra Singh spent over two hours, individually disposing of representations by party workers, leaders and also others from different States and responding to queries on a wide range of issues brought up by civil society members from within and outside the organisation. He also gave reference letters for different Ministries and Departments depending upon the nature of grievance.

Later speaking to media persons, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is not only a pleasant home - coming for him whenever he sits at the BJP office, but it is, at the same time, also a reiteration of the commitment to the "Sangathan" / Organization and

the "Karyakarta". It is always a healthy experience to sit at the BJP office, whenever given a chance, because it also helps to relate the party's agenda and priorities with the common people, he said.

BJP is a cadre-based Party, said Dr Jitendra Singh, and drives its inspiration from Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya's concept of "Antyodaya" which means reaching out to the last man in the last queue. An exercise like this of holding public interaction at the party office also enables a common citizen to gain direct access to the government and political functionaries whom he may otherwise find difficult to reach in a secretariat or a ministerial office, he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, this not only helps in taking cognizance of a number of such public issues which might have otherwise got overlooked but it also provides easy accessibility for the workers to reach out to their leaders.

On a personal note, Dr Jitendra Singh said, he always enjoys sitting for such public redressal meetings in the party office, because it gives him an immense inner satisfaction as well as a feeling of homeliness.

HC quashes order terminating services of Gram Rozgar Sewak

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 2: High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has quashed the order by virtue of which the Gram Rozgar Sewak was disengaged with the direction to the respondents to allow the petitioner to perform his duties under MGNREGA and release unpaid wages.

The case before Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal was that petitioner Reyaz Ahmed Sohail was appointed and engaged as Gram Rozgar Sewak with effect from 15.07.2009 and posted in Panchayat Halqa Sarbagni-A and Panchayat Halqa Sarbagni-B in Ramban.

As per the stand of the petitioner, he was performing his duties entirely to the satisfaction of his superior officers and on 28.09.2011 FIR was registered against him on the allegation that he had sold 21 bags of Government cement to one Ayaz Ahmed, son of Abdul Rashid Naik. Even after the registration of the FIR, he was performing his duties.

On the basis of the FIR, the petitioner was disengaged by virtue of order dated 09.04.2012 and the same was challenged before the High Court on the ground that order is stigmatic as no opportunity of being heard has ever been given to him therefore the same is unconstitutional, illegal and liable to be quashed.

After hearing counsels for the parties and perusal of record, Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal observed, "the order impugned has been issued against the petitioner on the basis of some FIR which is registered against him. The order is stigmatic, and, thus, the respondents were under legal obligation to have conducted a detailed enquiry against the petitioner by providing him opportunity of being heard with regard to his alleged misconduct and allegations leveled against him in the FIR".

"The respondents have issued the order impugned in a haste manner without conducting any enquiry, as such, the same is stigmatic and punitive in nature. The petitioner has been condemned unheard and, thus, the stigmatic order of disengagement cannot sustain the test of law as the allegations of

alleged misconduct have not been enquired into by the respondents nor any opportunity of being heard has been given to the petitioner to rebut the allegations leveled in the FIR", High Court said.

The respondents have also taken a specific stand that the service of the petitioner shall be terminable with immediate effect on the basis of proven non-performance or mis-performance and, accordingly justified that the order impugned. "However, from a perusal of the order impugned, there is no whisper with regard to any non-performance or mis-performance on the part of the petitioner, which could be the basis for issuance of order impugned", High Court said.

"FIR which was registered against the petitioner culminated into challan and pursuant to the trial, the petitioner stood acquitted. Thus, it was incumbent on the part of the respondents to have conducted a full-fledged enquiry against him by way of disciplinary proceedings against the petitioner as the law is settled that the departmental proceedings and criminal proceedings can go hand-in-hand and since the petitioner stood exonerated in the criminal case, the respondents were not justified in upholding the order of termination by virtue of stigmatic order", Justice Nargal said.

With these observations, Justice Nargal quashed the impugned order with the direction to the respondents to allow the petitioner to perform his duties as Gram Rozgar Sewak in Panchayat Halqa Sarbagni-A and Panchayat Halqa Sarbagni-B under MGNREGA. The respondents have further been directed to release unpaid salary/wages/arrear for the period for which he has worked.

"However, the respondents are not precluded to conduct the enquiry with regard to the alleged misconduct as reflected in the order of disengagement by providing an opportunity of being heard to the petitioner and the continuance of the petitioner will be subject to the outcome of the said inquiry, if conducted", High Court concluded.

CBK charge sheets man for online fraud

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 2: The Economic Offence Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir today produced a charge-sheet in a case of online fraud.

In a statement issued here, CBK said that the challan was filed in Case FIR No. 14/2020 U/S 420 RPC, 66-D IT Act of P/S Crime Branch Kashmir (EOW, Srinagar) against Sumit Kumar S/o Bagwandas R/o House No. 327, Ward No. 19 Aryanagar Bahadurgarh Haryana-124507 before the Court of Sub Registrar Srinagar.

"The instant case had been registered upon receipt of written complaint, wherein it was

alleged by the complainant that he was cheated online by some fraudsters."

CBK said that the investigation conducted revealed that the complainant had been cheated by Sumit Kumar son of Bagwandas of House No. 327, Ward No. 19 Aryanagar Bahadurgarh Haryana-124507 on the pretext that a Mobile Tower be installed and for registration, the complainant made to deposit a huge amount as registration fee.

"The Economic Offence Wing of Crime Branch Kashmir has once again advised the general public to be vigilant and never respond to any Unknown Messages, Calls, and Requests."