

VC KVIB flags off e-rickshaw service at Samba

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Nov 22: Vice Chairperson, J&K KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, today flagged off e-rickshaw service in the district.

Vice Chairperson was accompanied by Farrukh Qazi, Secretary/CEO KVIB, Muzaffar Abdul Nasir Allaqab and Deputy CEO, Tilak Raj, Divisional Officer KVIB Jammu, District Officer KVIB Samba and other senior officers from the Board.

Speaking during the event, Vice chairperson said that KVIB is focusing on bio economy units to be established in rural and urban areas to synchronise the balance to preserve the biodiversity. "Prime Minister has recently

emphasized in the global submit that there shall be an earnest endeavour to promote eco friendly environment", she asserted. She added that the initiative will generate employment, promote eco friendly environment besides providing urban transportation to the people of J&K.

She underlined the importance of using e-rickshaws to fight climate change and global warming.

Calling it the need of the hour, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat stressed on the need for voluntary involvement of everyone in conserving the environment by using e-vehicles, among other such initiatives. She further said the government would provide all possible support to e-rickshaw workers.



Former Minister, Priya Sethi during inauguration of Decent Creations Boutique at Gujjar Nagar, Jammu on Tuesday.

Priya inaugurates Decent Creations Boutique

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: Senior BJP leader and National Executive Member of the party, Priya Sethi today said that the BJP Government led by PM Narendra Modi has pulled J&K from the dark era to light by taking extraordinary steps including nullification of Article 370.

The former Minister was speaking after inaugurating Decent Creations Boutique 3.0 here at Gujjar Nagar. She was the chief guest during the launch of the boutique offering an exclusive variety of ladies suits and hand bags with stitching, embroidery and customization also available at its workshop.

The senior BJP functionary said that the situation in J&K has witnessed 180-degree change after the Modi Government took over the reins of the country because earlier the people were longing for peace and safety of life but

today businesses have been flourishing and colossal development is in the offing as every nook and corner is witnessing the execution of new projects with rural areas also moving apace with their urban counterparts.

She said that the BJP Government has created a strong pedestal for steering the UT of J&K towards pinnacle of development but the responsibility to make this dream a reality lies on the people, who are the real stakeholders.

Other prominent persons who attended the launch function include Kabla Singh and Ismail Malik senior leaders of BJP, Ajaz Magra, Abdul Rashid, M.S. Mir and Mohammad Hafiz, President North IHRC, senior BJP leader, Parveen Kerni, BJP Women wing leaders, Neeru Anand, Savita Anand, Anita Gandotara, Anuradha Sharma, Sharda Devi and others.

ELFA Int'l organises function at Balniketan

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: ELFA International organised a function at Ved Mandir Balniketan, here today wherein around 150 children of the Institution participated in the event.



A student being awarded with medal by dignitaries at Ved Mandir Balniketan Jammu on Tuesday.

The event was attended by guests including Prof Indu Kilam (Senior Advisor and Mentor ELFA), Suresh Chander Gupta (President Ved Mandir Balniketan), Seema Magotra (Headmistress Ved Mandir Patshalla).

Sajad Mir (Regional Coordinator, Jammu) Anjali Anand, Kiranpreet Kaur, Varun Khajuria and Fatima Khan represented the ELFA International during the event.

During the function, various activities were organised including painting, singing, dancing, poetry and debate competition. The overall first position was awarded to Monika class 9th, while 2nd position was secured by Manvi class

3rd and Sambhav class 4th secured clinched 3rd position.

All these children were given school bags and stationary kits. The consolation prizes were given to Varun from class 3rd, Praduman from class 1st and Rohit from class 5th. Medals were distributed

among all the participating children.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Indu Kilam emphasised the need to ensure happy and holistic childhood to the children. She said that this beautiful event reminded her of her childhood days and expressed happiness after watching the beautiful performance by the kids.

She said that talent hidden in children needs to be brought to the fore by organising more events like this. She said that ELFA International, which is tirelessly working for the cause of children, will continue its commitment to work for the same and extend its outreach for the welfare of the children of the entire region.

MVD Reasi books 25 passenger buses

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, Nov 22: Motor Vehicle Department Reasi today booked 25 passenger buses plying without Speed Limiting Devices during special naka laid by a team led by the ARTO

The team, led by ARTO Reasi Rajesh Gupta, was conducting an enforcement drive in different areas of Katra.

During the naka around 82 vehicles were checked, special emphasis was laid on checking of Speed Limiting Devices (SLD) in passenger buses and school buses.

The buses sans SLD were challaned under relevant laws of

Motor Vehicle Act, while the school buses were playing smoothly with SLDs installed in them. The ARTO informed that 7 two-wheeler operators were challaned for without helmets driving, while 4 two wheelers without vehicle documents were seized.

Besides this, awareness was also imparted among drivers and the public regarding Road safety.

The school bus drivers were asked to adopt all safety measures in order to avoid accidents.

Vehicle drivers were directed not to resort to overload/over-charging and to follow the traffic rules.

Nazim inaugurates e-office, Biometric Aadhaar base attendance system at Jagti

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: Secretary, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Nazim Zai Khan, alongwith Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner Migrants, K K Sidha, today visited Jagti and inaugurated e-office and Aadhaar based biometric attendance system at camp office.

Executive Engineer R&B Division III, Chief Accounts Officer, Anish Singh, Tehsildar/Camp Commandant Jagti Imran Naik, AEE, JE R&B, TO Relief and other technical staff was also present on the occasion.

Secretary inaugurated the e-office by forwarding a file to the office of RRCM, J&K from Camp Officer portal and termed it a big achievement as the process of shifting from manual to e-mode has proved to be quite hassle free medium with quick disposal in a time bound manner. He added that process of roll over to e-mode will be completed in all the zones and camps of the department shortly and thereafter no manual file shall be accepted.

He also witnessed the installation of Aadhaar based biometric attendance system in the camp office and said that it will be a

revolutionary step in bringing the officers/officials of the department under the ambit of single window attendance checking system.

Secretary also inspected various ongoing works at Jagti township along with their physical and financial status. He inaugurated the black topped newly constructed road from jagti to cremation ground.

He directed the concerned department to expedite the pending works with in fixed time frame. He directed to check the quality of work on regular basis and said no compromise shall be tolerated on quality parameters besides the pace of work.

Directions were also passed with regard to removing encroachment on public places, cleanliness of the township, maintenance of parks, renovation of office building besides many other works of prime importance.

Secretary and RRCM interacted with the public, listened to their grievances and directed the concerned officers present there to resolve the issues on priority.

Later, the officers visited Nagrota Camp and had a brief review of the status of works going on alongwith reviewing the condition of the quarters.

Dr Yashpal re-elected AHA National prez

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: Dr Yashpal Sharma has been re-elected as National president, Association of Hospital Administrators (AHA) for 2nd term.

Major General (Dr) RK Garg (chairman, election committee) informed that Dr Yashpal Sharma has been elected as president of AHA India after defeating Dr (Prof) Hem Chandra (Vice Chancellor, Uttarakhnd Medical University).

Dr Sharma has been re-elected for the 2nd term of two years. He has been instrumental in bringing various academic and administrative reforms during his first tenure as president AHA India.

Dr Anoop Kumar Daga has been elected as vice-president, Dr Shyam Nagarajan as executive director, Major General Jagtar Singh as finance director, Dr Rajiv Kumar Jain as programme director and Dr Ashish Kumar Gupta, Brig (Dr) Pradeep Srivastava, Dr Mahesh Devnani, Rajiv Pathni and Dr Param Hans Mishra as members of the executive committee.

HC closes PILs as grievances met-out by authorities

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 22: High Court today closed two Public Interest Litigations (PILs) as the reliefs and grievances raised therein have been met out by the authorities.

The division bench of Chief Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey and Justice V C Koul closed a PIL which was taken as suo moto action by the court to the representation made by one Malik Sajid, President Initiative for Peace and Development, for preservation of space for child and female patients including pregnant women at SKIMS, Bemina, as the said sections were stated to have been facing difficulties while approaching the hospital for treatment.

After the notice was issued to the concerned authorities with regard to the issues raised in the representation, the Financial Commissioner Health & Medical Education Department, in his response informed the court that a separate paediatrics hospital having specialties in paediatrics department like paediatric surgery, paediatric cardiology, paediatric oncology, paediatric gastroenterology etc has been established at Bemina, Srinagar.

He has further added that two new Maternity Hospitals of 200 beds capacity each were sanctioned by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, one each at Srinagar and Jammu, to strengthen the maternity related services and facilities in the J&K.

These sites were finalized at Bemina, Srinagar and Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. The sites for both these projects viz. Maternity hospital and Paediatrics Hospital were identified adjacently at Bemina, Srinagar.

While the progress of execution of Maternity Hospital Srinagar

was advancing towards its completion, the Principal, Government Medical College, Srinagar mooted a proposal to convert the complete complex of 200-Bedded Maternity Hospital and 300-bedded Paediatrics Hospital into a full-fledged 500-bedded paediatrics Hospital due to the reasons that maternity related services in the L.D Hospital, Srinagar have been substantially strengthened by way of construction of additional 200-bedded block and the same has been made functional also.

It is further added by the FC H&ME department that another 200-bedded block has also been approved under World Bank Funding for L.D Hospital Srinagar raising the existing bed strength from 500 beds to 900 beds.

"The detailed response/status report filed by the Financial Commissioner Health & Medical Education Department, satisfies the requirements for care of both children and women so far as the medical facilities are concerned", DB recorded

Court therefore inclined to close the Public Interest Litigation with the observation that the authorities will strengthen the existing facilities in these Hospitals for both the children and women in the best advancement of medical system.

Dealing with another PIL regarding charging of tuition fee, bus fee or any other incidental fee charged by the private school institutions. In this connection court has been informed by Additional Advocate General that grievances in the instant PIL stands settled by the formation of Fee Fixation Committee (FFRC) for Private Schools and the Committee is said to be issuing the orders from time to time to regulate the matters with in its ambit and the Committee is providing hearing to the various parent bodies as also the School associations.

BJP plans pre-ponement of Panchayat polls: Cong

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: Amidst reports of Government proposing to prepone Panchayat elections, JKPC has accused BJP of delaying the overdue Assembly elections for fear of losing it badly.

Reacting to reports of government proposing to hold early elections to Panchayats cutting short their tenure of five years, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress has criticised the move being another ploy of delaying the assembly elections for fear of losing the same.

Ravinder Sharma said that the people want early assembly elections restoration of statehood to install elected government at the earliest but the bureaucrats are eager to delay it further on one pretext or other to enjoy complete

power while BJP wants it's proxy rule to continue further.

He questioned the move of holding pre-mature elections to Panchayats which against the mandate of the people of five years to them. Reports suggest holding of Panchayat elections on party basis which is also wrong but BJP wants to test waters for assembly elections.

Seeking clarification about such a move, Sharma demanded that government should allow the PRIs to complete the full tenure and announce to hold Assembly elections after declaring restoration of statehood at the earliest.

He also emphasised that restoration of statehood and democracy will help improve the deteriorating security situation and overall unrest and political uncertainty.



MP Jugal Kishore Sharma chairing a meeting at Samba on Tuesday.

MP Jugal Kishore chairs DISHA meeting at Samba

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Nov 22: Member Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma today chaired the District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meeting to review progress of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) being implemented in Samba district.

The meeting was attended by DDC Chairperson, Keshav Dutt Sharma, Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta, ADDC, nominated members of DISHA Committee, besides District and Sectoral officers of different departments.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner gave a PowerPoint presentation on the achievements and progress recorded under different Centrally Sponsored Schemes, besides status of various iconic/development projects being executed by different departments and agencies in the district.

The Deputy Commissioner apprised the chair that a number of works taken up in the district under different CSSs have been completed and the rest are at different stages of execution.

She gave detailed information on Rural Development schemes including IWMP, PMAY-G, SBM-II, MGNREGA, SAGY, 14 FC, Amrit

Sarovar, Urban Development Schemes, Roads and Buildings, PMGSY, Ayushman Bharat, Jal Jeevan Mission, Power Development schemes, Social security schemes, PMKISSAN, DILRMP, Financial inclusion schemes like PMJDY, Mudra Yojana, PMJJBY, Atal Pension Yojana besides other schemes.

The Member Parliament laid emphasis on working in close coordination with elected representatives so that bottlenecks can be removed and pace of development work be accelerated in the Border district.

Jugal Kishore, while reviewing achievements under different schemes, directed the officers of the road network, especially PMGSY roads. He also directed officers to adhere to timelines set for achieving allocated targets. He directed officers of Jal Shakti Department to submit a detailed action taken report on issues raised by members regarding irregular water supply.

The Member Parliament said that transparency and efficiency in governance has been the hallmark of the present government. He stressed on using modern technology for saturation of all government services.

Later, DC Samba also gave a detailed insight about the action taken report of various issues highlighted in the previous DISHA meeting.



Students of Hr Sec School for Hearing and Speech Impaired, Shahidi Chowk showing their certificates after culmination of Prajna Yoga programme in Jammu on Tuesday.

Prajna Yoga programme by AoL concludes

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: Prajna Yoga programme for hearing and speech impaired students of Higher Secondary School for Hearing and Speech Impaired near Shahidi Chowk concluded here today.

The programme was organized by Art of Living (AoL) in collaboration with J&K Samaj Kalyan Kendra (SKK) Jammu in which about 70 differently abled students participated in two groups from class 1st to 6th in Junior Group and Class 7th to 12th in Senior Group.

A special faculty of AoL comprising Shreyas Chugh and Rukmani Devi flew from Bangalore AoL International Centre for this first ever AoL specially designed programme for Deaf and Mute kids and teenager students in Jammu which was assisted by AoL J&K Chapter faculty Ritvik, Akshita, Kanika, Sidhanth and dedicated team of volunteers Abhishek, Kashish, Bhawna along with SSK staff.

The specially conceived programme aimed at imparting Prajna Yoga to ensure that these Differently Abled students get the 'right thought at the right time' through intuitive power.

This programme makes them learn to perceive beyond their senses.

The intuition process improves the differently abled children's intuition and enhances their sensory abilities, briefed the Organizer of Prajna Yoga Programme, Ajay Kapoor, State Coordinator of Communications and Projects.

On the concluding day Ajay Kapoor, Treasurer of SKK M.D Sharma and Principal of the School, Roshan Bhan were present.

President SKK, K.B Jandial expressed thankfulness for such out of world initiative by AoL.

The participants learned brain activation exercises, designed specifically for their particular age. They were guided through meditation and relaxation techniques designed by the AoL which is the key tool for accessing their intuition.



Renowned artist, K.K Gandhi at National Art Symposium in Hampi.

JAMMU, Nov 22: Renowned artist and son of the soil, K.K Gandhi was invited to participate in National Art Symposium which was held at heritage town Hampi which has

been rated as the second most recognized heritage site by UNESCO.

The Symposium was held under the aegis of Anu Art Creations in collaboration with Kannada University, Hampi Karnataka.

The Symposium under the caption 'Varnika II' had 15 most and memento of the honor by Vice Chancellor of Kannada University in the presence of Registrar, Dean of the Art Department, Anita Raghuvanshi Malik, Curator of the Symposium, students and invitees who highly appreciated and applauded the artworks created by the artists.

LG Ladakh interacts with National Integration Tour-bound 25 participants from Aryan Valley

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, Nov 22: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur, today met and interacted with 25 women from the Aryan Valley who are going on a National Integration Tour organized by the Forever in Operations Division of the Indian Army as a part of Operation Sadbhavana.

Sarpanch Dha-Hanu, officials from the Indian Army and the participants were present during the interaction session. The participants will visit Delhi, Varanasi and Bodh Gaya during the 17-day National Integration Tour.

Interacting with the participants, Mathur stated that the 17-day National Integration Tour will be a pilgrimage for the Buddhist women from the Aryan Valley as they would be visiting Buddhist sites at Bodh Gaya and Varanasi. He advised the participants to make the most of the exposure tour and share their

experiences with their family members and people from their village on the completion of the exposure tour.

He also stated that the exposure tour would provide the participants with the opportunity to meet different people, learn new cultures and also give them an opportunity to inform people from other parts of the country about the rich identity and culture of Ladakh.

LG stated that the participants will also get the opportunity to meet the President and the Chief of the Indian Army. He also stated about the efforts being made by the Government of India to develop border area states and UTs such as Ladakh. He informed about the various ongoing developmental activities in the Aryan Valley.

Earlier, officials from the Indian Army informed the LG about the National Integration Tour.

Harsh Dev appeals people to oppose, expose & depose BJP juggernaut

Excelsior Correspondent

CHENANI, Nov 22: Accusing the BJP Govt of failure on multiple fronts, Harsh Dev Singh, former Minister and Chairman AAP J&K State Co-ordination Committee, appealed to the public to oppose, expose and finally depose those who had betrayed their trust and fooled them for ascending the throne of power.

He was addressing an impressive rally organized by Aam Aadmi Party in Chenani which was attended by a large number of people from various villages of the constituency. The rally, comprising of two wheelers, cars and mini-buses passed through Samrolli, Narsoo, Champeri with a huge fan-fare and reached Chenani where it was received with great enthusiasm by the local unit of the Party.

Addressing the gathering, Harsh Dev said that massive public response to the rally was indicative of the imminent change in District Udhampur wherein people seemed determined to usher a new era of peace, progress and prosperity by supporting the AAP which appeared to them to be the only ray of hope.

Disputing the claims of development, normalcy and corruption free system in J&K being repeatedly made by the Central and State BJP leaders post J&K's re-organization, Harsh Dev Singh accused the

present regime of indulging in self praise and self adulation by ignoring the ground realities.

"Downgrading of the oldest historical State of J&K to UTs has been the most obnoxious deed upon the pride of its people. A feeling of deprivation and demotion has deeply hurt the people and inflicted a big dent upon their self esteem and honour. The tall slogans of the employment package for J&K have all evaporated into their air. Instead of providing gainful employment to educated unemployed youth, the recent past witnessed large scale retrenchments in public and private sectors. The Education, Power, PHE and Health sectors in particular are in a mess with acute deficiency of manpower having adversely impacted the functioning of these significant depts. And while the people continue to suffer the Govt is busy patting its own back," lamented Mr Singh.

Alleging that development has come to a grinding halt with corruption having become all pervasive, Harsh Dev pointed out that several daily rated workers have been terminated while several casual and need based workers are apprehensive about their future. "There is an all-round feeling of disenchantment and AAP is the only alternative to overcome the prevalent crisis," he asserted.

Amandeep Group of Hospitals awarded for Excellence in Healthcare Services

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: At a grand event in Baku, Azerbaijan, Amandeep Group of Hospitals was conferred Achiever Award for 'Excellence

tionizing joint replacement, non-unions and trauma and fracture management.

Dr. Shahbaz Singh, Director, Amandeep Group of Hospitals received the prestigious award for 'North India's



Dr. Shahbaz Singh, Director, Amandeep Group of Hospitals receiving award for 'North India's leading Orthopaedic Care Chain of Hospitals'.

reading Orthopaedic Care Chain of Hospitals'. It is pertinent to note that Dr. Avtar Singh has performed over 2000 robotic knee replacement surgeries.

Dr. Shahbaz Singh got felicitated in a high-profile gathering around the world attended the award ceremony.

He told reporters: "It is an honour to receive the award and I am grateful to the jury for recognizing our efforts."

Committees formed for implementation of A-HELP Program

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 22: For implementation of A-HELP Programme in Jammu and Kashmir, Government today constituted a Union Territory level and District level Coordination and Synergy Committees.

The UT Level Coordination and Synergy Committee, headed by Administrative Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, shall oversee the implementation of A-HELP Program in J&K and ensure that it is implemented as per the latest guidelines issued jointly by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Department of rural Development, Government of India. It shall also oversee the capacity building, training and refresher training of A-HELP workers as per the module devised by National Dairy

Development Board. The committee shall have the power to modify the guidelines issued by Government of India as per local requirements and resources within the ambit of National MoU signed.

The District Level Coordination and Synergy Committees, headed by the concerned Deputy Commissioner, shall coordinate and oversee the implementation of A-HELP Program in respective districts of J&K.

As per the order in this regard, the Block Mission Management unit of JKRLM shall be responsible for coordinating Block Level A-HELP workers. For technical programs like vaccination, ear tagging, AI etc, A-HELP workers shall be monitored by local veterinary Doctors of Animal & Sheep Husbandry Department at village level.