

Fight against drugs a collective task: CS

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today held the 3rd UT Level NCORD meeting to take a comprehensive review on efforts being made to mitigate the menace of drugs here.



The meeting was attended by ACS, Agriculture Production; ACS, Home; Principal Secretary, School Education; Divisional Commissioners, Jammu/Kashmir; ADGP, Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary Health; MD, NHM; Excise Commissioner; State Drug Controller; Zonal Director, NCB Jammu; SSP, ANTF and all the Deputy Commissioners and District SPs.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers that the drug menace is a grave issue spoiling the precious lives of our youth falling its victims. He asked them that the problem deserves a wholesome approach from each appendage of the Government. He maintained that the Government is sympathetic towards victims and very harsh towards the peddlers.

The Chief Secretary directed all the Deputy Commissioners to popularize the helpline number 14416 among public so that they are able to report about this menace. He asked the police to have

close coordination with the Rural Development and Social Welfare Departments to have insights and leads about those running this illegal trade. He made out that the PRI's had done a commendable job during the recently concluded 'Nasha Mukht Abhiyan' carried out in the UT.

The Chief Secretary also

took note of the holding of district level NCORD meetings. He urged on all the DCs to convene such meetings regularly in their territorial jurisdictions without any fail and upload the minutes simultaneously on the national NCORD portal. He assured the Police administration that the augmentation of FSL is in process and the time taken for requisite analysis of contraband material would get shortened considerably. He asked them to destroy the seized material publicly so that people feel confident of reporting such activities coming to their knowledge or observation.

The meeting was informed that till October, 2022 a total of 596 cases in Jammu Zone and 785 cases in Kashmir Zone have been registered under the NDPS Act arresting 815 and 1270 persons respectively. It was also revealed that in the same period about 291 kgs of Cannabis, 200 kgs of Heroin/Brown Sugar, 167115 Tablets/Capsules/Syrup and 52 FIRs had been registered against persons cultivating illicit crops over their agricultural lands under the said Act.



Postmaster General Col Vinod Kumar during meeting with LG Manoj Sinha at Srinagar.

Postmaster General calls on LG

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 24: Col. Vinod Kumar, Postmaster General, Jammu Region, holding the charge of Chief Postmaster General J&K and Ladakh, met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at the Raj Bhavan here today.

The Postmaster General briefed the Lt Governor about the functioning of the Department of Posts, J&K Circle and the steps being taken to make the services effective and efficient.

He further apprised the Lt Governor about the services being provided under the India Post Payments Bank and the release of special postal covers by the Department of Posts dedicated to the traditional crafts, personalities, unique flora & fauna.

The Lt Governor stressed upon the need to take all requisite measures to improve the postal services in J&K, with special focus on far flung and remote areas, to benefit the people at large.

Div Com reviews implementation of PMAY-Urban scheme in districts

*Directs DCs to take action against low performing EOs

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar on Thursday chaired a meeting of Deputy Commissioners and officers of Housing and Urban Development department to review the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna-Urban (PMAY-U) in the districts of the division.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Sambha, Anuradha Gupta; MD J&K Housing Board, Dr Shabir Hussain; Director Urban Local Bodies, Puneet Sharma; Joint Commissioner JMC, Chief Manager J&K Bank. The Deputy Commissioners of Jammu division along-with other Enforcement officers, consultants and concerned officers attended the meeting through video conferencing.

MD J&K Housing Board gave a detailed powerpoint presentation and informed the meeting about the current status and the phase wise progress of PMAY Urban Mission in the districts of Jammu division.

The Div Com, who is also the Chairman of Divisional level Committee, took strong note of slow progress in some districts and directed the DCs to closely monitor the implementation of the scheme in their respective districts and hold regular review meetings. He also instructed them to give targets to EOs for completion of the remaining houses to ensure completion within the fixed timeline. The Div Com also directed DCs to take strict actions against the low performing EOs.

While reviewing the loan cases, the Div Com instructed the Deputy Commissioners to monitor and review the sub-scheme with concerned ULBs and Cluster Heads/ Bank Branch heads for monitoring of disbursement of loan to beneficiaries. He also



Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar chairing a meeting on Thursday.

stressed on easing the bank formalities so that beneficiaries do not face inconvenience while applying for the scheme.

The Div Com stressed upon the concerned officers to expedite the process, resolve all the minor bottlenecks so that the mission-housing for all could be achieved in the districts of division well in time. He directed the concerned officers to work with full dedication and utmost zeal for completion of the mission.

He directed the officers to look into the matters hampering timely payments of installments to the beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, the Divisional Commissioner also reviewed availability and progress on establishment of solid waste management plants in the districts. He directed the concerned DCs to resolve land issues, if any and handover the identified land to Urban Local Bodies for smooth execution of work on establishment of Solid Waste Management Plants.

Package employees stage protest, reiterate relocation demand

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Expressing serious concern over the delaying tactics of the Government in fulfilling the demand of package employees after the recent target killings in Kashmir, the PM package employees under the banner of All Migrant Employees Association Kashmir (AMEAK) staged a massive protest demonstration here to press their demand of relocation to Jammu.

They were also demanding that the Government should form a Committee to look into the problems of the employees seriously.

Holding black flags, placards and banners in their hands on which different types of slogans



PM package employees protesting at Jammu on Thursday.

related to their demand and concerns were written, hundreds of these aggrieved employees were seen intensely venting their anger

They also suggested administration to refrain from any kind of pressure tactics that can put the lives of package employees in risk. Further, they cautioned the administration for stopping salaries of employees for months together which has led to economic crisis in their families.

Making an appeal to the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi to address their one point demand, these employees said that they were pinning hopes on the present dispensation at the Centre that their demand will get addressed in ensuring time keeping in view the safety of employees.

only option which can guarantee their lives. These employees also wanted the Government to frame a Committee to initiate a process of dialogue with the employees so that an amicable and satisfactory solution would be found on this vital issue.

Expressing their anguish over the callous attitude of the Government towards them, the protesting employees said that the administration must understand that the issue of package employees is purely a security concern which they would not compromise at any cost. "It was the duty of the Government to ensure security of employees," they also said.

One of the protesting employees said that it seems that the Government has adopted an adamant approach towards them which will not help anyway in resolving the issue.

JMC to launch model project on waste management: Mayor

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) to start a model project on waste segregation. This was stated by Mayor JMC, Rajinder Sharma while talking to reporters here, today along with Deputy Mayor, Baldev Singh Billawaria and Chairman Swachh Bharat Committee JMC, Hardev Singh Mankotia talking to reporters at Jammu on Thursday.

auto for disposal will be segregated and then disposed off. This way there will not be huge dumps of garbage lying scattered here and there, he added.

Maintaining that this can be a difficult task, Sharma said the people are not as yet used to this type of habit and in changing their lifelong habit it will take some time as old habits die hard.

Mayor said that the focus of JMC is how to make proper sanitation and keep the city neat and clean. He said in this regard awareness will be created through corporators, staff, Nukads etc to seek people's cooperation to make the campaign result oriented.

After the campaign achieves the desired results there will be no garbage dumps lying scattered in city wards, he said. "After we achieve desired results and see that the campaign has been successful then next 100 houses will be selected for garbage collection and disposal". He said one of the reasons of garbage dumps lying scattered on road sides and lanes is that people don't have the habit of putting the waste in autos.

Police files chargesheet against Salahudin for threatening Panchs, Sarpanchs

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 24: Police today filed a chargesheet against Hizb-ul-Mujahideen supremo Mohammed Yousuf Shah alias Syed Salahudin before NIA court Baramulla in connection with a case regarding threatening Panchs and Sarpanchs for participating in Panchayat elections 10 years ago.

A police officer said that Police filed the charge sheet before the Special Judge for NIA (Additional Sessions Court) Baramulla.

The case (FIR 241/2012) was registered in Police Station Baramulla under 506 RPC and 13 UAP Act against Salahudin for "threatening" Panchs and Sarpanchs through posters in Kashmir Valley to "compel" them not to contest elections.

The chargesheet against Salahudin has been filed under Section 512 of the penal code, the officer said.

He said the police was also in process of filing chargesheet

Police identifies killer of Kashmiri Pandit

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 24 : Police today said that the man involved in the killing of Kashmiri Pandit, Puran Krishan Bhat has been identified and is missing since November 12.

The Additional Director General of Police Kashmir Vijay Kumar said that during investigation of case on killing of Kashmiri Pandit Puran Krishan Bhat of Chowdharygund by militants on October 15, one Muhammad Latief Lone son of Nisar Ahmad of Check Kachidoora, was found to be involved.

"The killer is missing from his home since 12/11/2022 and any person giving any information about accused Mohammad Latief Lone will be suitably rewarded by Police," he said.

Mother, son charred to death

Excelsior Correspondent

POONCH, Nov 24: A young woman and her 3-year-old son were charred to death alive as their house was burnt in a massive fire incident due to domestic gas cylinder blast in Surankote area of the Poonch district on Thursday.

Official sources said that the owner of the house, Showkat Hussain, was also injured while his three other children succeeded in escaping unhurt in the fire incident which took place at Chandimahr- B Panchayat, Ward No.04, Baffliar Surankote during the wee hours.

After the fire, locals and police rushed to the spot and by the time fire was brought under control, 35-year-old Hamida Begum, wife of Shokat Hussain and her son Aqib Hussain (3)

were found charred to death alive inside. House owner Showkat Hussain was injured and has been hospitalized.

Police post Incharge Bheramgalla PSI Nareesh Kaith, who led the police party in rescuing other family members and bringing the fire under control, confirmed to GNS that mother-son duo was killed in the unfortunate incident. He said a case has been registered and further investigations taken up.

Sarpanch Buffleaz -B, Tahira Tabasum while expressing anguish over the incident demanded immediate relief to the affected family, the sources added.

'Good work done on development front' Situation in J&K has improved during past 2-3 years: Baig

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 24: Former Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Muzaffar Hussain Baig today said the situation in the Union Territory has improved in the past two to three years and good work has been done on the development front as well.

Baig, who quit the Mehbooba Mufti-led PDP in 2020 after nearly 20 years, also said peace in the region was in the interest of both Pakistan and India.

"I don't think there is as much instability in Jammu and Kashmir as is being projected. In the past two to three years, stability has improved significantly... The situation has been such that there has been a reduction in bloodshed," Baig told reporters here.

On Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, he claimed that towns and cities are neglected because elections have taken place only at the village level where 70 per cent of the population lives.

Good work has been done at the village level, but in cities and towns, development works have not taken place, Baig said, adding that this can happen when Assembly elections are held and an elected Government is in place and prepares a budget.



Former DyCM Muzaffar Hussain Baig along with his wife Chairperson, DDC Baramulla Safina Beigh during book release function "Kathe Manz Kath" at Tagore Hall in Srinagar.

polls yet and also ruled out joining a political party in the near future.

In 2019, the Centre had abrogated the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir's special status and divided it into Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, with Lieutenant Governor as their administrators. Elections to the Assembly in Jammu and Kashmir are pending.

"However, I feel it will take some time before elections are held as a lot of planning is to be done. They would want the assembly to have the same powers as the DDCs (District Development Councils) and for that there are laws to be passed which will take time," Baig said.

He said he has not thought about contesting the assembly

Asked if India should talk to Pakistan for resolution of outstanding issues, Baig said peace in the region was in the interests of both the countries.

"Pakistan is in such a bad state, it is matter of sadness for entire world. For the first time since ZA Bhutto, Pakistan had a Prime Minister who did not have a single allegation of corruption against him. They bring such an honest man down and fire bullets at him," Baig said referring the former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan.

"So, Pakistan is in such a state today that we should have sympathy for its people and we should pray for them that there is peace in that country," he said.

Demand of VOJ by JU official

Anticorruption Court rejects closure report of VOJ, directs further investigation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Special Judge Anticorruption Jammu Tahir Khurshid Raina today rejected the closure report of Vigilance Organization Jammu (now ACB) in FIR No. 04/2007 and directed SSP ACB Jammu to go for further investigation into the case and submit the report within two months.

On 12-05-2008, the Vigilance Organization, Jammu (VOJ) presented a closure report in terms of Section 173(3) CrPC in case FIR No. 04/2007 titled State Vs Dr Falendra K Sudan (Reader, Department of Economics, University of Jammu. As per the report prepared by SSP Voj, Jammu, the case was not proved against the accused.

The court, while concurring with the findings of the Voj, accepted the closure report and ordered the case to be closed as not proved on 17-05-2008. Feeling aggrieved of this order, the complainant in the case challenged the same before the High Court, which vide its order dated 15-02-2022 set aside the order and directed the Special Judge Anti-corruption Court to accord consideration to the closure report filed by the Vigilance Organization in FIR No. 04 of 2007 afresh after affording an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner.

In pursuant to the direction of the High Court, the complainant was put on notice to appear before this court in the case at hand. Finally, she appeared before the court on 03-07-2022 and revealed at length all those facts whereby an amount of Rs 20,000 was demanded from her by her supervisor, the accused, for meeting the expenses of the visit of the external expert for conducting her viva and also to present gift to him.

She brought this matter in the notice of the Vigilance Organization, Jammu, which gave her a diary containing audio recorder for recording whole

deal wherein the accused agreed to take first installment of Rs 5000. She did the same and got the whole conversation recorded between him and her regarding the mode of payment. Later, she handed over CD of the recorded voice to the VO. However, the accused, along with his friend Prof Jasbir Singh managed the closure of case by the VOJ.

Special Judge Anticorruption Jammu Tahir Khurshid Raina observed, "a very crucial piece of evidence, which is the part of the charge sheet is CD, based on the alleged recorded voice of the accused", adding "it contains pre-trap conversation between her and the accused, wherein he is demanding the money. Fact remains that when this recording was made by the very instrument provided by the Voj itself to the complainant, then why the IO ignored the same and did not get its veracity tested by the FSL".

"It was an important piece of evidence which stands ignored by the IO in formulating his opinion in the case. What a shallow understanding of the con-

cept of demand and acceptance shown by the IO of the case in the closure report on the basis of which he closed the case as not proved against the accused", the court further observed.

"It is very surprising that on one hand the IO has concluded the case as not proved against the accused and on the other hand has stated that it stands established in the investigation that such a practice is going on in the University whereby students are being told to arrange money as per their capacity for looking after the outsider examiner", the court said, adding "if any illegal practice was going on in the Jammu University over the years as observed in the closure report itself, then how come the accused was allowed to go scot-free who has prima-facie made a demand of payment of Rs 20,000".

With these observations, court rejected the closure report and returned to the SSP, Vigilance Organization, Jammu, (now ACB - Jammu) with a direction to go for further investigation into the case and submit the report within two months.

18 I/C AEEs Electric transferred in JPDCCL

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Managing Director, JPDCCL Jammu, Shiv Anant Tayal has issued orders of transfer and posting of 18 I/C Assistant Executive Engineers (AEEs).

I/C AEEs Mohd Irshad, Manoj Kumar Manhas and Surya Jamalwal after elevation have been posted to Project Wing of JPDCCL Jammu, Raj Pal Singh to Electric Central Workshop, Ajay Khajuria as Technical Officer in Electric Division JPDCCL Kistwar, Sanjeev Kumar Verma to Sub Division -I JPDCCL Kathua via Bharat Bhushan; Sushir Kumar Gupta to Electric Central Workshop Div JPDCCL Jammu, K N Singh to Electric

Division JPDCCL Poonch as TO, Narinder Kumar to Electric Div JPDCCL Rajouri as TO, Anil Kumar Heera to Sub Div -I JPDCCL Rajouri vice Mohd Jamshaid, Raj Kumar Gupta to Sub Div Plant JPDCCL Udhampur, Ashok Kumar to Sub Transmission Div Kalakote as TO, Suresh Khajuria to Electric Div Batote as TO, Mohd Amin to Sub Div Plant JPDCCL Poonch, Naval Kishore from Electric Div Kathua to IT&C Division JPDCCL Jammu, Bharat Bhushan from Sub Div -I JPDCCL Kathua to JPDCCL Kathua as TO, Vinay Kumar from IT&C Div JPDCCL Jammu while Mohd Jamshaid from Sub Div -I JPDCCL Rajouri to Sub Division Plant, JPDCCL Rajouri.

IndianOil logo and advertisement for IndianOil products.

Max Hospital, Saket advertisement listing various medical services and specialists.