

## HC quashes 6 PSAs, directs release of detainees

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 24: High Court today quashed six detention orders passed under Public Safety Act and directed the release of all the detainees.

Court quashed PSA of Javid Ismail Bara of Chokibal Kupwara, Waheed Majeed Wagay of Kulgam, Mugais Ahmad Gargroo of Kadi Kadal Srinagar, Musab Altaf Mir of Baramulla, Yasir Ahmad Bhat of Srinagar and Mohammad Abdullah Dar of Kupwara.

All the six detainees were detained under the orders of the District Magistrates on 17.10.2021, 18.10.2021, 15.12.2021, 21.10.2021, 24.02.2022 and 2.12.2021 on the ground that their activities are prejudicial to the security of the state.

Court said while passing an order of detention it has to formulate the grounds of detention and satisfy itself that the grounds of detention so formulated warrant passing of the order of preventive detention.

"However, in the instant case (of Bara), it is evident from the impugned order of detention that the grounds of detention have not been prepared by the detaining authority but by the sponsoring agency which is against the mandate of law, thus, the impugned order of detention against the detainee.

"There is nothing to indicate the compelling reasons for the detaining authority to pass the impugned detention order against the detainee and that too, after unexplained delay. Be that as it

may, the detainee is already behind the bars for about 9 months and nothing adverse has been reported against him", reads the judgment.

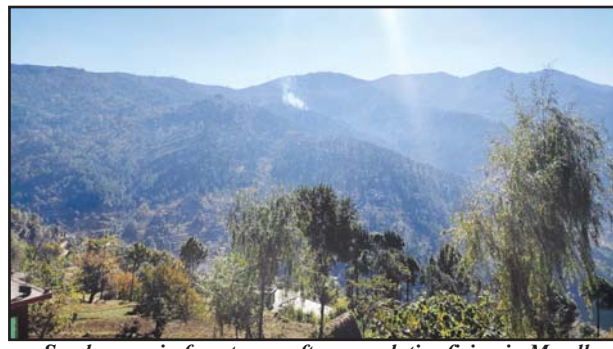
In case of detainee-Gargroo, court added that the Detaining Authority has mentioned in the grounds of detention that the petitioner-detainee is a constant threat to the maintenance of security of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Thus, it is clear that the Detaining Authority is unsure as to whether the activities of the detainee are prejudicial to the security of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir or the same are prejudicial to the maintenance of public order. The Detaining Authority while passing an order of detention has to be satisfied and sure about the exact nature of the activities of the detainee", reads the judgment.

Court said in which manner the grounds of detention and the impugned order of detention have been framed clearly reflects a state of uncertainty on the part of the Detaining Authority while recording its satisfaction. This renders the impugned order of detention unsustainable in law.

In detainee-Mir's case court said the failure of the respondents to consider the representation submitted by the detenu indisputably amounts to violation of the provisions of Article 22(5) of the Constitution.

"For these reasons, the petitions are allowed. The impugned orders of detention are quashed. A direction is issued to the respondents to release the detainees from the preventive custody forthwith, provided they are not required in connection with any other case", Court concluded.



Smoke seen in forest area after speculative firing in Mendhar forests on Thursday.

## Searches, firing in Mendhar

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Army today carried out a cordon-and-search operation in the border belt of Poonch district.

Based on information about the movement of suspected militants, the Army cordoned off

Bhata forest in the Mendhar border belt and carried out a search operation, the officials said.

The security forces also resorted to 'speculative firing' to clear the area, they added.

The search operation was going on at the time of filing this report.



AJKPC president, flanked by others addressing press conference in Jammu on Thursday.

## AJKPC slams Admn for indifferent attitude against Malis-Chowkidars

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC), the PRIs body, spearheading the cause of

them have now surpassed the eligible age for absorption in regular recruitment in government jobs therefore, it is imperative that these innocent workers be given at least the status of daily wage workers and give appointment orders.

He alleged that despite repeated prayers to the officers, no arrangements have been made by the government to enable biometric attendance of these Chowkidars and Maalis.

**\* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**

Sharma also appraised that at many places the agitated Maalis-Chowkidars during last 5-6 days have also locked some Panchayat Bhawans as a symbolic protest and these protests remained totally peaceful and within the framework of democratic norms.

The AJKPC president supporting the cause of these workers announced that all Panches and Sarpanches and entire AJKPC stands with the Maalis and Chowkidars and their families and would not hesitate to initiate indefinite agitation if no concrete decision is taken at an earliest.

Other senior functionaries of the AJKPC also addressed the media affirmed their full support and to the agitating temporary workers and their families who are forced to live in sub-humane conditions.

Later, the delegation of Maalis and Chowkidar led by Anil Sharma also met the Chairman and members of the Grievance Committee of BJP and presented memorandum of their demands.



Dr Dir Funds Kashmir Naila Zahoor interacting with officers and employees during visit to Baramulla.

## JD funds tours Kashmir, reviews functioning of Dept

Excelsior Correspondent

BARAMULLA, Nov 24: Joint Director Funds Kashmir, Naila Zahoor on Thursday conducted an extensive tour to the districts of North Kashmir to take the stock of functioning of district fund offices.

Naila Zahoor Chib visited Bandipora and Baramulla districts where she interacted with the officers to review the functioning of department.

During the visit, she took stock of the functioning of the District Fund offices in both districts. While interacting with employees of Fund organisation she stressed on timely dispersal of schedules and other documents, so that pensioners and other employees do not suffer.

She assured the working staff to address their genuine demands and will hold grievance camp.

## Court sets aside conviction in alleged molestation case

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge, Doda Amarjeet Singh Langa has set aside the judgment of court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Thathri dated 07.06.2014 in case titled "State Vs Rakesh Kumar" in which accused/appellant was convicted for offence under Section 354 of RPC and sentenced to undergo simple imprisonment for one month and a fine of Rs. 1000.

Allegations against appellant were that on 05.03.2009, when prosecutrix had gone to attend natural call in the morning, accused chased her, caught hold of her and outraged her modesty, injured her by throwing stone at her and threatened her of sexual assault in future and of dire consequence.

"Another interesting feature of the case is that trial court

considered evidence adduced to be insufficient to rope in appellant for offences under section 323 & 506 of RPC. What distinguishing feature the evidence led, had to be relied upon to sustain conviction of appellant for offences under Section 354 of RPC-could not be delineated by trial court in judgment impugned" adding, "this aspect also does not bode well for prosecution".

Court further held that "A fortiori therefore, the evidence led by prosecution, in particular the testimony of prosecutrix itself does cast a cloud of suspicion on the credibility of entire warp and woof of prosecution story. The court below therefore has not appreciated the evidence in correct perspective and finding recorded by it thus is erroneous and perverse".

With these observations, the court accepted the appeal and acquitted the accused.

## DDC Chairperson inaugurates KGBV building at Magarkote

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Nov 24: Chairperson, District Development Council, Ramban, Dr Shamshad Shan today inaugurated the newly constructed building of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) Magarkote in block Ukhral today.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chairperson said that the school building has been constructed by the Division- III, Samagra Shiksha with an expenditure of Rs. 1.24 crore to provide residential schooling to girl students belonging to far-flung areas of Ukhral, Khari & Ramsoo who have to travel long distance in hilly terrains on daily basis to reach schools. This will definitely reduce the dropout rate among girl students, she added.

The Chairperson was accompanied by the DDC Councillor, Gulshan Parveen, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Giasul Haq, Chief Education Officer, Devanand, and other officers of line departments.

Dr Shamshad Shan also conducted a public outreach programme at Buzla in Block Khari which witnessed an overwhelming participation of locals including PRIs who appraised the DDC Chairperson and District Administration about various issues and grievances and sought their intervention for early redressal.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Shan assured the PRIs that all their genuine issues would be taken into consideration in a time-bound manner adding that regular feedback would be taken from concerned depart-

ments regarding the redressal of all the issues pertaining to their departments. Besides, the demands which could not be redressed at the district level would be taken-up with the higher authorities for redressal, she added.

All the issues of Buzla and other far-flung areas have already been highlighted with the UT government and the road project for Buzla would be sanctioned by the Government on a priority basis. She also directed the food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs to stock advance rations for the winter season besides ensuring the supply of LPG and Kerosene Oil in snow-bound areas of the district.

She also asked the Health Department to depute paramedical workers on an urgent basis to provide healthcare facilities to people.

Responding to the issues highlighted by the locals, the Chairperson directed the Jal Shakti Department to execute all water supply schemes sanctioned under the Jal Jeevan Mission in the prescribed time to meet the requirement of the potable water supply of the area.

The PRIs and locals appraised the Chairperson about various issues like water scarcity in the area, forest clearance, better health and education facilities, upgradation of schools, sanction of road projects and other issues relating to Agriculture, Horticulture and other allied departments.

Earlier, the Chairperson also visited the Power Receiving Station at Maitra and reviewed the status of the power supply in the district.



Chairperson Waqf Board Dr Darakhshan Andrabi during a meeting with DC Kupwara, D S Dattatray on Thursday.

## Project Zimmedari transforming schools into learning centers : Dr Darakhshan

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: The Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi today visited Kupwara and met the Deputy Commissioner, Doifode Sagar Dattatray and discussed the details of the novel project 'Zimmedari' with him. She also met the team of Parimal Foundation who is executing the 'Zimmedari' Project in Kupwara district. Dr Andrabi hailed the efforts of the Deputy Commissioner for beginning this novel project in Kupwara district. 'Zimmedari' is a project of filling the infrastructural gaps in schools and also regarding uplifting the academic environment in the rural schools. This project has been launched in Kupwara district in collaboration with the famed Parimal Foundation. Accompanied by the team of Parimal Foundation, Kupwara District Education Department teams, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi and the Deputy Commissioner, D S Dattatray visited many schools in the district to inspect the initiatives taken under the project

to transform the school environment. Magistrate of Waqf Board, Ishiyqa Mohiuddin also accompanied the team.

Dr Andrabi visited Boys Higher Secondary School Kupwara, Girls High School Drugmulla and Boys Higher Secondary School Sogam and took stock of the Project assessment, vision of transformation and upliftment of schools. She talked to teachers, educational experts, students, parents and district administration representatives. "Project Zimmedari is transforming schools into impressive learning centers with uplift in infrastructure, creation of inspiring environ and schooling results.

The vision of Deputy Commissioner, Dattatray is praiseworthy. The project has the plan and potential to upgrade our curricular and extra-curricular activities in our schools," said Dr Darakhshan. She hailed the concept of innovation and digitization modules for skill orientation for our youth. Dr Andrabi said that Kupwara will serve as a centre of inspiration for other districts to follow.

## KU VC releases G.A. Qureshi's book 'Poverty concerns in J&K'

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 24: Vice-Chancellor University of Kashmir Prof Nilofer Khan on Thursday released a book authored by Ghulam Ahmad Qureshi, former Director General, Economics and Statistics, J&K Government.

The book titled 'Poverty Concerns in Jammu and Kashmir' was released at a function organised by the University's Department of Economics.

Prof Imtiyaz-ul-Haq, Head, Department of Economics, welcomed the author and guests, while Prof Nisar Ali, noted economist and former Head, Department of Economics KU, introduced various aspects of the book to the audience.

Prof Nazir A Nazir, Dean School of Business Studies, KU, was the guest of honour.

G. A. Qureshi, in his introductory remarks, presented a brief summary about the book and stated that poverty removal



KU VC and others releasing G.A. Qureshi's book on Thursday.

has been a major objective of development and key element of our inclusive growth strategy since the beginning of first five-year plan (1951) and there has been visible progress in this regard.

"A more inclusive growth strategy needs to be pursued that combines growth with fair and equitable distribution of income," he said.

The proceedings of the event were conducted by Mariam, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics.



Employees of Private Nursing Colleges addressing a press conference at Jammu on Thursday.

## BOPEE admission procedures wrong: Pvt Nursing Colleges

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: Representatives of employees working in Private Paramedical and Nursing Colleges of J&K have flayed the Board of Professional Entrance Examination (BOPEE) for its wrong admission procedures.

In a press conference here today these employees claimed that BOPEE invites applications for Paramedical/Nursing Diploma and Degree Courses in the month of March every year for the last three years and delays the finalizing of selection process till June and start counseling either in the month of November or December resulting which the student are compelled either to waste their one full year or to opt such professional courses out of the State which results in huge loss to J&K revenue.

"This procedure adopted by BOPEE not only affects the students alone but at least 150 colleges of J&K are also the worst sufferers," they claimed adding that though registered, these institutions have not been able to get any enrolment in their Colleges during the last two academic sessions.

"All private colleges are on the verge of closure because of huge investments into the professional infrastructure while BOPEE has not been in a position to even full the total seats allotted at the time of granting registration to such institutions," these employees further said.

They demanded liberty to fill the vacant seats after completion of counseling by BOPEE as has been given to such private institutions in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal.

## GCQE conducts awareness prog on women empowerment

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: NSS unit of Government College of Education (GCQE) Jammu today organized an awareness programme on women empowerment in collaboration with District Hub for

## Delegation meets Principal Secretary PDD

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 24: A delegation of retired Un-Regularized Electrical Engineers Forum (RUEEF) of Power Development Department (PDD) met Principal Secretary PDD, H. Rajesh Parsad.

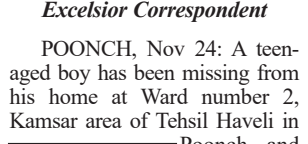
The delegation appraised the Principal Secretary of the burning issue of regularization of left over PDD Engineers who besides having retired as CEs, SEs, XEs etc have been getting the pension in the scale of Assistant Engineer only, a case of its own kind in the entire country.

The Principal Secretary gave a patient hearing and assured the retired senior engineers to mitigate their grievances on priority in fast track manner in line with the promises made by the Government in its SAC decision No. 258/22/2019 dated 22.10.2019 followed by MOM of the Establishment Committee held in the Chief Secretary J&K Chambers on 10 January 2020. The delegation was led by R.C. Sharma, president RUEEF and it included Sanjeev Kailoo, Ashok Sharma, B.S Jaggi, Sher Singh, Jameel Ahmed and others.

## Youth missing, police issues look out notice

Excelsior Correspondent

POONCH, Nov 24: A teen-aged boy has been missing from his home at Ward number 2, Kamsar area of Tehsil Haveli in



Poonch and Police has now issued a look out notice to trace him.

As per the notice and intimidated by the Mohd Tariq, father of youth, his son-Mohd Sahil (19) had gone missing from his home and could not be traced even after search.

A senior Police Officer said that a missing report vide DDR Number 22 dated 22-11-2022 has already been entered and enquiry/search has been started.

Meanwhile Police has issued lookout notice so that general public can also keep sharp look to trace this boy.