



MP Gulam Ali Khatana calling on LG Manoj Sinha in Srinagar.

Union MoS, MP call on LG

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Dr. Ramdas Athawale, Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment today met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here at Raj Bhawan.

The Union MoS and the Lt Governor discussed a range of issues related to backward classes, senior citizens, drug-abuse and other special schemes aimed at social and economic empowerment of people.

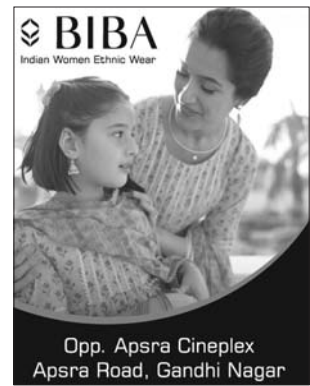
The Union MoS also shared his views on the present developmental scenario in the UT of J&K.

Similarly, Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, Member Parliament, Rajya Sabha also called on the Lt Governor and discussed various issues pertaining to public welfare.

The Lt Governor, while interacting with the newly elected Member of Parliament observed that the UT

Government is steadfastly working on all fronts to make every section of the society an equal stakeholder in the development process of J&K.

We are reaching out to the last person in the queue with all benefits of the government schemes and the rapid socio-economic growth taking place in the UT for ensuring inclusive



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and equitable development for all, added the Lt Governor.

SI paper leak scam

Court denies bail to cop

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 6: In the much publicized Sub Inspector paper leak scam, Chief Judicial Magistrate Amarjeet Singh Langhe today rejected the bail application of Selection Grade Constable Raman Sharma, son of Chuni Lal, a resident of village Nore in Maira Mandrian area of Khour.

After hearing Advocate Diksha Thapa for the applicant whereas Public Prosecutor Vijay Dogra appearing for the CBI, the court observed, "investigation has brought to fore that petitioner is one of the key players in alleged leakage of examination paper for the posts of Sub-Inspectors in Jammu and Kashmir Police conducted by JK Service Selection Board".

"Petitioner solicited candidates for the purchase of the leaked paper and also took them to Karnal in Haryana on 26.03.2022 for getting the leaked paper and had collected an amount of around Rs 33 lakh from them. Moreover, he arranged stay of co-accused Yatin Yadav and Anil in Lemon Tree Hotel, Jammu on 13th/14th-04-2022 by use of his own identity card", the court observed, adding "the petitioner was in regular touch with Haryana based members of the gang involved in leakage of paper".

"During the search of the residential premises of petitioner, hand-written documents mentioning names/parentage and addresses of candidates pertaining to various examinations including Sub-Inspector exams were allegedly seized. He has destroyed his mobile phone in an attempt to frustrate the investiga-

tion, petitioner is a habitual offender as he is also part of criminal conspiracy in the leakage of question papers of the other exams conducted by JK Service Selection Board for the posts of Finance Accounts Assistant and Jr. Engineer Civil etc. etc", the court said.

"The investigating agency is in the process of gathering more evidence and thus is intensely focusing on further investigation of the case, given the range of inter-state manifestations - it has. Investigation also reveals that petitioner was earlier posted in the office of Director General of Police J&K", the CJM said, adding "petitioner along with his cohorts, not only managed to acquire the leaked paper but also allegedly succeeded in distributing it to candidates against price and also succeeded in collecting an amount of Rs 33 lakh in the process".

"Investigation carried on till date only indicates that how scrupulously this organized crime is being perpetuated much to the dismay, annoyance and chagrin of public at large in general and against interest of meritorious and deserving educated youth in particular", the CJM said, adding "an individual against whom there is prima facie evidence qua his involvement in the crime that seeks to induct undeserving candidates into public offices through corrupt practice by being part of gang that resorts to leakage of examination paper - is not a soft stuff to be granted concession of bail more particularly when the investigation is at initial stage".

With these observations, the court rejected the bail application.



PHE workers staging protest outside Chief Engg's office at BC Road in Jammu on Thursday.

PHE workers' protest dharna at CE's office enters 106th day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 6: The PHE workers and daily wagers' held a strong protest demonstration outside the office of Chief Engineer PHE/ Jal Shakti Department at BC Road Complex here today.

They are demanding release of their pending wages of about 70 months and also regularisation of their services. Their strike and protest dharna continued on the 106th consecutive day today outside the office of Chief Engineer, PHE Jammu and other Divisional and Sub-Divisional Headquarters across Jammu province.

Jal Shakti workers are on strike since June 22, 2022 and demanding release of their pending wages and regularization of their services. Despite several rounds of talks with higher authorities in the department, their issues could not be resolved. A large number of PHE workers from various Divisions and Sub-Divisions in Jammu assembled outside the office of Chief

Engineer PHE Jammu, at BC Road, under the banner of PHE United Front and held strong protest demonstration. They were shouting slogans in support of their demands and also against LG's Administration, BJP and other higher authorities in the J&K UT.

The employees representatives including, Ravi Hans, Navdeep Singh, Hoshiar Singh, Rajinder Singh and others said that in the past they had called off their strike merely on assurances but nothing happened till date. These helpless workers are demanding regularization, enhancement of Minimum Wages as per Central norms in J&K UT and release of pending wages of 70 months of PHE workers.

Similar protest dharnas are being held at Rajouri, Poonch, Akhnoor, Kathua, Samba, Udhampur, Doda, Reasi and other Sub Divisions. This has badly affected the water supply at many places across the Jammu province.

Rs 10000 cr worth investment projects under execution in J&K: CS

*J&K first to achieve feat of establishing Amrit Sarovars

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Oct 6: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today took detailed review of the Industries & Commerce Department besides taking stock of the investments being made in the UT of J&K.



Chief Secretary chairing a meeting.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce; Directors of Industries, Jammu/Kashmir; Directors of Handloom & Handicrafts, Jammu/Kashmir; MD SIDCO & SICOP, MD JKPTO and many other concerned officers.

While taking stock of the investment proposals made through single window clearance system, the Chief Secretary was apprised that out of the investment proposals totalling more than Rs 60000 cr, industrial units worth around Rs 10000 crore are already under different phases of execution here in the UT.

Elaborating it was given out that after allotment of land in favour of these unit holders they had in turn deposited a sum of Rs 217 cr into the Government exchequer as their lease dues.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers to strictly adhere to the single window system and timelines to ensure that industrial units get established smoothly and creates employment opportunities for our youth besides strengthening the economy.

He emphasized that the remaining reform points out of 352 recommended by BARP for industrial development should be implemented within this month.

Dr Mehta further said that the administration would incentivize the good work put up by the Deputy Commissioners in attracting new investments in their districts. He further stated that all DCs would be evaluated on few parameters of creating

also stated that Rural Haats should be established at Panchayat level with upscaling at block and District level.

Regarding new estates it was said that 37 DPRs had been prepared by SIDCO and SICOP worth more than Rs 2200 crore besides receiving applications for 2 private estates also. The meeting also discussed the dozens of proposals received by the department for establishing health care projects in the two medi-cities of J&K.

The meeting also deliberated upon the progress made on investments made by foreign companies in the UT. It had detailed discussion on various proposals made by these companies after signing of MoU with the UT administration. These includes Dubai based businesses like EMAAR Group, Noon.com, AI Maya Group, GL Employment, MATU Investments and others.

Meanwhile, in a review meeting of Rural Development Department held by the Chief Secretary, it was informed that J&K has achieved the milestone of being first to establish at least 75 Amrit Sarovars in each of its districts as per the aspirations of the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

It was further revealed that as per the guidelines of the mission, the UT had to complete 300 Amrit Sarovars before 15th August, 2022 and 1500 Amrit Sarovars by 15th August, 2023. However, the UT completed 1490 Amrit Sarovars on 15th of August, 2022 and hoisted National Flags over them on the

Two criminals detained under PSA

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Oct 6: Two criminals were detained under the Public Safety Act here today.

Vikas Slathia alias Vicky, son of Ravinder Singh of Gurha Morh Tehsil Vijaypur, District Samba and Akshay Sharma, son of Banarsi Dass of Gudwal Tehsil Ramgarh District Samba are habitual criminals and their activities pose a great threat to public peace and tranquillity, the police said in a statement here.

They were involved in a number of criminal activities for which many cases were registered against them at different police stations in Samba over the past decade, they said.

"Keeping in view their repeated involvement in criminal activities, dossiers were prepared by Senior Superintendent of Police (Samba) and forward-

ed to District Magistrate who formally issued the order of their detention under the PSA", they added.

The detention warrants were executed by special teams of Ramgarh and Vijaypur Police Stations. Slathia is lodged in the District Jail Kathua and Sharma in the District Jail Jammu, they said.

Power shut down

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 6: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDC, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Gharota, Ranjan, Navodya, Amb, Vidyalaya, Yatri Niwas, Bhawani Nagar, Gole Gujral, Talab Tillo, Trilokpur, Panjpeer, NITCO Lane, Floura, M/C Domana, Machallian, Gho Manhasa, Marh, Gajansoo, MES Akhnoor, Jourian, Troti, Muthi, Mara, Bakora, Rakh Muthi, PHE, BSF, Border Migrant, Sohal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 07 from 7 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Greater Kailash, Jallo Chak, Ratnu Chak and adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 7 from 8 am to 12 noon. Likewise, the power supply to Samba Town, Keli Mandi, Budhwani, Mandian, Hospital, Gagwal, Sherpur, Nichala, Rajpura and adjoining areas shall remain affected on October 7 from 7 am to 10 am.

Meanwhile, Superintendent Engineer, (Distribution) JPDC O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Nanke Chak, Supwal, Barian etc shall remain affected on October 07 and 11 from 7 am to 1 pm.

Modernization of J&K Police

Empowered Committee constituted

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Oct 6: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has ordered constitution of Union Territory level Empowered Committee with Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Home Department as its chairman.

Administrative Secretary, Finance Department, Director General (DG) of J&K Police, Special DG of Police, Crime Branch J&K, Additional DG of Police, Headquarters (PHQ) and Administrative Secretary, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department were made members of the Committee.

In an order in this regard, Secretary to J&K Government, Dr. Piyush Singla stated that the Empowered Committee is being constituted for deliberating upon Modernization Plan of J&K Police under the scheme Assistance to States/UTs and approving it for submission to the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

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