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Justice Magrey's warrants of appointment likely to be issued today

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, Oct 10: The Union Law Ministry is likely to issue formal notification tomorrow for appointment of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey as Chief Justice of the Common High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.
 The Union Law Ministry will (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

Mulayam Singh dies at 82

PTV/Excelsior Correspondent
 GURUGRAM, Oct 10: Samajwadi Party supremo and three-time Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav, who was born in a farming family and went on to spawn the State's most prominent political clan, died today after prolonged illness. He was 82.
 (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Bhatnagar appointed Chairman/VC of 8 bodies

Excelsior Correspondent
 JAMMU, Oct 10: The Government today nominated Lieutenant Governor's Advisor Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar as Chairperson/Vice Chairperson of eight Boards, Councils and Corporations.
 He will serve as Chairman of five Boards/Councils/Corporations (Contd on page 4 Col 4)

Two Enggs promoted in Ladakh

Excelsior Correspondent
 LEH, Oct 10: The UT administration in Ladakh today ordered promotion of two Engineers.
 Tashi Chombel, Superintending Engineer, PMGSY was appointed as Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B)/PMGSY on officiating arrangement.
 Gh. Nabi Zargar Incharge Executive Engineer, PW(R&B), (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Two monkeypox cases under scanner

Excelsior Correspondent
 SRINAGAR, Oct 10: Two suspected cases of monkeypox are under the scanner in Uri area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district.
 The officials told Excelsior that the suspected patients belong to the Dazna Lachipora area of Uri and stand isolated as of now.
 (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

Govt to increase connectivity in J&K: LG Scindia announces civil enclave for Jammu, terminal expansion for Srinagar

Fayaz Bukhari
 SRINAGAR, Oct 10: Minister of Civil Aviation Jyotiraditya Scindia today said that a civil enclave will be built in Jammu and Srinagar's current terminal and will be expanded three times to 60,000 square meters.



Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia and LG Manoj Sinha at the Heli-India Summit in Srinagar on Monday.

Addressing the inaugural function of the fourth Heli-India Summit 2022 in Srinagar, the Minister said that the decrease in VAT on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) from 26.5% to 1% by the J&K Government has set a new dawn for air connectivity in the Union Territory with 360% increase in refuelling, thus increasing air connectivity to the region.

"The other roles of helicopter service have been the emergency medical services and disaster management during floods, and rescue operations. J&K has set an example of the best use of helicopter service when it erected transmission lines and towers using helicopters (sky cranes) on the Peer Panjal mountain range," the Minister said.

Scindia said that his Ministry not only organizes summits but also monitors the progress of 'Sankalps' taken from one summit to another.

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

"During the 3rd Heli-India Summit at Dehradun, eight Sankalps were taken. They were providing Heli-Sewa Portal, Heli-Disha, Helicopter Accelerator Cell, doing away with the landing and parking (Contd on page 4 Col 5)

Two IPS officers also deputed IAS officer proceeds on Central deputation; another applies; 4 to join J&K, Ladakh

Sanjeev Pargal
 JAMMU, Oct 10: With an IAS officer of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre, presently AGMUT, proceeding on Central deputation and another's deputation clearance in the offing, the Government of India has deputed two IPS officers to J&K and will be sending four more IAS officers to the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh shortly.

***Backlog of inductions will be cleared: Dr Jitendra**

Kashmir, has proceeded on the Central deputation.
 Simrandeep, who has also served as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji Shrine Board (SMVDSB), is 2008 batch IAS officer.
 Meanwhile, Sushma Chouhan, a 2009 batch IAS officer of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir cadre, now AGMUT has also applied for Central deputation but her clearance from the DoPT is awaited. Chouhan is wife of Simrandeep Singh and has served as DC of Jammu and Samba districts.
 On his posting on Central deputation, Simrandeep has been posted as Director Economic Affairs in the Union Ministry of Finance.
 The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has meanwhile posted two AGMUT cadre IPS officers Shree Ram R and Shivan Siddarth of 2019 and 2020 batch respectively to Jammu and Kashmir.
 They will join at the Police Headquarters for further posting by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Union Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Incharge Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Dr Jitendra Singh told the Excelsior that induction of nearly 24 officers of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Services (JKAS) into IAS will also be carried out shortly.
 "We have decided that there will be no backlog as far as induction of State/UT level officers into IAS and promotions of Central officers are concerned. We have recently pro-



A shop decked up for Karvachouth shopping by women in Jammu. —Excelsior/Rakesh

Veiled attack on Pandit Nehru I resolved Kashmir issue walking in footsteps of Patel: PM

ANAND, Oct 10:
 Sardar Patel resolved issues of merger of other princely States, but "one person" could not resolve the Kashmir issue, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said today, in a veiled attack on Pandit Nehru.
 Addressing a rally at Anand ahead of Gujarat Assembly elections due this year-end, Modi also said he was able to resolve the long-pending Kashmir issue as he is walking in the footsteps of Sardar Patel.
 "Sardar saheb persuaded all the princely States to merge with India. But another person handled



Prime Minister Narendra Modi 2,000 obsolete laws addressing the gathering at Gujarat on Monday.

this one issue of Kashmir," Modi said, without naming India's first Prime Minister.
 "As I am following the footsteps of Sardar saheb, I have values of the land of Sardar and that was the reason I resolved the problem of Kashmir and paid true tribute to Sardar Patel," Modi said.
 Modi said his Government scrapped around 2,000 obsolete laws (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

JKTDC to allow retail sale in some areas AC authorizes departmental stores to sell beer, RTD beverages with conditions

Excelsior Correspondent
 SRINAGAR, Oct 10: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here today under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved the proposal for authorizing departmental stores to sell beer and other Ready to Drink (RTD) beverages in urban areas.
 Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor and Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K attended the meeting.
 The Administrative Council approved incorporation of liberal provisions in Jammu and Kashmir Liquor License and Sale Rules, 1984 and Excise Policy, 2023-24

for grant of License JKEL-2A for retail sale of Beer and Ready to Drink (RTD) beverages in departmental stores in urban areas of UT.
 The departmental stores in a commercial complex, approved by the competent authority, fulfilling conditions like having total carpet area of minimum 1200 (One thousand two hundred) sq. feet, annual turnover of minimum Rs 5 crores in Jammu and Srinagar cities and Rs 2 crores for stores in other urban areas will be eligible under the scheme. Moreover, chain of departmental stores having annual turnover of more than Rs 10 crores will be eligible to apply for separate licenses for each of its store.
 The departmental store should have been in existence for at least 12 months prior to the date of application. However, this condition shall not be applicable in case of a new/recently opened departmental store belonging to a chain of departmental stores having annual turnover of more than Rs 10 crores.
 Further the departmental stores should be selling a minimum of six of the category of items including grocery items; frozen foods; confectionery/bakery items; toiletries; cosmetics; household goods; utensils/kitchenware; sports items; electrical/electronic appliances; apparels; and stationery. In addition, no application for the grant of License shall be considered for departmental stores functioning at petrol pumps as per the said decision.
 (Contd on page 4 Col 1)

Rs 890 cr expenditure made under CAMPA in last 12 yrs Against 15,155 hectares forest area diverted, afforestation done on 73,994 hectares in J&K

Mohinder Verma
 JAMMU, Oct 10: Against 15,155 hectares of forest area diverted in Jammu and Kashmir for non-forest purposes, compensatory afforestation has been done on 73,994 hectares from 2010-11 till ending March 2022 including treatment under Net Present Value (NPV). Moreover, a total expenditure of Rs 890.31 crore has been incurred in last 12 years under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA).
 The transfer of forest land for non-forest purposes is being regulated under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 since October 31, 2019.

***Installation of boundary pillars picked up substantially**
 Prior to that, it used to be regulated under J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997. The user agencies are required to pay cost of Compensatory Afforestation in lieu of the forest land diverted for non-forest purposes. Besides, the value of ecosystem goods and services of forests lost due to diverted lands, termed "Net Present Value" is charged from user agencies.
 As per the official data, the copy of which is available with EXCELSIOR, a total of 13903 hectares of forest land has been diverted for non-forest purposes

during the period from 1990 till October 30, 2019 under J&K Forest (Conservation) Act, 1997. Further, in-principle (stage-I) approval for diversion of a total of 1252 hectares has been granted ending August 2022 under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 after its coming into force in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with effect from December 31, 2019.
 The Forest Department was required to carry out compensatory afforestation over equivalent non-forest land or treat dou-

ble in extent the degraded forest areas as per the approval condition in each case. Against 30,310 hectares compensatory afforestation targets (double the area diverted), a total of 73,994 hectare area of degraded forests has been rehabilitated ending March 2022 with the planting of 49.10 lakh plants although only 21.39 lakh of trees/poles/saplings were involved in FCA cases.
 About expenditure under CAMPA, the data reveals that a total expenditure of Rs 890.31 crore has been incurred in last 12 years (from 2010-11 to end of March 2022) which includes Rs 722 crore by the Forest and allied departments and Rs 168.30 crore (Contd on page 4 Col 3)

2 LeT militants killed in Anantnag encounter

Excelsior Correspondent
 SRINAGAR, Oct 10: Two militants of Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) were killed in an overnight encounter in Anantnag district of South Kashmir.
 A police spokesman said that last evening, acting on specific information generated by police regarding the presence of militants in village Tangpawa area of Anantnag, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by
***Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**
 Police, 19 RR of Army and CRPF in the area.
 "During the search operation, as the joint search party approached towards the suspected spot, the hiding militants fired



Security personnel near the site of encounter at Tangpawa in Anantnag on Monday.
 indiscriminately upon the search party which was retaliated leading to an encounter," he said.
 Two militants of LeT were killed and their bodies were retrieved from the site of encounter. They have been identified as Aasif Ahmad Reshi son of Mohammad Yaseen Reshi resident of Sheikhpora Marhama Bijbehara and Wakeel Ahmad Bhat son of Abdul Ahad Bhat resident of Naibasti Marhama.
 As per police records, both the killed militants were categorized as (Contd on page 4 Col 4)

Patient care hit adversely as GMC Kathua sans MRI machine

Goldi Sharma
 JAMMU, Oct 10: The lack of Magnetic Resonance Image (MRI) machine in the Government Medical College-Kathua is not only hitting the patient care adversely, while the gullible patients of rural as well as far flung areas are being forced to get MRI scans from the private players, that too by paying hefty amounts.
 The College administration repeatedly urged the higher-ups for establishing the facility in the College but ironically, the Government is yet to take the final decision in this regard, consequently the patients are being forced either to go to the Govt Medical College Jammu for this scan or get it the same from the private centre.

Sources further said that three years back, the College and Hospital which caters not only far flung areas of the district but also cater the border districts of Punjab. The absence of this facility in the premier hospital is forcing the gullible patients to travel nearly 100 kilometres from Kathua to Jammu to get scan at subsidized rate for their advance treatment that too after the long date from the GMC Jammu's Radiology department which is already overburdened.
 As per the senior faculty of the GMC Kathua said, "Everyday at least 10 patients were recommended for MRI scan to study the pattern of ailments detected in a patient, followed by either surgery or other treatment can be recommended to the patients." If the same facil-

ity is available in the Kathua hospital, the patient can take timely treatment otherwise it would have been delayed till the patient did not get the MRI scan.
 "Sometime, the patient gets a long date of four to five months from the GMC Jammu which sometimes deteriorates the patient's health adversely," said Professor. Although, the Hospital administration time and again asked the higher-ups for providing sufficient manpower and advanced machinery like MRI machines, but nobody seems bothered about it, he added.
 It can be gauged from this fact that the Radiology department having sanction strength is one Professor, two each Associate and Assistant Professors along with (Contd on page 4 Col 1)



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