



DC Rajouri Vikas Kundal chairing a meeting on Monday.

DC Rajouri reviews performance of Revenue Deptt

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Sept 26: Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kundal today reviewed the performance of the Revenue Department, including digitization of land records.

Officers present in the meeting were ADC, Sachin Dev Singh; ADC Sunderbani, Vinod Kumar Behnal; ADC Nowshera, Kartar Singh; ACR, Imran Rashid Kataria; Tehsildars and concerned revenue officials.

Reviewing the progress on digitisation of Jamabandis, the Deputy Commissioner directed the officers to expedite the process and clear the pendency at the earliest.

Similarly, the DC also took a comprehensive review of the progress on digitisation of other revenue records.

Addressing the officers in the

meeting, the Deputy Commissioner said that digitization is imperative for streamlining the revenue records and making revenue records easily accessible to the public through online based platforms.

He said that the comprehensive digitisation would ensure better land record management that will enhance the district's overall land record maintenance.

The DC also underscored the priorities of the Government like online delivery of different revenue services and other public friendly initiatives launched by the Government to bring transparency and accountability in the department.

The Deputy Commissioner also exhorted upon the officers and the staff to work with added zeal and missionary approach to ensure complete digitisation of land records by October 31, 2022.

Cong flays Admin for withholding employees' salary

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 26 : The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC), spokesperson, Deepika Singh Rajawat (Adv) today lambasted Lt Governor's administration for plunging migrant employees including Kashmiri Pandits in distress by virtue of an order withholding their salaries.

She termed the action



JKPCC spokesperson Deepika Rajawat addressing a press conference in Jammu.

—Excelsior/Rakesh

unjust and harsh on the employees, who have been vulnerable to targeted killings in Kashmir and are protesting since last May.

She said that it is unfortunate that when hundreds of migrant employees including Kashmiri Pandits, who had been engaged under Prime Minister's employment package and different schemes are protesting for the assurance of their safety in wake of continuous targeted killings in Kashmir, the LG administration is being apathetic towards

them. Deepika voiced her support for the protesting migrant employees and demanded immediate redressal of their demands instead of victimizing them heartlessly. Pertinently there are thousands of employees including Kashmiri Pandits who are working in different departments in Kashmir under the said package.

She maintained that migrant employees have been protesting for about four months now and instead of giving any heed to their genuine demands, BJP through LG is blackmailing these employees by withholding their salaries.

"Both LG and BJP have mistaken their demands for favours. I want to remind them that the hapless migrant employees are seeking their genuine demands and today or tomorrow people will hold this heartless regime accountable for such inhuman indifference and vengeance in their own court," she said and added that under present dispensation, people of J&K are coerced to reel under anarchy, wherein none of the demands of the people are even paid an ear and are left at the mercy of God.

She suggested LG administration to be sensitive to the loss of human lives and stop treating them as an entity to gain political mileage.

Restore defunct Water Supply Schemes in Poonch: Dr Shazad

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 26: The Jammu and Kashmir Border Area Development Conference (JKBADC), a registered organization working for the welfare of residents of border areas of J&K have urged the Government to revive all the Water Supply Schemes in district Poonch that are lying defunct for years together.

The organization alleged that over 50 percent of the Water Supply Schemes in the border district are either totally defunct or partially operational causing huge inconvenience to the people whereas, millions of rupees had already been spent for raising infrastructure for these schemes.

Dr Shazad Ahmed Malik, Chairman of JK-BADC and former Vice Chancellor alleged that senior officer of the Jal Shakti Department/PHE do not make on spot inspections of the sites and

issue orders on papers whereas, junior officers do not give proper feedback to them and ultimately poor people suffer despite huge funding by the Government of India.

Dr Malik also urged the Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, Manoj Sinha to depute a joint team of technical officers of different departments in district Poonch and especially in three blocks under the Sub Division Mendhar including Balakote, Mankote and Mendhar to access the losses and recommend the measures to restore the non-functional and partially operational WSSs to their full capacity to provide a sigh of relief to the residents of the border area.

The former VC asked the Jal Shakti department to issue white paper on the so far expenditure and progress made under Jal Jeevan Mission in district Poonch which is a Central Government flagship water supply programme.

Vehicle lifter gang busted; two arrested with 7 stolen two-wheelers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 26: Miran Sahib Police busted vehicles lifting gang by arresting two thieves along with 7 stolen two-wheelers.

As per police sources, a complaint regarding theft of motorcycle from Simbal area was reported at Police Station Miran Sahib and accordingly a case FIR Number 115/2022 under section 379 IPC was registered at this police establishment.

To work on the case, a team from Police Station Miran Sahib headed by SHO Inspector Zaheer Mushtaq was constituted under the supervision of SDPO RS Pura Surinder Singh and SP Headquarters Ramnath Gupta.

gation, the team put in hectic efforts and finally busted a vehicles lifting gang by arresting two thieves.

The arrested persons were identified as Rohit Kumar, son of Ashwini Kumar of Chak Salam Tehsil RS Pura District Jammu and Munish Kumar alias Dau, son of Kuldeep Raj of Kirpind Tehsil RS Pura District Jammu.

They confessed their involvement in stealing of two wheelers from different areas of Jammu District. On their disclosures, 7 stolen two wheelers were recovered.

Further questioning of the arrested thieves is going on to ascertain their involvement in other cases.

DC Kathua reviews status of works under RDD sector

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Sept 26: Deputy Commissioner Kathua Rahul Pandey today chaired a meeting to review the implementation and progress achieved under the Rural Development sector schemes in the District.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Planning Officer, Assistant Commissioner Development, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, DPO, XEN REW, BDOs, and other concerned officers.

Reviewing the scheme wise works, the DC laid thrust on speeding up the process of allotment and early completion of already tendered works so as to achieve set targets within the set timelines.

The DC directed ACD to issue a schedule for conduct of monthly Gram Sabhas in each Panchayat besides ensuring participation of line departments to redress the grievances and facilitating the locals through effective public service delivery.

The DC also asked for regular review of works undertaken by BDOs so as to keep a check on

the pace of progress and necessary directions may be given to expedite the work completion.

A threadbare review was also held on flagship schemes including Amrit Sarovar, MGNREGA, B2V, SBM, Solid waste manage-



Dr Nirmal Singh and other BJP leaders listening public grievances at BJP Office, Trikuta Nagar on Monday.

ment, Soak Pit, ODF+ etc.

The DC also laid thrust on ensuring saturation of Aardhaar Seeding of the left out beneficiaries.

The DC further called for providing comparative data for the progress made in work execution and ensuring optimum utilisation of resources and accomplishment of works within set timelines.



KU VC Prof Nilofar Khan and other dignitaries during a Conference in Srinagar.

I&B Ministry organizes Media & Publishing Conference at KU

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 26: Publications Division, Union Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, in association with the Public Relations Centre, University of Kashmir (KU) organized a Media & Publishing Conference, here today.

The Conference held in the Gandhi Bhawan of the University with its Vice Chancellor Prof Nilofar Khan as the chief guest of the event which saw participation of eminent speakers including administrators, linguists, academicians and domain experts.

In her presidential address, Prof Nilofar Khan said that the Conference will benefit media professionals, students and the public at large. Calling for more such collaborations in future, Prof Nilofar assured that a dedicated space shall be identified in the University's Central Library for showcasing the journals/books which are brought out by the Publications Division from time to time.

Registrar KU Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir said the current media conference can become a starting point for developing a lasting linkage between the University and various units of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

In a session on the develop-

ment roadmap of the region, speakers dwelled upon the growth story in various sectors and domains. The ADG, PIB, Chandigarh Region Rajinder Chaudhry threw light upon the various Outreach Initiatives by the Ministry of I&B in J&K and Ladakh.

Yasin M Choudhary, MD, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited elucidated upon the perspectives of an Administrator. KU Media Advisor Dr Salima Jan discussed at length the Media Landscape for Youth: Opportunities & Challenges.

The concluding session of the conference was a panel discussion on Linguistics and Publishing Landscape with a focus on the heritage and richness of the languages in the region, notable literary work done, publishing landscape, challenges, and opportunities ahead. The discussion was moderated by DG, DPD Monideepa Mukerjee.

An Interesting talk on the Craft of Writing of English language and academic publications was given by Ajaz-ul-Haque, Producer, Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMRC), KU.

Also, a Book Exhibition of Publications Division, in association with CBC, J&K and Public Relations Centre KU, was held on the sidelines of the event.

HC refuses to quash PE against Revenue officer

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 26: High Court while refusing to quash the Preliminary Enquiry (PE) against revenue official, observed that the purpose of verification of the complaints and holding of PE is to ascertain the veracity of the allegations made in the complaint, otherwise a public servant would be susceptible to reckless prosecution and no public servant would be able to take decisions in a free and fair manner.

"It is for this reason that before registration of an FIR against a public servant, in matters relating to corruption, the case is examined and verified by adopting any of the modes provided in Clause 3.7 of the Vigilance Manual", Justice Sanjay Dhar said, adding "holding of a preliminary enquiry into the allegations made in the complaint is in the interest of the public servant, otherwise, if an FIR is registered straightaway without undertaking any verification, there is every chance that the public servant may be exposed to reckless prosecution".

"The petitioner, in the instant matter, without waiting for the result of the Preliminary Enquiry, has rushed to this court and filed the instant petition challenging the process adopted by the ACB, Jammu, which apparently is for safeguarding the interest of the petitioner. The petition is, therefore, premature in nature", Justice Dhar said.

In the petition filed by Shashi Pal Singh it has been

mentioned that he was appointed as Patwari on 08.08.2002 and promoted as Girdawar in April 2022. It is submitted that Mutation No. 1351 dated 18.11.1987 was attested by the revenue officer under Section 4 of Agrarian Reforms Act with respect to the land measuring 4 kanal in Khasra No. 1255 min at village Sarore tehsil Bishnah where after Mutation No. 1357 dated 16.11.1987 was attested by the concerned revenue officer under Section 8 of the Agrarian Reforms Act.

It is also averred that respondents filed an appeal before Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu against the orders of mutations which is still pending before him. It is further submitted that respondents have also filed a civil suit against Rajinder Singh and others seeking declaration that the sale deed dated 18.12.2009 executed by deceased Gian Singh as null and void and the parties have been directed to maintain status quo in terms of order passed in the suit.

On the basis of these assertions, it has been contended that the petitioner has done nothing wrong and, as such, it was not open to the ACB Jammu to call him for questioning in connection with verification of the complaint stated to have been filed by respondents. It has been further contended that because the litigation in respect of mutations in question is pending before the revenue court and civil court, as such, no verification could have been initiated against the petitioner.



Dr Nirmal Singh and other BJP leaders listening public grievances at BJP Office, Trikuta Nagar on Monday.

Dr Nirmal, Rajeev, Anuradha listen public grievances

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 26: Dr. Nirmal Singh, former Dy. Chief Minister, accompanied by Rajeev Sharma, former MLA and Anuradha Charak, BJP vice-president listened to the public grievances here at BJP Headquarter, Trikuta Nagar today.

Visiting people and deputations presented their issues in front of party leaders. Various issues represented contained matters of individual concerns as well as development-oriented related to their respective areas.

Visiting deputations and individuals shared their concerns related to electricity, water, revenue, ration, etc. with the senior party leaders and requested for

their redressal by taking them with concerned officers.

BJP leaders listened to all the individuals and the deputations and immediately took up the matters with the concerned departmental officials telephonically as well as issued letters for the others. Talking to the concerned authorities, they pressed for the prompt redressal of the issues.

Speaking to the delegations, Dr. Nirmal Singh reiterated the party's commitment in resolving public issues to the maximum of their satisfaction. He said that the public grievances camps initiated by the party have bridged the gap between the public and the administration and enabled them to find prompt solutions to their issues.

DGP sanctions special welfare relief, financial assistance

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 26: Continuing with its endeavour to provide financial assistance to the families of the Police personnel who have passed away while in service, the Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh has sanctioned over Rs 1.50 crore as special welfare relief for NoKs of deceased police personnel.

He has also sanctioned over Rs 14.50 lakh as financial assistance and medical relief in favour of 53 SPOs to meet their needs.

Special welfare relief of Rs 22 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of deceased ASI Rattan Dutt, ASI Ghulam Mohammad, ASI Kuldeep Singh, HC Mushtaq Ahmad SgCt Rajinder Kumar and Ct. Shaven Kumar. Rs 6 lakh as special welfare relief has also been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of lady

Constable Rachina Khajouria. The deceased personnel passed away due to illness/ natural death while in service.

Rupees one lakh each has already been paid to NoKs of these deceased police personnel for performing last rites through their concerned units. The Special Welfare Relief is sanctioned out of Contributory Police Welfare Funds.

Similarly, special welfare relief of Rs 6 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of NoKs of deceased SPOs Sanjay Kumar and SPO Lal Singh who have passed away during the course of their engagement in the department.

Besides, the DGP has also sanctioned financial assistance and medical relief of Rs 14.85 lakh in favour of 53 SPOs engaged with the Police department. The financial assistance/medical relief has been given out of the Contributory Welfare Fund of SPOs/ Police Pariwar Fund.

Apni Party stands for peace, prosperity of J&K: Bukhari

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 26: Several political activists from Mehjoor Nagar and Bagh-e-Mehtab areas of the city joined Apni Party on Monday.

Party president Syed Altaf Bukhari welcomed the new entrants into the party fold during the joining event organized at the party office, Sheikh Bagh in Srinagar. In charge of Chanapora Constituency Mohammad Ashraf Dar and Provincial convener for the party's youth wing Shoaib Dar were also present on the occa-

sion. The new entrants include Wasim Raja and Mohammad Altaf from Mehjoor Nagar and Riyaz Ahmad Wani (Kaka Ji) and Nisar Ahmad from Housing Colony, Bagh-e-Mehtab. They joined the party along with their workers and supporters.

Speaking on the occasion Bukhari said, "I wholeheartedly welcome you into Apni Party and I assure you that the entire party leadership will be behind you like a rock when you will be out there to serve the people in your respective areas."



Chairperson, PWVA, Dr Rubinder Kaur, management and students of Police Public School Bemina posing for group photograph.

Chairperson PWVA visits Police Public School, reviews functioning

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 26: Chairperson, Jammu and Kashmir Police Wives Welfare Association (PWVA), Dr Rubinder Kaur, today visited the Police Public School, Bemina where she chaired a meeting to review the functioning of the School.

The meeting which was attended by senior PWVA member, Dr Archana Choudhary, Administrative Officer, Sujit Kumar, Principal Police Public School Srinagar Snigdha Singh and teachers.

During the meeting, the Chairperson reviewed the functioning of the school and discussed different issues and proposals regarding smooth functioning. She impressed upon the members that measures need to be taken to further enhance the quality of education being imparted to the wards of Police personnel and wards of martyrs and other students in the School. With regard to further improvement in teaching and infrastructure of the schools the chairper-

son assured that all possible assistant would be provided.

Dr Rubinder Kaur emphasized for harnessing the talent of the school children in sports and other activities. She directed all to improve upon the academics and furthermore directed the school staff for working in the missionary mode and focus on the quality education so that the graph of performance level of the school moves in upward direction. She also sought reports regarding issues faced by the staff.

During the meeting it was also decided that teachers would be thoroughly reviewed each year on the basis of all aspects.

On the occasion Dr Rubinder Kaur also interacted with students and advised them to work hard for a bright future.

Besides, Arun Tondon, Chairman to Tata Board donated 30 CCTV cameras and biology lab equipments for PPS, Srinagar under CSR scheme. Chairperson PWVA expressed her gratitude for the noble gesture for the welfare school children.

Sagar rues halting of fruit laden trucks on Sgr-Jammu highway

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 26: National Conference (NC) general secretary Ali Muhammad Sagar today expressed resentment over the halting of fruit laden trucks on Srinagar-Jammu highway, saying the unnecessary halts are causing huge losses to fruit growers and traders involved with the horticulture sector.

He said this while addressing a press conference here at the Party headquarters Nawa-e-Subha

trucks for transportation as most of our produce that reaches the mandis is in bad shape.

"Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) was aimed to address the problem of fallen fruit and it was doing well but unfortunately this scheme has been replaced by NABARD which is refusing to take the fallen fruit. The Government also needs to take a call on this and attune the laws to the advantage of people. Instead they want apples directly from the trees at the same rates as were



NC general secretary Ali Muhammad Sagar addressing a press conference at Party office in Srinagar.

Srinagar. Among others, Party's MP from Kashmir Muhammad Akbar Lone, State spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar and party leader Irshad Kar were also present on the occasion.

Sagar said that transportation has become a major problem and that the Government has failed to implement anything concrete in this regard. "All the promises of the Government have so far turned out to be a pipe dream. So far nothing substantial is being done to ensure the smooth movement of traffic on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway," he said.

Ruing the unavailability of cold chain transportation in Kashmir, Sagar said the Government should introduce AC

applicable for fallen fruits," he added.

Calling for the rationalization of packaging material, Sagar said the plywood veneer factories have caused an increase in price of apple boxes from Rs 70 to 130. "Needless to say, it has resulted in a decrease in overall profits of growers," he added.

"GST on packaging and pesticides currently is 18 percent, thereby becoming another contributor to escalating costs for the growers. When the Government can ban import of food grains to ensure price stability of food grains in the country, why cannot it take similar measures to help Kashmir's horticulture industry?" Sagar added.

ANTF arrests 3 with 1.93 qtls of poppy straw

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 26: Anti Narcotics Task Force, a specialised unit of the Jammu and Kashmir Police to check the rising menace of drugs, arrested three persons along with 1.93 quintals of poppy straw.

According to SP ANTF Vinay Sharma, ANTF Kashmir arrested three drug peddlers and recovered huge quantity of contraband substances from their possession.

"ANTF Kashmir has recovered commercial quantity of 1 quintal and 93 kilograms of poppy straw in two back-to-back operations from 3 accused persons identified as Satnam Singh and Shiv Kumar, both residents of Ludhiana Punjab and Arif Rashid Bhat, a resident of Yaripora in District Anantnag", SP Vinay Sharma, said, adding that the vehicles used in the commission of crime have

also been seized.

He informed that the preliminary investigation revealed that the arrested drug peddlers were going to sell the same contraband among the youth and other drug peddlers in and outside the UT of J&K.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at Police Station ANTF Kashmir and investigation has been initiated.

SP ANTF Vinay Sharma has appealed to the community members to come forward with any information regarding drug peddlers in their neighbourhood.

"Persons found indulging in drug peddling will be dealt as per law. Our consistent actions against drug peddlers should reassure the community members that we are making efforts to keep our society free from the scourge of drug menace", SP Vinay Sharma asserted.



Newly elected office bearers of JEW A Udhampur district unit.

Parihar elected JEW Udhampur District President

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Sept 26: Judicial Employees Welfare Association Udhampur elected Ranjit Parihar Nazir of Munsiff Court Majalta , as President of District Udhampur while Malik Tariq, System officer of E - Court and Sumit Bhartiya of Add Special Mobile Magistrate Court were elected as General Secretary and Treasurer, respectively of the Association.

Election for the District body of JEW A was conducted here today at District Court Complex, Udhampur.

The elections are being held across the UT under the supervision of Election Commission appointed by the State Body of

JEW A and the same was held in District Court premises, Udhampur under the supervision of Election Commissioner, Section officer Puran Singh.

All the judicial employees of District Udhampur participated in the election which was conducted in a fair atmosphere and all the contestants were elected unopposed as no other file nomination against them till last date of filling of nomination which was fixed for 24th September, 2022.

Meanwhile, the elected members assured their full support in mitigating problems of the judicial employees and highlighting their genuine demands before concerned quarters.

5 arrested with country made pistol, sharp edged weapons

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 26: Satwari Police arrested five persons with country made pistol and three sharp edged weapon.

As per police sources, a team from Police Station Satwari led by SHO Inspector Sameer Jilani under the supervision of SDPO South Sachit Sharma laid a naka and signalled a car bearing registration number JK02BG-1610 to stop for checking which was coming from RS Pura towards Jammu City.

During thorough search, police team recovered one country made pistol along with 2 live cartridges and 3 sharp edged

weapons from the vehicle and arrested five persons travelling in the car.

The arrested persons were identified as Amandeep Singh, son of late Swarn Singh of village Chowadhi, Sagar Singh, son of Kamal Singh of Kachi Chawni, Arun Singh, son of Parkash Singh of Sainik Colony, Ajay Singh, son of late Maan Singh of Sainik Colony and Aayan Partap Singh, son of Mohan Singh of Kachi Chawni Narainiya Mohallah.

A case FIR Number 179/2022 under sections 3/25 and 4/25 Arms Act has been registered at Police Station Satwari and further investigation started.