

100 trucks flagged-off to facilitate migratory tribal population

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 9: In a significant development the Tribal Affairs Department today flagged off a fleet of 100 trucks for transportation of livestock

decision to help the migratory tribals and to minimise frequent traffic jamming on Srinagar - Jammu Highway and the Mughal Road. According to official figures more than 16,000 migratory tribal families were

Sinha has committed to provide transportation support/transit facilities to the migratory tribal population. Directions were also issued by the Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta to ensure saturation in transport facilities and to cover 100% migratory population on National Highway and Mughal Road.



Director Tribal Affairs flagging off trucks from Jammu on Sunday.

and families of migratory tribal population from various districts to the highland pastures.

In line with the announcement made by the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for various tribal welfare measures the department initiated a special project for transhumant support system including transit accommodations and transport facilities for migratory population.

These trucks have been procured by the Tribal Affairs Department through J&K Road Transport Corporation. Pertinent to mention here during last year the transport facility was provided to the transhumant population and to fro thereby mitigating the hardships faced by the migratory people through highways.

benefitted during the last year after spending summer months in Kashmir pastures and brought back in the trucks to their destination in various districts of Jammu division.

The transportation system put in place by the Tribal Affairs Department has reduced the travel time from 20-30 days on-foot to 1-2 days while it has also helped in smooth traffic management. These trucks have been deployed both on National Highway-44 and Mughal Road. More number of trucks are being inducted this year by the department to ensure coverage of 100% families.

Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department informed that Lieutenant Governor Manoj

BJP non-serious on statehood, holding elections: Manohar

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Apr 9: Former Minister Dr Manohar Lal Sharma today alleged that BJP Government is not serious in restoration of statehood and holding Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing public meeting at Thantu in Mandli block of Tehsil Ramkote in district Kathua today Manohar Lal said that treachery and deceit of the BJP is haunting Jammu people who reposed their unflinching faith and support to it with the hope that Jammu may perhaps get a better deal as during the days of its wilderness in the Opposition, the BJP leaders were crying hoarse over discrimination and neglect.

ing discriminatory approach by ruling dispensation towards this hilly constituency as most of the areas suffering from lack of road connectivity, drinking water supply besides lack of facilities in education and health sectors.

"If BJP has not been able to fulfil promises in eight years then what are they going to do now. The Centre is not serious about fulfilling the commitment of early restoration of statehood and holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, and only hoodwinking people by issuing vague statements from time to time for the last three and half years," Dr Manohar said.

"Whenever elections are round the corner in any State, BJP adopts a divisive agenda of vote bank politics, which is very dangerous for the



Former Minister Dr Manohar Lal addressing public meeting in Billawar.

"Not only on the front of development but equally in terms of instilling a sense of confidence among the people, the BJP has miserably failed", Dr Manohar said and referred to uncertain political climate prevailing across J&K ever since BJP dispensation came into power. He said the BJP ditched each segment of society which feel left out with Government nowhere visible on the ground.

Referring to the issues confronting to his constituency, Dr Manohar said that during last nearly nine years, Billawar constituency has been made backward by adopt-

tion," he said. Sharma said he would continue his fight against the "wrong policies" of the BJP tooth and nail and stand for the rights of each and every section of the society.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Neelam Kumari Sarpanch, Th Bhudhi Singh, Karan Dev Singh Ex-Sarpanch, Ramesh Spolia Ex-Sarpanch, Ramesh Verma, Rattan Tripathi, Ashok Kumar Pyt Member, Uttam Chand Pyt Member, Makhan Lal Pyt Member, Tara Chand Pyt Member, Isher Dass Sangara, Kaka Ram Tripathi and many others.

Plus 2 Forum demands regularization of Incharge Lecturers in one go

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 9: All J&K Plus Two Lecturer's Forum has demanded regularisation of Incharge Lecturers in one go.

The demand was made during a virtual meet of the Forum, held today under the leadership of RS Slathia and President Pardeep Singh Rakwal.

The Forum in one voice demanded regularisation of all I/C Lecturers in Science stream including those holding PG degrees through distance mode within week's time. The Forum expressed complete confidence and trust in the leadership of Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary Education and hoped that he would fulfill his word of regularisation of all I/C lecturers as one time exemption.

During the meeting, RS Slathia informed that the celebration of Lecturers' Day has been deferred for the time being keeping in view the ongoing holy month of Ramadan. He said that the day would be celebrated anytime after Eid.

The Kashmir Unit of the Forum, under the leadership of Shakeel Ahmed Bhat along with Gulzar Ahmad, also participated in the meeting and urged Principal

Secretary School Education not to elevate Masters as I/C Lecturers in their own pay and grade as this is huge violation of human rights. He also demanded regularisation of I/C Lecturers including those having pursued their degrees through distance in the light of Govt Order No.940-Edu of 2017 dated 17.11.2017 before going for fresh elevation.

The Forum reiterated its endeavor to co-operate the Principal Secretary Education, Alok Kumar in implementing National Education Policy in toto so that J&K becomes first to achieve the target in the interest of students. The meeting, among others, was joined by Jyoti Prakash, Dr Ashok, Ghar Singh, Renu Langae, Pardeep Koul, Jagjeet Singh, Ashok Kumar, Sohan Singh Chib, Rashpal Singh, Amar Singh, Fida Gulzar, Paramjeet Singh, M S Parihar, Fayaz Ahmad Attar, Ramesh Muhammad, Mohd Rashid, Inderjeet Singh, Darshna, Shokat Zargar, Maqbool Hussain, Ajit Singh, Dev Dutta, Malik Younus, Nizam U Din Bhat, Ramesh Padroo, Shafiq Ahmed Khan, Syed Tariq Geelani, Gulam Nabi Malik, Kuldeep Singh, Sham Lal, Naseer Ahmed, Fiazah Ahmed and others.

CMD SIDBI calls on LG

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR Apr 9: Sivasubramanian Ramann, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) called on the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

The CMD briefed the Lt

Governor about various initiatives of SIDBI as a part of the SIDBI Cluster Development Fund (SCDF) to promote and strengthen Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Kashmir Division.

He also discussed support from SIDBI in promoting local entrepreneurship through skill development and capacity building.

Public protests against PHE

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Apr 9: The people from Mehra village and its adjoining areas in Rajouri held protest against PHE/ Jal Shakti department against acute water shortage and blocked road for some time here today.

Irate public blocked Rajouri-Kothhara road and shouted slo-

water has not been released from the sources. There is no proper supervision by the Supervisors/JEs of the PHE department concerned Sub Division.

They told that the summer has not started yet, so there is such a shortage of water, what will happen when the summer starts. The protestors said that



People protesting against PHE authorities in Rajouri

gans against the Jal Shakti Department. The local women with empty pots also joined protest and expressed strong anger against Jal Shakti Department.

The protesters expressed strong resentment and alleged that due to the negligence of employees of the Jal Shakti Department, they have to face water shortage. For many days,

they have appealed to the officials of the department several times regarding the water problem, but every time only assurances have been received.

After about 2 hours of protest, the police reached the spot and assured the protesters that the officials of Jal Shakti Department would be contacted to solve their problems. On the assurance of police, the protesters ended the demonstration.

J&K bureaucrats enjoying authority sans accountability: Harsh Dev

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Apr 9: Former Minister and JKNP president Harsh Dev Singh alleged that "Babu Raj" in J&K had become synonymous with corruption, the process of loot, extortion and plunder of Govt resources while the same was likely to continue as there was no sign of Assembly elections here.

"With the present bureaucracy enjoying authority without accountability, a free for all kind of situation prevails in J&K and elections may never be held as long as BJP remains in power at the Centre," he said while addressing a meeting of party workers at Kaldi, Khoon and Satrairi during his two days tour of District Udhampur.

Urging upon the party rank and file to work for ameliorating the lot of poor and downtrodden, Singh said that Panthers Party stood for safeguarding the rights

Budget 2023-24 will foster inclusive development of all sections

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Apr 9: The substantial budget for the fiscal 2023-24 will foster inclusive development for all segments of the society with Government's keenness towards empowering the weaker sections through various social and tribal welfare initiatives.

According to budget 2023-24, 7 transit accommodations for nomadic population and 24 Scheduled Tribe hostels are targeted to be completed during this financial year.

On the directions of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, the Tribal Department has initiated a special project envisaging a transhumant support system including transit accommodations and transport facilities for the migratory population.

In line with the announcement made by Lieutenant Governor to minimize hardships being faced by the tribals during seasonal migration, the Tribal Affairs Department procured a fleet of 40 trucks for transporting around 30,000 families from Jammu to Kashmir via Mughal road and National Highway-44 connecting Jammu with Srinagar. These trucks had been procured by the department through J&K Road Transport Corporation.

Transport facilities are being made available to tribal families for the seasonal migration of their goods and cattle this year also, the budget document reads.

In this year's budget, more Milk villages will be established with an aim to support milk production and supply chain besides providing sustainable employment opportunities to youth. Also, market linkage would be created for tribal products like milk, mutton, sheep wool, leather etc.

The budget has kept a provision for setting up of more smart classrooms for tribal children and tracking of educational, healthcare and economic status of nomadic population. Besides, the budget has a provision for providing scholarship to 124300, Pre-Matric students (1st-8th) belonging to Scheduled Caste/Other Backward Classes/Economically Backward Classes/ Physically Challenged Persons categories.

All the Child Care Institutions (CCIs) would be

developed on modern pattern with best living conditions for the inmates under the new budget. Besides, 1700 inmates in 19 Bal Ashrams and 12 Nari Niketans would be covered under the initiative.

This year's financial plan has also a provision for establishing Disability Rehabilitation Centers (DDRC) in all 20 districts besides creation of Hub for Empowerment of Women (HEW)-Mahila Shakti Kendras.

Regarding welfare and security of women, the budget has earmarked funds for establishment of GPS enabled women helpline and construction of working women hostels.

The Budget has also earmarked funds for training of specially abled persons so that they become financially independent and lead a dignified living in the society.



Former DyCM, Kavinder Gupta during a party meeting at Bhatindi on Sunday.

Kavinder addresses Minority Morcha, ST Morcha meet

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 9: A meeting of BJP Minority Morcha and BJP ST Morcha was held at Bhatindi near here, today under the chairmanship of Kavinder Gupta, former Dy.CM J&K.

He was accompanied by president BJP Minority Morcha J&K, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, general secretary BJP Minority Morcha J&K, Santokh Singh, Riyaz Ahmad-general secretary J&K, BJP ST Morcha, Rekha Mahajan, district president BJP, Vinay Gupta, senior leader BJP Mubashir Azad, vice president, Shaker Giri, secretary J&K, Yashpal Singh, spokesperson, Mohammad Naser, legal coordinator J&K BJP Minority Morcha and other office bearers.

Party leadership discussed and highlighted various schemes and achievements of BJP Government besides priority regarding minorities in the country in keeping with the vision of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. The programme was organised by BJP Minority Morcha,

Jammu. "Modi Government is committed to work for 1.30 crore Indians and the Prime Minister is working day and night for the uplift of poor farmers, downtrodden, SCs, backwards, women and common people," Gupta said.

The meeting urged the party activists to work at booth level for strengthening the organization further and ensure its victory at hustings during Parliamentary and Assembly elections scheduled to be held next year.

All the senior leaders urged the party men to get ready for upcoming party activities and programmes. They said BJP is emerging stronger and stronger with its commitment to national cause and party will not only frame the next Government at Centre but will emerge as a strong contender for the formation of Government in J&K after the Assembly elections.

They cautioned party workers to work on grass root levels for welfare and benefit of common man.

Dr Gautam attends Perio-Microsurgery workshop at AIIMS Delhi

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 9: Dr Gautam Sharma, Dental Surgeon, University of Jammu (JU), attended a two-day high end workshop on 'Microsurgical regeneration of soft tissue periodontal defects' at AIIMS, New Delhi.

Periodontal microsurgery is the highest skill in the field of Periodontics in which regeneration of tissues is done under a microscope.

Dr Kunaal Dhingra, workshop convener, who is Additional Professor, Periodontics Division, Centre for Dental Education and Research, AIIMS New Delhi, introduced the participants to Periodontal Microsurgery.

The resource person for the workshop was Dr Puria Parvini from Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany. He demonstrated microsurgery for soft tissue augmentation around natural teeth and implants.

Dr Puria Parvini and Dr Kunaal Dhingra conducted micro-

surgical hands-on workshop using surgical microscope and animal models on Mucogingival plastic surgery techniques using autogenous soft tissue grafts.

The demonstration of operating microscope and patient positioning was given by Dr Prashant Bhasin, Professor and Head, Delhi.



Dr Gautam Sharma, Dental Surgeon from JU, receiving certificate during a workshop at AIIMS New Delhi.

Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Sudha Rustagi College of Dental Sciences and Research, Haryana.

Dr Gautam Sharma is MDS in Periodontics and former president of Indian Dental Association, Jammu.

Two killed, as many injured in road accidents

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 9: At least two persons died while as many sustained injuries in two separate road accidents here today, police said.

They said a scooty collided with a motorcycle at Gurha Pathan area falling under the jurisdiction of Police Station Kanhachack, resulting in injuries to two persons.

"They were shifted to Government Medical College Jammu, where one of them succumbed to his injuries," said police.

While the deceased has been identified as Krishana Chib (28) son of Kuldeep Singh Chib of Jandial Thathi the injured has been

identified as Joginder (23) son of Ramesh Kumar of Jandial Thathi. Meanwhile, in another accident at Sidhra, where two motorcycles collided with each other, two persons sustained injuries.

They were taken to Government Medical College Jammu where one of them Yaqoob Mohammad (35) son of Noor Mohammad of Bajalta, was declared as dead on arrival while the other injured identified as Ayoo Khan (19) son of Alam Din is undergoing treatment.

Police have shifted the bodies of the deceased to the mortuary of the Government Medical College Jammu for conducting the post-mortem while cases under relevant sections of the law stand registered at concerned police stations.



Altaf Bukhari along with other JKAP leaders during a public meeting at Sarore, Samba on Sunday.

Altaf Bukhari appeals ECI to declare Assembly polls in J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Apr 9: The President of the Apni Party, Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari, has called upon the Election Commission of India (ECI) to declare the Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a public meeting and Iftaar party near Sarore Toll Plaza, Samba, he stated that people in the region are tired of the bureaucratic regime and the administration's inability to provide essential services such as 24/7 electricity during the holy month of Ramadan, Navratri and Baisakhi.

He further criticized the BJP-led Government for its discrimination against the people, and expressed his doubts about the traditional political parties, stating that they would only work for themselves and not for the people who have suffered.

He believes that the Apni Party is the only one that can bring change to the region and ensure equitable development of all the regions without discrimination.

Bukhari added that his party will ensure 80% employment for the local youth in the industrial sector, and they will not allow any industrial sector to establish in J&K if jobs are not provided to the local youth.

He also extended his support to the poor people who have lost their land in the anti-encroachment drive and assured them that not an inch of land will be allowed to be snatched from the people.

He appreciated the work of the J&K Police in bringing normalcy to the region, but expressed displeasure over the premature transfer of the DySPs and other officers of J&K Police from the place of their respective postings within a few months.

Bukhari highlighted the value of festivals in promoting peace and mutual brotherhood among the people of different faiths. He also remembered the supreme sacrifices given by the border residents from Kathua to Uri. The Apni Party hosted an Iftaar party, which was attended by prominent people, members of civil society, and others.

No body can deter spirit of DSSP: Ch Lal Singh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Apr 9: Dogra Swabhimaan Sangathan Party (DSSP) chairman and former Member Parliament and Minister, Ch Lal Singh today said that his party shall survive all sort of repression from this Government and will fight for the cause of

teria for first class students. He said that DSSP will continue to raise the public voice strongly on every front.

Ex-MLA Kanta Andotra while addressing the gathering said that it's the high time when everyone should contribute to take the fight of Dogras to logical conclusion. She sought public support for the common cause.

Dr Hari Dutt Shishu, general secretary of the party while addressing the gathering called upon the rank and file of the party to gear up for the bigger fight to reach out to



Ex-MP Ch. Lal Singh and Ex-MLA Kanta Andotra inaugurating new DSSP office at Old Satwari in Jammu.

Dogras. While addressing the party workers in the newly inaugurated Central office at Old Satwari, Chatha here today, Ch Lal Singh appealed the general masses to get the membership of DSSP as the party is shortly going to launch membership drive to end the apathy of the Government.

He apprised to the party workers about his meeting with LG where he vociferously took up the issues of students admission in the Degree Colleges, Paramedical Institutions and change of age cri-

logical conclusion. However, some black sheep's within, need to be identified and exposed.

Many senior leaders of the party expressed happiness over the opening of new office of the party and pledged to expand party to every nook and corner.

Prominent among those who present included Prof HR Sharma, Advocate BS Jamwal, Dr Taran Dingham, Brig (Retd) Vijay Sagar Diman, Adv Vikrant Sharma, S S Bilawaria, Dhan Singh, Vijyant Pathania, Divyansh Varma and Balbir S Azad.