

LG inaugurates Affordable Rental Housing Complex at Sunjwan

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today inaugurated the Affordable Rental Housing Complex, under PMAY (Urban) Mission, at Sunjwan.

He dedicated the facility to the labour, work force & weaker



LG Manoj Sinha handing over key of accommodation unit to beneficiary on Wednesday.

section of Jammu Kashmir and handed over the keys of the accommodation units to the beneficiaries.

"Workers are the main drivers of J&K's growth and improving their quality of life is our ultimate aim. Today marks the beginning of a new era for the entire working community of Union Territory," the Lt Governor said.

He said the Affordable Rental Housing Complex will provide dignified living to urban poor, migrant workers and weaker sections of society near their workplace.

Such initiatives will create a sustainable housing ecosystem for the underprivileged, bring qualitative change in the lives of a family, prevent the growth of future slums and address the vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan', he added.

The Lt Governor acknowledged the significant role of workforce in India's economy.

He reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration to creating vibrant, sustainable and inclusive affordable rental housing avenues for urban migrants, poor and working community.

"Labour force and Workers are backbone of our trade, business, industries and making valuable contribution in building

Administration to provide means of livelihood and raising the living standards of the workforce.

In less than 3 years, a huge number of self-employment opportunities have been created and we continue to focus on skilling of workers to meet the needs of economy and better quality employment, he said.

Prashant Goyal, Principal Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department gave a detailed briefing on the Affordable Rental Housing Complex (ARHC) and other similar projects of the department to provide affordable housing to the people of J&K UT.

Today, 192 flats out of total 336 flats at Sunjwan at an affordable rental of Rs 2200 per month were handed over to the beneficiaries at ARHC, Sunjwan. The remaining flats will be handed over by the month of October this year, it was informed.

The initiative of "Affordable Rental Housing Complex" has been envisioned for providing rental housing for EWS/LIG urban migrants including labour, urban poor (street vendors, rickshaw pullers, other service providers etc.), industrial workers, and migrants working with market/trade associations, educational/health institutions, hospitality sector, long term tourists / visitors, students or any other persons of such category.

Rajinder Sharma, Mayor, JMC; Bharat Bhusan, Chairman District Development Council, Jammu; Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu; ULB representatives; senior officials and prominent citizens were present on the occasion.



BJP president, Ravinder Raina taking new entrants into party fold at BJP Office Trikuta Nagar on Wednesday.

BJP will ensure development, justice to all: Ravinder Raina

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: J&K BJP president, Ravinder Raina today said that the policies of BJP are being endorsed and accepted by everyone in the society and everybody, irrespective of religion and region is joining the BJP.

Speaking at a party function here at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar in which two retired principals, Ramesh Chander Khajuria and Krishan Kumar Kothwal from Baderwah joined BJP along with other prominent people from the area. Raina said that all the prominent persons of the society have determined to further strengthen BJP to enhance the development in the region. He mentioned various development projects like increased road networks, Ayushman cards, Pension, Kissan Samman Nidhi, PM Awas Yojana etc. to help the needy to bail out from their economic backwardness.

He welcomed these prominent educationists and others into the party in presence of former MLA Dalip Parihar, district general secretary, Sanjay Saraf, Mandal president, Bhari Lal Sharma, district general secretary, SC Morcha, Santosh Kumar, Dr. Parmesh Mahajan, Anil

Bhagat and other party leaders.

Raina said that Modi Government is progressing with 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' line in Jammu & Kashmir. He said that BJP has ensured rights to the WPRs, Gorkhas, Gujar Bakkarwals, women, OBCs, Paharis, Jatts which will benefit almost every segment that was neglected over the decades together.

"BJP will ensure equitable development and justice to every person without any prejudice and will ensure a prosperous Jammu & Kashmir", said Ravinder Raina.

Dalip Parihar said that BJP's policies have ensured the development to reach the far flung areas. He said that the local people from hilly areas have themselves witnessed the development reaching their doorsteps under the strong leadership of PM Modi.

Ramesh Chander Khajuria and Krishan Kumar Kothwal praised Prime Minister, Narendra Modi led Government for meeting up the aspirations of masses and especially for the extended reach of public welfare schemes of Modi Government that have reached the intended population without any leakage in the middle.

Teacher's allegations of sexual harassment against Principal CAT directs Magisterial Enquiry into matter

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: In a significant order, the Central Administrative Tribunal (Jammu Bench) headed by A K Dubey, Member (A) has taken a serious note of a petition/application filed by a school teacher stating that she had been deployed/attached at Govt Higher Secondary School, Batote (Ramban) on security grounds but was relieved on the ground that she did not oblige the unwarranted sexual advances of the Principal.

The school teacher/ applicant before CAT submitted that ever since the joining of the Principal namely Dev Raj Bhagat in the Govt Hr. Sec School, Batote in August, 2022, he started making unwarranted advances towards the applicant on the pretext that she is unmarried and may require his company but her complete avoidance/refusals frustrated the very motive of Principal in achieving his vicious design of gaining sexual favours from her.

When this matter came up for hearing, Advocate Supriya Chouhan appearing for the victim/applicant vehemently argued that the delinquent Principal is a blot and slur in a pious educational institution and has demeaned his position by seeking sexual favours from a hapless lady teacher. She further submitted that the Principal used to tell the lady teacher to skip the classes as skipping will not affect the

future of children and when the applicant did not agree, the Principal started doing adverse things to her like removing her name from all the school activities, from the school WhatsApp groups, cropping her photographs from the pictures originally taken in the school functions and also started spreading words that applicant is loose-charactered woman.

The Jammu Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal headed by A K Dubey Member (A) took serious note of the submissions made by Advocate Supriya Chouhan and observed, "the allegations raised by the applicant are of serious nature. She has also alleged manipulation of Internal Committee's proceedings. It appears that her allegations need to be looked into impartially".

"Under these circumstances, this Tribunal directs the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of the area to enquire into the matter and submit report within 15 days. It is further directed that the reply to be filed by the respondents must specially explain the reasons of the applicant's relieving without calling for the latest security threat report", read the order issued by the CAT.

The Bench further directed that as an interim measure, the Chief Education Officer, Ramban shall obtain fresh security threat report with respect to the applicant and then decide place of posting accordingly.

Till the assessment report is received, he shall consider and allow eligible leave to the applicant. A copy of the threat assessment report should be also brought to the notice of the Director of School Education Jammu", the Tribunal directed.

Additional Advocate General Sudesh Magotra and AAG Rajesh Thapa accepted notices on behalf of the Education Department and were granted time to file their responses before the next date of hearing.

JKAS officers support colleague, condemn incident at SDM office

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: Members of the JKAS- 2011 batch have condemned the recent incident at the office of Sunaina Saini, SDM/ Sub Registrar, Ghagwal and strongly denounced the unlawful actions during a protest on Monday, amounting to harassment of a public servant on duty.

"As civil servants, we firmly believe in the rule of law and respect for authority, and we strongly advocate for the appropriate channels to address any grievances. Resorting to manhandling Government staff and mob-like unruly behavior set a dangerous precedent and should not be tolerated in a civilized society," they said in a statement, issued here today.

Acknowledge that every individual has the right to express his/her concerns, the JKAS members said they firmly believe that this must be done through lawful and respectful means. Resorting to such aggressive actions and creating an intimidating atmosphere not only violates the sanctity of a public office but

Dr Jitendra briefs LS about India's top ranking in Space

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Aug 2: Briefing Lok Sabha about India's top ranking in Space, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS P.M.O., Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said, India is the fifth amongst spacefaring nations having end-to-end capabilities in space research and development, including the capability to launch from our own land and operate programs of earth observation, satellite communication, meteorology, space science & navigation and ground infrastructure.

In reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Dr Jitendra Singh informed that right now NewSpace industries are also emerging as fast pace after space sector reforms.

The Minister also listed out significant progress made by ISRO during the last five years. Some of the major achievements are listed below: 27 satellites and 22 Launch Vehicle missions have been successfully accomplished during the period (July 2018 - July 2023), besides the successful Pad Abort Test (PAT) to qualify the Crew Escape System (CES) in July 2018 and the Reusable Launch Vehicle autonomous landing mission in April 2023. In June 2018, India announced a capacity building training programme UNNATI (UNISpace Nanosatellite Assembly & Training by ISRO) on Nanosatellites development through a combination of theoretical coursework and hands-on training on Assembly, Integration and Testing (AIT).

A total of 90 participants from 45 countries benefited from the program across three batches. (Two in 2019 and 1 in 2022). India's second mission to the Moon, Chandrayaan-2 was successfully launched on July 22, 2019 on-board GSLV Mk III-M1. Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter is providing valuable science data for the research community.

The launch of PSLV-C48/RISAT-2BR1 in December 2019 marked the 50th launch of PSLV, the workhorse launch vehicle. In 2019, ISRO launched an annual special programme called "Young Scientist Programme" or the "Yuva Vigyan Karyakram" (YUVIKA), in line with the Government's vision "Jai Vigyan, Jai

India, Chennai). A total of 603 students have attended the YUVIKA program spread over 3 years - 2019, 2022 and 2023.

In 2019, the NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) got incorporated, as a wholly owned Government of India Undertaking/ Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE), under the administrative control of

Cosmos Pvt. Ltd., Chennai in ISRO campus at SDSC, SHAR on 25th November 2022. On Feb 10th, 2023, the successful flight of Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV - D2) took place, launching three satellites - EOS-07, Janus-1 and AzaadiSAT-2 (a combined effort of about 750 girl students across India guided by Space Kidz



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Department of Space (DOS). On June 26, 2020, the Government of India announced Space Sector Reforms - a major transformation of Indian Space Sector with enhanced participation of private players in Indian space programme and playing key roles to boost India's market share in Global Space Economy. Setting up of Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) and enhancing the role New Space India Limited (NSIL) are the two major thrust areas in the Reform.hrdly.

The Minister of State (Department of Space) dedicated the ISRO System for Safe & Sustainable Space Operations Management (IS4OM) to the nation in July, 2022.

LVM3 (GSLV MkIII) M2/OneWeb India-1 Mission was successfully accomplished on 23rd October 2022.

Launch of Vikram-S (Prarambh mission), a suborbital launch vehicle from M/S Skyroot Aerospace Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, was accomplished successfully on 18th November 2022. First private launchpad & mission control center established by M/s Agnikul

India, Chennai). On March 7th, 2023, controlled re-entry experiment for the decommissioned Megha-Tropiques-1 (MT-1) satellite was carried out successfully, with final impact in the Pacific Ocean, demonstrating the nation's continued efforts towards ensuring the long-term sustainability of outer space activities. LVM3 M3/OneWeb India-2 Mission was successfully accomplished on 26th March, 2023, placing 36 OneWeb satellites into their intended orbit.

With this, NSIL successfully executed its contract to launch 72 satellites of OneWeb to Low Earth Orbit.

Reusable Launch Vehicle Autonomous Landing Mission (RLV LEX) was successfully demonstrated at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR), Chitradaurga, Karnataka on 2nd April, 2023.

GSLV-F12/NVS-01 mission was successfully accomplished on 29th May, 2023. GSVL deployed the NVS-01 navigation satellite, the first of the second-generation satellites envisaged for the Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC) service, into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit.

Dr Anjum Farhana appointed Principal GMC Anantnag

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 2: The Health & Medical Education (H&ME) Department today appointed Dr Anjum Farhana as the new Principal of Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag, following the retirement of the in-charge Principal, Prof. Tariq Syed Qureshi.

Dr Anjum Farhana, who currently heads the Department of Microbiology at GMC Srinagar, will assume the additional responsibilities of the Principal of GMC Anantnag, as per an order issued in this regard.

The order stated, "Consequent upon the retirement of Prof. Tariq Syed Qureshi, Incharge Principal, Government Medical College, Anantnag on 31.07.2023 (AN) and in the interest of administration and patient care, it is hereby ordered that Prof. Anjum Farhana, Head of the Department of Microbiology in Government Medical College, Srinagar, shall, with immediate effect, hold the charge of the post of Principal, Government Medical College, Anantnag, in addition to her own duties, till the post is filled up on a regular basis."

HC grants bail to former Principal GMC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: High Court has granted bail to former Principal GMC Dr Shashi Sudan in alleged date of birth forging case registered by Crime Branch.

After hearing Senior Advocate Pranav Kohli with Advocates Aftab Malik, Farhan Mirza and Vastav Sharma for the applicant whereas Senior AAG Monika Kohli for the Crime Branch, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul observed, "in the present case, prima facie, no case of forgery is made out against the petitioner as her date of birth certificate had been corrected by the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education following due process of law".

"The record of investigation would reveal that most of the documents relevant for the investigation have already been seized by the Investigating Agency. The fact that the petitioner is in Government service and there is no chance of her absconding from

trial is also to be taken into consideration for the purpose of considering this bail application", High Court said, adding "the respondents have nowhere stated that the petitioner is hiding or is not cooperating with the investigation of the case".

"These facts are relevant while considering an application for bail. Therefore, the petitioner has made out a case for grant of bail in anticipation of her arrest under the provisions of Section 438 CrPc", High Court said, adding "it is not in dispute that in compliance to earlier order passed by this court, the petitioner has already appeared before the investigating Agency and has participated in the investigation. All the relevant documents are stated to have been collected by the Investigating Officer".

"Thus, this court is of the opinion that custodial investigation of the petitioner in this case is not necessary as a consequence of which the interim bail granted to the petitioner on 12.07.2023 is made absolute", High Court said.

BIA demands release of Fiscal incentives of Industrial units

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: Bari Brahmana Industrial Association has requested the Government for the release of Fiscal incentives of the Industrial units in region.

An urgent meeting of Bari Brahmana Industries Association was held under the chairmanship of Lalit Mahajan, Co-Chairman Federation of Industries Jammu and president BBIA in the presence of Tarun Singla- senior vice president, Ajay Langer- vice president, Viraj Malhotra- general secretary, Rajesh Jain- secretary and Vivek Singhal- treasurer BBIA and other members to discuss the issue regarding the pending claims of turnover incentive to existing units and GST Link Incentive to new units under the NCSS 2021 notification of Govt. of India.

During the discussions members present in the meeting raised serious concern in respect of pending claims of turnover incentives submitted by existing units of JKUT amounting to Rs 206 crores for the Financial Year 2021-22 pending with the Industries Department since long as the funds available with the Department is only Rs 50 crores

and the additional demand of Rs 160 crores already communicated by Industries Department to Finance Department but no action has been taken by the Finance Department till date for the release of additional funds resulting existing units suffering very badly.

It is pertinent to mention here that new units already started production under Notification No. F/1(1)2020-SSS dated 19-02-2021 issued by DPIIT, Ministry of Industry & Commerce are also facing problem to get GST Link Fiscal Incentives for which the claims have already been submitted on quarterly basis but till date no claims have been processed by the Industries Department.

BBIA has requested the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and Vikramjit Singh, (IPS) Commissioner Industries & Commerce Department for their kind intervention in to the matter for the grant of additional funds of Rs 160 crores for the release of Turnover Incentives for the FY 2021-22 to the existing units and also issue necessary directions for the sanction the GST Link Incentive cases of new units on priority basis which will provide great relief to the unit holders in the region.

Aadhar mandatory to upload through DigiLocker for Passport Service

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: The applicants during online submission of application at www.passportindia.gov.in need to complete the "DigiLocker" process of uploading the required supporting documents to minimize the overall processing time and seamless verification of documents at PSKs/POPSKs.

Applicants would not require to carry the original documents at the PSKs/POPSKs provided the same is uploaded through DigiLocker. The Ministry has further enhanced the acceptance of "Aadhar

document" through DigiLocker during online submission of application in the portal.

Applicants should complete the "DigiLocker upload" document process in the portal, in case "Aadhaar" is submitted as one of the document for proof of Address/DoB.

Rajesh Kumar, Regional Passport Officer, Jammu has advised all passport applicant to adhere these instructions in order to minimize the overall processing time and seamless verification of Aadhaar at PSKs/POPSKs. It is mandatory from 5th August 2023 for any passport related services.

Girdawar placed under suspension

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: In a resolute display towards zero tolerance on corruption in the delivery of public services, Girdawar, Vijay Kumar, has been placed under suspension for issuing fraudulent revenue extracts.

Following a revelation that mother-son duo in collusion with revenue officials, deceitfully sold a property to two different individuals in the Bakshi Nagar area of Jammu city and also raised bank loan against this sold out property, Anti-Corruption Bureau took note of this act.

conducted by the Anti-Corruption Bureau, it was found that the then Patwari now Girdawar, was issuing fards in collusion with the private beneficiaries.

This act also resulted in financial losses for both the buyers and the institutions involved in the transaction. An FIR has been lodged under relevant sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act as well as Sections 120-B, 420, 467, 468, and 471 of the RPC. The Anti-Corruption Bureau's inquiry has also prompted the initiation of a departmental action against the accused.



F&ES aspirants staging protest in Jammu on Wednesday.

F&ES aspirants protest, demand to make enquiry report public

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 2: Scores of aspiring candidates who have applied for various posts in the Jammu and Kashmir Fire and Emergency Services today staged a protest near Hari Singh Park, urging the LG Manoj Sinha led administration to make public the enquiry report on alleged irregularities in the recruitment process.

The aggrieved protesters raised slogans against the LG Administration. "It is unfortunate that even after six months, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has not made public the report of the three-member panel headed by Additional Chief Secretary (Home) R K Goyal probing the alleged irregularities," one of the demonstrators said.

The protesting aspirants said

that the enquiry report to investigate the irregularities in their examination was given a month's time, but despite the eight-month in progress, it has not been submitted. They said who are the persons being shielded by stalling the enquiry report? "The matter is going on since 2013... but the administration is unconcerned," they added.

According to the aspirants, they have been voicing their concerns for the past seven months, but their genuine demands have not been addressed till now. "We have been deliberately pushed out from the selection list," they said and added that "we demand that the report be made public".

They urged the LG led administration to make the enquiry report public to ensure transparency and fairness in the recruitment process.

CB produces chargesheet against bank officials

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 2: Crime Branch today produced a chargesheet against two bank officials for their 'alleged' involvement in embezzlement of large amount of public money in different branches of a bank in Baramulla district.

"Economic Offences Wing, Srinagar produced the charge-report in Case FIR No. 24/2016 of P/S Crime Branch Kashmir against Ghulam Ahmad Shah, son of Ghulam Mohammad Shah of Hajin, Bandipora (then Cashier-cum-Clerk in the Baramulla Central Cooperative Bank Ltd., Palhallan Branch) and Mohammad Sabir Dar, son of Mohammad Subhan Dar, of Noor Din Colony, Baramulla (then Branch Manager of the Baramulla Central Cooperative Bank Ltd., Palhallan Branch) before the Judicial Magistrate 1st Class, Pattan for their alleged involvement in com-

mission of offences punishable under Sections 409, 420, 201 & 120-B of RPC", a statement issued by CBK said.

The Crime Branch had received a written communication from the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, J&K alleging that some officers/officials of the Baramulla Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. have dishonestly and fraudulently embezzled large amounts of public money in different branches of the Bank. The CBK registered a case at Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir in 2016 and investigation was started.

"During the investigation, allegations levelled against the accused individuals were substantiated and conclusively proved. Accordingly, the charge-report u/S 173 CrPc against the two accused individuals has been produced before the court of competent jurisdiction for judicial determination", the statement said.

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ASSISTANT PHARMACIST	B Pharm / D Pharm

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