

Advisor inspects JJM works in Anantnag villages

Excelsior Correspondent

ANANTNAG, Aug 9: In order to have first hand appraisal of ongoing works under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today conducted a comprehensive inspection of various water supply projects across the district.

During the visit, the Advisor inspected Water Supply Scheme (WSS) Siligam Trantraypora, WSS Wagad and WSS Arighole Akad of the district and took detailed inspection of ongoing works at these projects.

Advisor Bhatnagar, during the visit, interacted with local officials, project managers, and

community members to gain valuable insights into the ground-level implementation of the JJM schemes. He expressed his satisfaction with the proactive approach adopted by the concerned authorities in addressing challenges and swiftly advancing the project works.

The Advisor held a thorough review of the construction and installation of water supply infrastructure, water treatment plants, storage facilities, and distribution networks at both these villages. He emphasized on the government's commitment to ensuring that no rural household is left without access to safe and clean drinking water.

Interacting with the officers

on the occasion, Advisor Bhatnagar remarked that access to clean water is a basic human right, and our focus remains on realizing this vision for every citizen, especially those living in rural areas. He asked them to maintain collaboration and synergy with other stakeholders so that these projects of public importance can be completed at the earliest and dedicated for public.

While interacting with the locals of these areas, Advisor Bhatnagar emphasized on the importance of community participation in the success of the JJM. He encouraged local residents to actively engage in the maintenance and sustainability of the water supply infrastructure once it becomes operational.



DC Jammu during visit to Panchayat Muthi Maira.

DC Jammu inaugurates ODF Plus Model Panchayat Muthi Maira

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa today inaugurated ODF Plus Model Panchayat- Muthi Maira in Block Bhalwal Brahmana.

DDC Member, Bhushan, Paryal, BDC Chairperson Neha Rajput, Sarpanch Priya Sharma besides several officers were present on the occasion.

The Deputy Commissioner congratulated the residents of Muthi Maira on being declared as ODF Model Panchayat. She also felicitated 4 sanitation workers for their untiring services towards making the panchayat neat and clean.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the journey of a village to achieve the condition where it is visually clean and has systems to process both solid and liquid

waste, has to pass through three stages: ODF plus Aspiring, ODF plus Rising and ODF plus Model.

She said that a village is ODF Aspiring when it has mechanisms to deal with either solid or liquid waste apart from ODF sustainability whereas it becomes rising when the system to deal with both solid and liquid waste are in place.

Finally, when the village has achieved a condition where it is visually clean with minimal litter and stagnant water apart from the solid and liquid waste management and adequate IEC activities, it is declared as a Model, she added.

The Deputy Commissioner also flagged off a rally to spread awareness among the common masses regarding cleanliness in and around the surrounding areas.

Reinvestigating cases of genocidal killings has rekindled hopes of KPs: PK, KPC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: Panun Kashmir (PK) has expressed its satisfaction over the move of the UT Government to investigate the cases of genocidal killings of Kashmiri Hindus.

In a statement issued here, today PK president, Virender Raina said the decision to investigate the terrorist killings of hapless Kashmiri Hindus is a significant decision and demonstrates the strong will of the current dispensation to provide justice to the victims of terrorist violence in Kashmir.

He said highlighting the genocide committed against the Kashmiri Pandit community in the 1990s by Union Minister, Smriti Irani in Parliament particularly the brutal gang rape and murder of Girija Tikoo and Sarla Bhat, whose tormentors are yet not accounted for has generated a hope that all the cases of genocide and atrocities against Kashmiri Hindus would be investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice.

Addressing a meeting he said that the dastardly killing of Justice Neel Kanth Ganjoo in November 1989 at Hari Singh High Street sent shock waves amongst the Kashmiri Hindu community and the exodus started to take place.

Court frames charges against ZEO, others for misappropriation of funds

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: Additional Sessions Judge Anticorruption Udhampur Dinesh Gupta today framed charges against John Mohd (Incharge Head Master) Middle School Dharian/convenor Village Education Committee (VEC) after hatching conspiracy with contractor Khushi Mohd and ZEO Parmodh Singh released an amount of Rs 380,000 to the contractor. This amount was released to raise the construction up to Lanter Level, but contractor Khushi Mohd stopped the construction up to plinth level.

As per the charge sheet, for the construction of 3 additional classrooms of Govt. Mobile Middle School Upper Kund Tehsil Thuru District Reasi, funds to the tune of Rs 750,000 were sanctioned under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan and funds were allotted to the ZEO Arnas.

ZEO Arnas transferred an amount of Rs 380,000 in two installments to the official account of Head Master of Govt School Dharian, for the con-

struction of additional classrooms of Govt School Dharian. Accused John Mohd, Incharge Head Master of Govt School/convenor Village Education Committee (VEC) after hatching conspiracy with contractor Khushi Mohd and ZEO Parmodh Singh released an amount of Rs 380,000 to the contractor. This amount was released to raise the construction up to Lanter Level, but contractor Khushi Mohd stopped the construction up to plinth level.

After hearing APP Himanshu Parkash of the ACB, Additional Sessions Judge Anticorruption Udhampur observed, "this court is of the opinion that there is sufficient material to proceed against the accused, for the commission of offence under Prevention of Corruption Act and separate charges are made against both the accused".

Security situation improved significantly in UT 219 civilians killed in 1441 terror incidents, encounters in J&K in last 6 years: MHA

* 319 SFs personnel also martyred

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: The Union Minister of Home Affairs, Government of India, Nityanand Rai, today told the upper house of the Parliament that 219 civilians have lost their lives in 1441 terrorist initiated incidents and encounters/counter-terrorist operations in Jammu and Kashmir in the past six years.

According to him, 319 security forces personnel have also got martyred in these attacks in the last six years up to July 31, 2023.

Replying an unstarred question of Congress MP Randeep Singh Surjewala in the Rajya Sabha today, Rai said, while 184 civilians have lost their lives in

791 terrorist initiated incidents 35 civilians have died in 650 encounters and counter-terrorist operations in the past six years in Jammu and Kashmir.

"No terrorist attack has been reported in the Union Territory of Ladakh during the last five years," he said.

"This year (up to July 31)," the Union Minister said, "ten civilians have died in Jammu and Kashmir in 54 terrorist initiated incidents and encounters/counter-terrorist operations."

He said the Government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism and the security situation has improved significantly in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) over the years.

The Minister added that a

robust security and intelligence grid is in place to thwart any attempt of terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said various steps have been taken by the Government to prevent terrorist incidents and to safeguard the lives of civilians in Kashmir Valley. They include group security in form of static guards, round the clock checking at Nakas at the strategic points, night patrolling and area domination, identification of vulnerable spots, security arrangement through appropriate deployment of police, army, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and intensified Cordon and Search Operations, said Nityanand Rai, the Union MoS Home.



BJP leaders listening public grievances at Jammu on Wednesday.

Sat holds public grievance camp at BJP headquarters

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: Sat Sharma, former Minister and former president, J&K BJP, accompanied by Secretary Anju Dogra, BJP SC Morcha, Seh-Prabhar and JMC councillor, Jeet Angral and in charge, Maha Jana Sampark Abhiyaan Department Ankush Gupta, listened to the grievance of a large number of people from different areas of Jammu as well as Kashmir.

The BJP leaders were attending to the grievances of public at party Headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here, during their scheduled weekly sitting.

Deputations from Krishna Nagar, Channi Himmat, Bishnah Khairi, Chowki Choura, Akhnor, Jammu West, Talab Tillo, Anand Vihar, Anantnag, Kashmir, approached BJP Headquarter to share their grievances and issues. Former Minister, Sat Sharma took up their matters with the concerned department officials.

Upgradation of transformers, installation of electric poles, construction of roads' pending due to Department issues, erection of

boundary wall of cremation ground, laying of conductors, street lights, allotment of five Marla plots, delay in declaration of the results of D-Pharmacy course, were some of the issues put forth by the visiting individuals and deputations.

The former Minister redressed maximum of the grievances on the spot. He assured the delegations that quality disposal of the remaining genuine issues in a time-bound manner.

Sat Sharma, while interacting with the people, said that the Modi Government has rolled out hundreds of public welfare schemes for the needy people. He expressed his desire that the public is availing the benefits of various flagship programmes that Government has put at the disposal of the general public.

He added that Prime Minister, Narendra Modi led administration is committed towards good governance and accessibility of public services. On the occasion, former Minister appealed to people to become active participants so that the issues of daily importance are redressed in the minimum possible time.

Upgradation of transformers, installation of electric poles, construction of roads' pending due to Department issues, erection of

DC Rajouri reviews Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra arrangements

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Aug 9: To ensure smooth conduct of Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra, Deputy Commissioner, Vikas Kundal today conducted a comprehensive review of the arrangements at Sunderbani.

The review meeting aimed to guarantee a secure and spiritually enriching experience for the devotees participating in the annual yatra. DC Vikas Kundal led discussions covering a wide range of crucial aspects, including accommodations, medical facilities, security measures, transportation logistics, and communication protocols.

DC expressed gratitude for the efforts of the various departments

involved in organizing the yatra. He stressed the significance of effective coordination among all stakeholders to ensure a well-organized pilgrimage.

The Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra is a deeply revered event that holds immense spiritual importance for devotees. DC Vikas Kundal's proactive review of arrangements at Sunderbani reflects the administration's dedication to ensuring a memorable pilgrimage experience.

With the commencement of the yatra approaching, DC reassured the public of the administration's unwavering commitment to ensuring a smooth and secure pilgrimage.

NC flays BJP for development crisis; Gupta announces Committees

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: National Conference (NC) has claimed neglect of far flung areas of Kishtwar and Bhaderwah under the present dispensation.

In a handout, Rattan Lal Gupta, NC provincial president for Jammu said that sorry state of affairs in Kishtwar and Bhaderwah have left the people there to struggle daily with poor road infrastructure, poor power and water supply, poor healthcare etc.

"There is much difference between words and deeds of the Government as far as development is concerned because not only Kishtwar and Bhaderwah regions but the entire of J&K is facing development death," Gupta maintained adding, "The authorities concerned are in deep slumber while the people are confronting issues and facing difficulties with regard to health, civic infra, power, water crisis etc."

The NC leader asserted that BJP double engine Government is only best in rhetoric as helmsmen

never get tired of self-praise but on ground the performance level is abysmal.

Meanwhile, Gupta announced Kishtwar District Committees of NC in view of upcoming ULB elections.

The Committee has Tanveer Ahmed Kichloo as chairman and Imtiyaz Ahmed Zargar, Riyaz Ahmed Zargar, Mushtaq Ahmed, Abdul Latief Bagwan, Saroop Chand, Shabir Ahmed Kamal, Qazi Mohd Imran, Shahid Parvez Kraipak, Ishiyaq Ahmed Malik, Rajinder Kumar Sen, Abdul Hamid Dev, Nazir Ahmed Mir, Waseem Choudhary, Farooq Ahmed and Mohd Amin Safi as members.

Gupta also announced the Committee for Rural District Doda (Bhaderwah) with Abdul Quyoom Bagwan as chairman and Sheikh Mehboob Iqbal, Shahid Rehman Moghal, Shokat Ali Malik, Tanvir Ahmad Dev, Mohd. Ashraf Kulu, Abdul Rafiq Bagwan, Mohd Ayub Najjar, Masood Ahmed Rangrez, Parvaiz Ahmad Shapoo, Ghulam Ali Shaksaz, Shabir Ahmad Ganai and Shokat Ali Sheikh as members.

Residents of Gujjarpati Preng seek relief after cloudburst

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 9: The aftermath of a devastating cloudburst in the Gujjarpati Preng area of district Ganderbal has left residents seeking urgent attention and relief as they grapple with the miseries.

Alleging negligence on the part of administration, the affected residents have highlighted the lack of support following the initial compensation.

The cloudburst, which wreaked havoc on the area on July 29, has led to extensive damage to homes, orchards, a mosque and even a school.

Although an initial relief package of Rs 10,000 and blankets were provided to the affected individuals, they lament the absence of any further assessment or aid.

Local resident Abdul Rashid expressed the community's frustration, stating, "We were initially given Rs 10,000 each with a few blankets, after that we have not seen anyone to assess the damages."

He went on to share that the residents themselves had to pool resources to clear debris as no assistance was forthcoming from the authorities.

He pointed out that the lack of intervention was unjust, especially considering the urgent need for repairs to critical structures such as a damaged bund and wall.

The cloudburst's impact also extended to education, with a local middle school suffering substantial damage. Students have been forced into makeshift tents for classes, prompting calls for immediate rebuilding.

Amreena Akhtar, a student at Govt Middle School, Preng, highlighted the dire situation, saying, "The school has been damaged and we are studying in a tent. We are facing difficulties. I urge the LG to take note of the matter. It has to be rebuilt entirely."

Iqra, another student, underscored the challenges faced by students, noting the absence of toilets, drinking water facilities, and a structurally sound building.

CJI's observations on vision of Abdullah remarkable: Sadohtra

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: Former Minister and senior National Conference leader Ajay Kumar Sadohtra today recalled the great role of Late Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah in nation building and his vision of tying the destiny of Jammu and Kashmir with secular, socialist and democratic India during most testing times of history by rejecting theocratic Pakistan, which owes its existence to two nation theory.

While lauding the observations of Chief Justice of India Justice DY Chandrachud about the vision of Sheikh Abdullah's vision reflected in his 1951 speech, Sadohtra said this is an eye opener for all those myopic entities who undermine the political sagacity and farsightedness of one of the tallest leaders of the freedom struggle.

He quoted the reference read out by the Chief Justice in the open court, quoting Sheikh Sahib saying, "The most powerful argument which can be advanced in Pakistan's favour is that Pakistan is a Muslim state and a big majority of our people being Muslim, the state must accede to Pakistan but this claim of being a Muslim state is only a camouflage- it's a screen to hide the common man so that he can-

not see clearly that Pakistan is a feudal state in which a clique is trying by these methods to maintain itself in power". He said these observations about Pakistan are coming true after over seven decades now.

In a statement, Sadohtra said that some ignorant tend to underestimate role and vision of Sheikh Mohd Abdullah and his Party National Conference, which has withstood the test of times during the most difficult times in the past over seventy five years, especially during the horrendous tribal raid in Kashmir. Sadohtra said the nationalist and secular credentials of Sheikh Sahib have inspired generations to work for strengthening the bonds of brotherhood and amity besides defending the integrity and sovereignty of the nation even at the peril of ones life. The NC cadre is emulating the spirit and vision of Late Abdullah, he added.

Sadohtra said that Late Abdullah's call for inclusiveness and secularism needs to be heard in every town and village of the country at a time when political forces are trying to divide people on the basis of region and religion. He said that the ultimate goal of the NCs founder was the political and economic empowerment of the common man.



The officers of Central Bureau of Communication (CBC) during Hindi Bhasha function on Wednesday.

CBC organises workshop on Hindi Bhasha

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: The Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Government of India's Regional Office for J&K and Ladakh organized a workshop on 'Hindi Bhasha' here today.

Santosh Kumar, Assistant Director of Hindi Teaching Scheme, Jammu acted as the resource person, delivering a comprehensive overview of Raj Bhasha and its significance in official communications. He stressed the effective implementation of mandatory Raj Bhasha usage in Government communi-

cations.

The workshop was attended by Deputy Director Ayushi Puri, Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), J&K and Ladakh, as well as Khurshheed Yousof, Field Publicity Officer, CBC Udhampur, Ashwani Kumar, Accounts Officer and Ram Krishna, Administrative Officer. The event sought to enhance participants' proficiency in using Hindi and promote its proper incorporation in day-to-day official exchanges.

The workshop was aimed to provide first hand training on the usage of Hindi in official communications.

Luthra flays BJP for high prices of essential commodities

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: National Conference (NC) State vice president of Women Wing, Binla Luthra flayed the BJP-led

Government at Centre for rising prices of vegetables, milk, fuel etc.

Speaking at an interactive session with NC workers at Salahr in R.S Pura, Luthra claimed that due to the wrong policies of Government and inflation there is no relief to poor people.

She claimed that government is looting people of their hard-earned money by increasing prices of essential commodities manifold and added that during the tenure of UPA government,

BJP leaders used to make a lot of noise over the issue of inflation but now they are conveniently silent.

The NC leader exhorted women to strengthen the National Conference at grass root level and maintain peace and harmony as that will be a befitting reply to those who want to divide the society on religious and regional lines.

Those who were present in the meeting included Asha, Vidya, Swarna, Jyoti, Savita and others.

ASSOCHAM supports BEE, PDD to organize validation workshop on SEEAP

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Union Ministry of Power and J&K Power Development Department (PDD) with the support of Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) here today organized a validation workshop on State Energy

Mohit Tripathi, Project Manager ASSOCHAM and Aashish Kudal, Project Coordinator ASSOCHAM gave detailed presentation on State Energy Efficiency Action Plan for J&K.

Tripathi highlighted the detailed draft of action plan viz, electric vehicle policy, ethanol blending programme, promotion of standard



Dignitaries lighting ceremonial lamp to inaugurate a validation workshop on State Energy Efficiency Action Plan for J&K.

Efficiency Action Plan (SEEAP) for J&K.

Technical Secretary PDD, Sunil Kumar in his inaugural address said that J&K has immense scope in energy efficiency and it can be used in different sectors like buildings, MSMEs, agriculture, transport etc.

Chief Electrical Inspector & OSD, PDD, Sanjay Sharma said that action plan on energy efficiency would majorly highlight reduction of carbon emissions and measures to be energy efficient.

He stressed on putting the action plan in public domain to seek a suggestions and feedback.

Manik Batra, Chairman and Bhupesh Gupta Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM J&K Council also spoke on the occasion.

JPDCL fails to provide regular power supply to units: BBIA

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Aug 9: Bari Brahmana Industries Association (BBIA) has alleged that JPDCL has failed to provide uninterrupted power supply to the Industrial units in the area.

An urgent meeting of the BBIA was held today under the presidency of Lalit Mahajan in 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 unscheduled power cuts imposed by SLDC Division of Power Development Department/ JPDCL since last few days.

During the course of discussions members present in the meeting raised serious concern towards the unscheduled power cuts imposed by JPDCL during day and night resulting huge production as well as financial losses to the Industrial units working in Industrial hub of Bari Brahmana in spite of the facts that Department is collecting Rs 175 crores revenues from the Bari Brahmana Industrial Complex.

It is pertinent to mention here

FICCI Chairman calls upon Com/Secy I&C

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Aug 9: The Chairman of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) UT Council, Rajesh Sharma, met the Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, J&K Industries & Commerce Department, Vikramjit Singh in his office in Srinagar today.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current state of industries and commerce in the UT and to explore collaborative opportunities to boost economic growth. Sharma emphasized on the importance of promoting a conducive business environment in J&K to

that JPDCL committed to supply uninterrupted Power supply to Industrial units of Jammu & Kashmir but it is unfortunate that the Power supply from BB-1 and BB-2 Grid and Receiving Station is switched off without any intimation by SLDC Wing to Chief Engineer M&RE and System Operation. JPDCL which shows the lack of Coordination between the Departments resulting Industrial Units suffering very badly and their production always depends upon the mercy of the System and Operation Wing of the PDD who impose frequent Power cuts without any intimation to the Unit holders resulting huge production as well as financial losses to the Industrial Units engaged in the manufacturing steel/ plastic and other related products and also the Units spending huge amount on the purchase of diesel to run their units on DG Set in case of unscheduled Power cuts.

The BBIA requested the H. Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department and Shiv Anant Tayal, Managing Director, Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd. to intervene in to the matter and ensure 24 hour power supply to the Industry.

attract investments and stimulate economic development. He highlighted the potential of various sectors such as tourism, agriculture, manufacturing and information technology and stressed the need for effective policies and infrastructure development to unlock their full potential.

Singh acknowledged FICCI's commitment to support the Government's efforts to promote industrial growth, entrepreneurship, and skill development in J&K. He expressed interest in organizing joint initiatives, seminars, and skill development programs to help local industries and businesses thrive in the region.