

BJP, others took to streets across UT against selective killing in Pulwama

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: The killing of a Kashmiri Pandit, Sanjay Sharma by militants in South Kashmir district of Pulwama yesterday evoked strong protests across the J&K UT for second consecutive day today.



BJP activists protesting in Jammu against targeted killings in Kashmir on Monday.

The BJP organised massive protests at Jammu and Srinagar in which the Pakistan was directly held responsible for this dastardly and inhuman act. The protest at Jammu was led by district president of the party and corporator, Pramodh Kapahai. The protestors took out a rally and raised slogans against Pakistan and militancy. They also torched the effigy of Pakistan which they blamed is mother of terrorism.

Another protest was held by party in Srinagar today in which large number of party activists took part. The protestors were raising slogans against Pakistan and terrorism. They said that the sacrifice of Sanjay will not go waste and militants and separatists will have to pay heavy price for it.

Another protest against killing was held by party at Samba. The protestors shouting slogans against Pak and militants torched effigy of Pakistan. The protestors appealed Prime Minister, Narendra Modi to teach Pakistan a lesson for its misadventures and crush the country once for all.

Another protest against the killing of a member of minority community was held by Dogra Front - Shiv Sena here today which was led by its president, Ashok Gupta.

The protestors raised slogans against Pakistan Prime Minister, Shahab Sharif and torched his effigy. Ashok Gupta, while strongly condemning this dastardly act conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

BJP Jammu Rural and Durga Mandal of Kashmir Displaced District held a protest demonstration at Durga Nagar this evening under the leadership of Omi Khajuria, district president of the party. The protestors torched effigy of Pak PM and held it responsible for blood bath in Kashmir. They said if Pakistan will not desist from such activities it will face serious consequences. The protestors also demanded arrest of all TRF activists in Kashmir and ban on the organization. Corporator, Kapil Chib, BJP KDD Seh Prabhari, H.L Bhat, KDD president, Chand Ji Bhat, general secretary, Moti Lal Bhat, Rajiv Pandita vice president, Raksh Sadhoo and others partici-

pated in the protest. In North Kashmir's Baniptora the people held a candle light procession against the killing of a member of minority community in Achan Pulwama. The protestors demanded immediate halt on killings by militants and action against the militants responsible for the same.

PCC Migrant Cell and activists of Jagti Tenement Committee and Nove Soan Kashmir Front led by Shadi Lal Pandita held a protest at Jagti township against the killing of KP youth in Pulwama. The protestors demanded ex gratia of Rs 25 lakh to the family and job to next kin of Sanjay Sharma immediately.

The outgoing president of Jammu and Kashmir Bar Association, Jammu Mohinder Bhardwaj has strongly condemned the killing of a KP in Pulwama yesterday. He said the killing is an eye opener for both Central and UT governments and instead of applying coercive measures, they should open their eyes to the ground realities and accordingly protect the innocent citizens.

All India Migrant Camp Coordination Committee (AIMCC) strongly condemned the killing of a member of the minority KP community and demanded a probe into it. The meeting was chaired by Bal Krishan Raina. It demanded ban on TRF and arrest of its activists. Desh Rattan Pandita, president AIMCC said killing of minority Hindus is the total failure of Government in providing security to them. He said the community's hopes in present Government have been totally belied. He demanded fool proof security for minorities including package and reserved category employees in the Valley.

*** Watch video on www.excelstionews.com**

Kashmiri Khatri Hindu Maha Sabha (KKhMS) chairman, Ramesh Chander Mahajan has also strongly condemned the killing of a member of minority Hindu community in the Valley and said that it has shown that there is no end to targeted killings in sight. He urged UT and Central Government to take concrete steps should be taken to protect the lives of innocent Hindus of Kashmir Valley and justice be given to the community.

Durga Nagar Welfare Committee held a condolence meeting today in which the killing of Sanjay Sharma was strongly condemned.

Addressing the meeting Roshan Lal Raina, president Sector One and Sanjay Ganjoo president, Sector 2 demanded Government job to next kin of the deceased and adequate compensation to bereaved family. They also demanded security to the Pandits and minority employees serving in Valley.

On the call of the Traders Federation, Ware House Nehru Market Jammu Traders in large numbers took out Mashaal Rally (candle march) from Federation Office to Bikram Chowk to pay tributes to the Bank Guard, Sanjay Sharma who was killed by Militants in Pulwama on Sunday.

Traders while passing through main road Ware House raised slogans against Pakistan and the anti-national forces who Killed Sanjay Sharma on Sunday.

Speaking on the occasion Deepak Gupta, President Traders Federation Ware House Nehru Market (Regd.) strongly condemned Pakistan for carrying on the policy of enmity against India and harboring terrorists on its soil and using them to threaten life of the people & security forces in JKUT.

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President J&K National Conference, today strongly asked the Central Government to bail out the people in J&K from the prevailing situation comprising morass, uncertainty and fear psychosis on account of frequent terrorist activities especially against the minority community.

JKEDI Director flags off female entrepreneurs tour

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) today flagged off a batch of aspiring female entrepreneurs undergoing the Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) under Tejaswini scheme at the Institute's Pampore campus on a visit to the Centre for Excellence-Zawoora, Department of



JKEDI Director Ajaz Ahmad Bhat flagging off female entrepreneurs tour in Pampore on Monday.

Horticulture Canning Centre, and other industrial establishments as part of an exposure and training program.

The objective of the visit was to take the trainees beyond the boundaries of theory-based teaching to the on-site industry-based practical demonstration of different operations like production, processing, preservation, branding, quality check and more. This visit will expose the trainees to an

JKBOSE opens online portal for submission of examination forms

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: To accommodate the representations of those students of the UTs of J&K & Ladakh, who have not submitted their examination forms for session Annual Regular 2023 (10th/11th/12th), or subject change cases, or whose result has been declared after re-evaluation, the JKBOSE has given them one final opportunity to submit their examination forms through online mode.

The said online portal on official website of JKBOSE i.e www.jkbose.nic.in shall be open with effect from 28th February 2023.

Police foils major bovine smuggling bid, rescues 205 animals

Excelsior Correspondent

SAMBA, Feb 27: Police have foiled major bovine smuggling attempt and rescued 205 bovines. FIR has been lodged at Police Station (PS) Samba and investigation started.

Samba police had organized special mid night patrolling and nakas along Basantar river to check illegal and suspicious movements in the area specially during odd hours of night. During patrolling, alert police personnel observed suspicious movement of bovine smuggling



DGP Dilbag Singh chairing a meeting on Monday.

DGP asks SOG to wipe out terror ecosystem from J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: Director General of Police Dilbag Singh today asked the elite Special Operations Group (SOG) to completely wipe out the terror ecosystem from Jammu and Kashmir.

Chairing a meeting here with the heads of all DySPs Police Components to review the working of SOGs in Kashmir, the DGP also directed the component heads to submit their suggestions and identify areas that could be further improved to enhance the effectiveness of the SOG units.

The DGP stressed the need to increase focus on human intelligence besides technical inputs and exhorted all units to intensify anti-terror operations to flush out the remaining terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir.

He also directed officers to set parameters of performance for every personnel working under their command and provide training to all personnel being inducted in these units besides special refresher courses on a regular basis.

The DGP advised officers to ensure professional investigation in UAPAs case to ensure the conviction of accused and effectively deal with the terror eco-system. He also directed that Police personnel not following the professional code of conduct or involved in any activity detrimental to Police-Public relations should be identified and action initiated against them.

During the meeting, the DGP also reviewed the security scenario in the area of operation of all SOG

units across the valley and took stock of their performance. SP Cargo gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation regarding the achievements, working, and strength of each SOG camp across the valley.

The DGP appreciated the commitment and valour of officers and personnel working in these units and stressed the need to consolidate peace and normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir. He directed officers to evaluate their performances and take all necessary measures to further enhance their capabilities and capacity in view of new challenges.

Through the Tejaswini Scheme of Mission Youth, a Government of Jammu and Kashmir initiative, women of Jammu and Kashmir are empowered to enter the business world as entrepreneurs. Till now, JKEDI has trained and facilitated more than 1300 female candidates.

A team of faculty members and officers accompanied the trainees on the visit. They included Arif Ahmad Khan, Communication Officer, Ansar Ullah Machloo, District Nodal Officer, Pulwama, Shabir Hussain Shah, Faculty, and Saba Nazir, Assistant Faculty, among others. Trainees appreciated JKEDI's efforts in providing them with the opportunity to visit industrial units that will assist them in setting up their own units more effectively.

The current impasse and urged Government of India to engage with the community to discuss the way forward.

The conclave was organized jointly by Global Kashmiri Pandit Diaspora (GKPD) and Jammu Kashmiri Vichar Manch (JKVM). Seven hundred delegates from across India and all over the world attended it.

The key note speaker at the conclave was Sadhguru. Leading intellectuals, media influencers, academics, social and political activists from within and outside the community were among other speakers.

The conclave was dedicated to leading Kashmiri Pandit community activists who have passed away in exile.

Explaining ways of building the narrative, Sadhguru remarked, "I'm saying all across the country, you can demand with the Central Government as a tragedy that has unfolded in Kashmir, the injustice that has been done to the people- at least to acknowledge that. There must be in every city- at least every major city across the country, there must be a street named after Kashmir- a circle or a square named after Kashmir or there must be a Kashyapa mountain or a peak."

Dr. Surinder Kaul, co-founder of GKPD, made the welcome address and outlined the key aims of the conclave. He said "Our genocide is continuing and every death is bringing us closer to extinction. There has been a continuing lack of

IG CRPF, public delegation call on LG

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: Inspector General of CRPF, Ajay Kumar Yadav today called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan.

The IG discussed with the Lt Governor the security management in the Kashmir Valley.

A public delegation from Ganderbal District led by former Legislator, Ishfaq Jabbar also called on Lieutenant Governor.

The delegation comprising over 20 members from different parts of the Ganderbal District apprised the Lt Governor about various development & public issues.

The Lt Governor gave a patient hearing to the members of the delegation and assured appropriate redressal of their genuine issues and demands.



Principal Secretary PWD Shailendra Kumar handing over key of a vehicle under Mumkin Scheme.

Shailendra visits Patrara Panchayat, reviews development projects

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Feb 27: Principal Secretary, Public Works Department (R&B), Shailendra Kumar, today visited Patrara Panchayat of Sundernabli block as part of 'Back to Village' program.

He sought public feedback on implementation of Government schemes in the panchayat besides reviewing developmental issues.

Principal Secretary emphasized the importance of holding public outreach camps in addressing public grievances and promoting community participation in development process. "Public Outreach Camps playing pivotal role in reaching out to the common masses and providing them a platform to voice their concerns", he added. He said that these camps act as a bridge between the administration and the public.

He exhorted upon the youth to take advantage of self employment schemes for a brighter future. He distributed keys among the unemployed youth under Mumkin scheme and inspected the stall.

He urged upon the public to provide feedback on Government schemes so that the administration can take corrective measures wher-

ever necessary. "The Government of Jammu and Kashmir is committed towards public welfare and such initiatives serve as a testament to its dedication", maintained the Principal Secretary. He said that PWD (R&B) will continue to work towards betterment of the people.

On the occasion, awareness regarding recently launched property tax was also shared.

The public appreciated the Government efforts of organizing such programs which are proving instrumental in satiating their aspirations and development needs. They reported that all projects raised during the previous visit of the Principal Secretary have been completed or nearing completion.

Among others who accompanied the Principal Secretary during his visit were Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Vikas Kunal, Chief Engineer PWD(R&B), PC Tanoch, ADC Sundernabli, Vinod Kumar Behal, ACD, Vijay Kumar, SE PWD(R&B), District Social Welfare Officer, Executive Engineers PWD (R&B) Nowshera, PMGSY Rajouri and Jal Shakti Nowshera and other district officers.

Order probe in violation of Agrarian Reforms Act: JKSAC

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: The Jammu Kashmir Sharnarhi Action Committee (JKSAC), an organisation of DPs of 1947 from PoK, has reiterated its demand for constitution of a high level committee of experts to probe the violation of Agrarian Reform Act committed by certain officers/officials of Revenue department resulting into the misappropriation of lakhs of kanals of Evacuee land left by people who migrated to PoK of Pakistan in 1947.

The lakhs of kanal of Evacuee land has been swallowed by high profile political leaders, bureaucrats, non-players having nexus with certain revenue officers/officials.

The participants in the meeting appealed to Union Home Minister Amit Shah to take cognizance of this sensitive issue and issue strict advisory to UT Govt of J&K to constitute a high level committee to probe the violation of Agrarian Reform Act and misappropriation of lakhs of kanals of evacuee land. If the matter is investigated properly then it will prove biggest land scam, they not of J&K but even of India.

Addressing the meeting at Kathua, Gurdev Singh president alongwith Bhushan Sharma, Darshan Kumar Sharma, Dr Parameet Raina and Amarjeet Singh said that how much incredible it may sound but it is a hard truth that Revenue Dept is in itself a govt within govern-

GKPD, JKVM 2 day conclave ends

KPs urge Govt to discuss way forward with community

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: Kashmiri Pandits in the two -days conclave at New Delhi has expressed its disappointment at



KP leaders during a conclave at New Delhi.

engagement by the Government of India with the community and it is high time that drastic measures are taken to redress the situation."

On the first day, the team of 'The Kashmir Files' was honoured. Anupam Kher, Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri, Pallavi Joshi, Bhasha Sumbly and Sourav Verma received the 'Vistasa Purusharth Samman'.

Eminent community sports person Ankita Raina (Tennis) and Kuldeep Handoo (Wushu) received an award for their making the community proud by excelling in their fields.

Over two days, panel discussions were held where several eminent people deliberated on key matters concerning the community.

Community leaders, Surinder Ambardar and Ajey Bharti, senior advocate Ashok Bhan, journalists Asha Khosa and R.K. Mattoo, academics Prof. Sudhir Sopory and Prof. Amitabh Mattoo and senior community activists C.L. Gadoo, H.L. Bhat and T.N. Razdan attended the conclave.

At the conclave, the 'Vision document and road map-Integrated Smart Regional settlement Hub' was presented to the community which will soon be forwarded to the Government.

The conclave resolution was also tabled. It reaffirmed the community's inalienable right to Justice, offers firm support to those who continue to suffer due to Government inaction, urged the Government of India to engage with the community and called upon the Government support the Recourse, Restitution, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill 2002 tabled at Rajya Sabha.

India's G20 Presidency campaign at BGSBU: Seminar on LiFE held

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Feb 27: As a part of the series of initiatives planned at Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah



BGSBU VC awarding the students who participated in seminar & won positions.

in Glasgow on 1st November 2021, calling upon the global community to drive LiFE as an international mass movement towards "mindful and deliberate utilization, instead of mindless and destructive consumption" to protect and preserve the environment. Prof Akbar appreciated the students for their active participation in various G20 related events being organized by the University.

Students from various departments of the University participated in the seminar and presented their views. Those who participated, included Mishab Wani, Adil Nadeem, Insha Ikhtlaq, Faizan Ahmed Dar, Tariq Ali, Hiba Mir, Surya Misri, Mohd Fareed Raz, Madiha Mirza, Muhammad Arsalan Wani, Zaighan Abbas Jaffri and Mohd Asif. Faizan Ahmed Dar of Department of Information & Technology got the first prize whereas Zaighan Abbas Jaffri of Department of Arabic & Insha Ikhtlaq of Department of Physics got second and third prizes, respectively.

Dr Danish Iqbal Raina, Deputy Director, Centre for Hospitality and Tourism, presented the opening remarks. Those who spoke on the occasion included Dr Romina Rashid, HOD English; Dr Manzar Alam, Assistant Professor Department of Arabic and Dr Mohd Hanief, Assistant Professor Department of Botany. Students and faculty members of various departments were also present on the occasion.

The seminar has been organized under UGC's 'University Connect', programme which aims to facilitate awareness among students, faculty members and staff on India's G20 Presidency. The seminar was organized by the Centre for Hospitality and Tourism, BGSBU.

Prof Akbar Masood, Vice Chancellor of the University, said that India's G20 Presidency is a matter of pride for every citizen of the country. He mentioned that this occasion has brought us an opportunity to lead the world and provide the best solutions for various global issues.

Prof Akbar said that the concept of 'Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE)' was introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at COP26



Artists performing 'Kud' dance at Amar Mahal in Jammu.

'Kud' dance performed at Tawi Art Festival

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: Theatre group Natrang here today presented 'Kud' dance at Tawi Art Festival organized by Hari Tara Charitable Trust.

The electrifying energy of the traditional 'Kud' performers who hail from Reasi received tremendous appreciation of all for their highly engaging presentation.

The most noteworthy feature of 'Kud' presentation was that the performers beautifully maintained all traditional movements and rhythms of centuries.

Natrang Director, Padmashri Balwant Thakur thanked Dr. Jyotsana Singh, Conceptualizer, designer and presenter of Tawi Art Festival for giving this rarest opportunity to the traditional 'Kud' performers for allowing them to show-

case their art in front of majestic Amar Mahal.

Describing Kud, Balwant Thakur informed that 'Kud' is one of the most popular dance forms of the hills of Reasi which can also be found in Kathua, Udhampur and Doda districts.

Primarily performed by men-folk this ritualistic dance is performed to please local deities. People have a belief that during village celebrations and rituals, organized in the honour of local deities, whole men-folk perform 'Kud' and missing the same may annoy the local deity which no one can afford to do.

For centuries this wonderful tradition of dance survived in the same fashion and later it begin to be performed in other festivities like marriages, child birth and crop cutting occasions.

People rue absence of doctors at M&CH Sopore

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 27: The lack of doctors at Mother and Child Hospital (M&CH) Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla today forced people to stage a protest, as their patients confront problems.

In this regard, scores of people held a protest demonstration against the hospital administration after they found that no doctor was present to attend to them.

As a form of protest, the people blocked the road near the hospital for hours, which was

eventually cleared following police intervention.

One of the patients claimed they had been waiting since early morning and that there was no doctor accessible at the hospital.

This is not the first time we have seen such events; they frequently occur here. The relevant authorities fail to even address the problem, he said.

After the protest, the officials stated that they had sent a doctor because the one who had been stationed there had left for training.

ed by Dr Rattan Basotra, Editor Dogri while vote of thanks was presented by Yashpaul Nirmal, Assistant Editor Dogri JKAA-CL.

The second session was dedicated to Short Story which was presided over by Prof Lalit Magotra and Dr Om Vidhyarthi.

Besides that, Shiv Mehta, Chaman Arora, Om Vidhyarthi, Krishana Prem, Dr Sunita Bhadwal and Raghuvir Sharma presented their Short Stories on the contemporary subjects.

The last session was a Dogri cultural program in which Shapant Singh and Party presented a Dogri folk Dance Kud. The program was very conducted by Dr Yashpaul Nirmal, Assistant Editor, JKAA-CL. Vote of thanks was presented by Dr Shahnawaz Choudhary, Editor cum Cultural Officer, JKAA-CL.

Dogri Literary & Cultural Festival: Poetry & Short Story sessions held

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 27: On fourth day of Dogri Literary and Cultural Festival, three sessions were held on poetry recitation, Short-Story telling and cultural programme, here today at K.L. Saigal Hall, Jammu.

The first session of the fourth day was dedicated to Dogri poetry. It was presided over by Randhir Raipuria, Dr Naseeb Singh Manhas and Vijay Verma.

Poets, who presented poetry in this session, included Sambhu Ram Paysa, Harish Kaila, Vijay Verma, Girdhari Lal Rahi, Brij Mohan, Satya Paul Gadwalia, Neelam Verma, C.S. Kattal, Ranbir Singh Chib, Joginder Pal, Jinder, Dr Padam Dev Singh, Dr Sudarshan Khajuria, Nirmal Vinod, Bisakhi Ram and Dr Abhay Singh Bhadwal.

Poetry session was conduct-