

AAP vice president calls on Advisor to LG, submits memorandum

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Jan 28: In order to put forth the grievances of masses of Kashmir and to press Government for redressal of same by shunning casual approach,



AAP leader during a meeting with Advisor RR Bhatnagar at Srinagar on Saturday.

Aam Aadmi Party's Vice President of Kashmir province, Er. Nazir Ahmed Yattoo has submitted a written memorandum for Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha.

This memorandum has been submitted for Lieutenant Governor through his Advisor RR Bhatnagar.

A delegation of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) headed by Nazir Ahmed Yattoo called on Advisor to LG, RR Bhatnagar and discussed various issues of public importance with him.

The delegation, while submitting a memorandum appealed him for its onwards submission before Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha.

In the memorandum, a wide range of public issues have been highlighted and hardships faced by the people of Kashmir have been enlisted.

Nazir Yattoo has mentioned the suffering of fruit growers and other people associated with horticulture and losses suffered by them due to adverse climatic conditions in previous fruiting season, regular blockage of highway during peak fruit crop export period due to which most of the people associated with horticulture sector have suffered huge losses and even the KCC loans and financial aid received under other Government schemes that was used by the farmers to boost their crop productivity got waste.

"We demand for a proper policy to compensate the farmers of horticulture sector not only for the losses suffered in previous season

but this policy should be there for all the upcoming fruiting seasons so that people affiliated with horticulture sector of Kashmir which is the backbone of economy of Valley can remain confident about helping hand of Government around the clock." Er. Yattoo said.

He also demanded that loan facility the fruit growers have already availed under KCC scheme be waived off and the subsidy in the current scheme may be increased.

AAP leader also demanded establishment of university in the name of Holy Saint Sheikh Ul Alam Sheikh Noor ud Din Noorani at Charar-e-Sharif.

While demanding establishment of a specific maternity Hospital in district Budgam he said that many areas of the district are located in far flung pockets making it difficult for pregnant women to reach maternity Hospital in Kashmir to avail treatment for which there is urgent need of hour to establish a Maternity Hospital in Budgam.

AAP leaders have also discussed the pivotal services offered by Special Police Officers (SPOs) in Police Department and NHM employees in Health Department.



Army officers during organ donation awareness programme at Command Hospital in Udhampur on Saturday.

Command Hospital Udhampur hosts organ donation programme

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: To spread awareness regarding organ donation among defence personnel, medical faculty and families Command Hospital Udhampur organized an awareness program on organ donation and transplantation under THOTA 1994 at Dhruva Auditorium Udhampur.

Major General SC Dash MG welcomed the SOTTO J&K team on the occasion. He also shared his experience as a transplant Surgeon. Dr Sanjeev Puri, Joint Director SOTTO J&K explained the procedure involved in human organ donation especially Cadaveric Donation with legal implications and motivated the audience to pledge for organ donation. He

also assured support from SOTTO J&K to encourage Northern Command Hospital Udhampur to start Organ Retrieval Centre and Corneal Transplantation centre in public interest.

Lt. Col Priya Taank explained about Corneal Transplantation for benefiting corneal blindness. Lt. Col Nimit Solanki explained the Renal Transplantation with live and deceased donation. Vote of thanks was presented by Maj Gen DK Sreevastava, Commandant.

The whole event was organized by Col Gopi, Organ Pledging was managed by Irfan Ahmad, Transplant Coordinator SOTTO J&K, Nisha Kumari, Programme Assistant SOTTO J&K and Ashok Singh, Driver SOTTO J&K.

Anurag Thakur calls for forging cinematic partnership among SCO nations

*** "Bharat Hai Hum" animation series promo launched**

Excelsior Correspondent

MUMBAI/DELHI, Jan 28: The five day SCO Film Festival opened in Mumbai Friday evening in a glittering ceremony with the Union Minister Anurag Thakur and Minister of State Meenakshi Lekhi lighting the lamp along with other dignitaries.

The Guest of Honour at the opening ceremony Ms. Hema Malini and other eminent film personalities like Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Sajid Nadiadwala, Esha Gupta, Poonam Dhillon, Eli Avram, Hrishita Bhatt and Jacky Bhagnani were felicitated on the occasion.

"Indian movies are a rage across SCO countries and have played a great role in people-to-people connections" said the Minister of Information & Broadcasting, Anurag Singh Thakur adding that showcasing the diversity of films and styles of film making from SCO region is a major goal of the film festival. Thakur further said this festival provides an incredible opportunity to forge cinematic partnership between the countries of this region.



I&B Minister Anurag Thakur & MoS Meenakshi Lekhi with Bollywood stars during SCO Film Festival.

The SCO Film Festival screens a total of 57 films and 14 Films have been nominated in the Competition Section of the Film Festival. These include PanNalin's Oscar short listed Gujarati Film 'ChheloShow' and Nikhil Mahajan's award winning Marathi Film 'Godavari'.

The SCO Film Festival is being held during India's Presidency of the International Cooperation Organization. It also coincides with the celebration of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

On this occasion, the Promo of the animation series "Bharat

Hai Hum" was released. The 52 part series being produced by the Central Bureau of Communication in collaboration with Graphiti Multi Media on behalf of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, tells the story of known and unknown freedom fighters to our most precious audience - the Children. The series under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav banner is being anchored by the affable cartoon characters Krish, Trish and Baltiboy created by Munjal Shroff and Tilak Shetty. Veteran playback singer Sudesh Bhosale has given the voice over of the animation series "Bharat

JKAACL organises cultural evening at Mubarak Mandi

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) organised a cultural evening under Jashn-e-Dogra-Virasat



A group dance being presented under Jashn-e-Dogra-Virasat program at Mubarak Mandi on Saturday.

e-Dogra-Virasat programme here at Mubarak Mandi on Saturday.

As per a statement, the main highlight of the event organised in collaboration with the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu and Mubarak Mandi Jammu Heritage Society (MMJHS), was traditional Dogri songs by Kuldeep Majotra and party, a celebrated group of the region. This was followed by Dogri dances presented by Happy Gupta and Party. Both the programmes mesmerized the audience.

Meanwhile Dilshad Ahmed (Shazi) kept the audience engrossed with his satirical art of anchoring.

"The programmes organised under the Jashn-e-Dogra-Virasat

are aimed at reviving the rich and vanishing vernacular culture of Jammu region," said Bharat Singh, Secretary, JKAACL.

He said the youth of the region were highly encouraged to participate in these programmes to witness the grandeur of the regional heritage.

"The cultural academy's effort in promoting the cultural sensitivities is receiving round of appreciation from the art and culture connoisseurs of the region," he added.

Govt reconstitutes BoDs of J&K Cements Ltd

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: Jammu and Kashmir Government today accorded sanction to the reconstitution of Board of Directors (BoDs) of the J&K Cements Limited.

"In suppression of all previous orders on the subject and in terms of Article 77(c) of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the Corporation, sanction is hereby accorded to the re-constitution of the Board of Directors of Jammu and Kashmir Cements Limited," read an order issued by the General Administration Department.

As per the order, the reconstituted BoDs of the J&K Cements Limited shall be headed by Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the

Lieutenant Governor while Prashant Goyal, Principal Secretary to the Government, Industries and Commerce Department; H Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary to the Government, PDD; Dr Neelu Gera, Chairman, Pollution Control Board; Dr Raghav Langar, Secretary to the Government, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department; OP Bhagat, Director, Geology and Mining Department; SL Pandita, Director General, Codes, Finance Department; Javed Yousuf Dar, Chief Engineer, Electric (Distribution) KPDC and Rakesh Sharma, Managing Director, J&K Cements Limited, shall be the new Directors of the BoDs.

JKTF constitutes Kishtwar unit

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, Jan 28: After nomination of Rajesh Parihar as the district president, Jammu Kashmir Teacher Forum has constituted its district unit

According to a release, Mohd Aslam and Zai-Ul-Haq were appointed as vice-president while post of General Secretary was given to Raj Kumar.

Chief Organiser is Kuldeep Bhandari; Organisers are Abdul Latif and Ramesh Chander; Chief Spokesperson is Deepak Sharma;

Additional Spokespersons are Liyaqat Ali and Daleep Kumar; Press & Publicity Secretaries are Gurvinder Singh and Binori Lal; Media coordinator is Sunil Kumar; Convener is Rakesh Kumar; Legal Advisor is Ajaz Hussain Ahanger; Chief Advisors are Mohd Shafi Giri and Nizam Din; Parshotam and - Mahroof Ahmed are Advisors; Neeraj Sharma is Joint Secy; Chief Coordinator is Hamayun Akhter and Coordinator- Akhter Khanday while Treasurer is Shaqfat Hussain Khanday.

Showkat Ali, Bansi Lal, Raghu Nath, Lalit Kumar and Sunil Kumar are the executive members.

Notorious drug-peddler arrested with heroin

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Jan 28: Continuing its war against drugs, a police party of Rajouri under the close supervision of DySP Hrs Rajouri Chanchal Singh and Additional SP Vivek Shekhar today arrested a notorious drug peddler who is known to be involved in drug peddling since long.

On a specific tip off police parties laid a naka at Salani bridge and intercepted a Thar vehicle and upon frisking 240 gms of heroin was recovered from possession of Afzar Mirza, a resident of Dandkot in Rajouri.

In this regard a case FIR No. 40/2023 U/S 8/21/29 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Rajouri and further investigation is going on.

Meanwhile, police said that 2 more associates of drug peddler Afzar Mirza have gone underground and police is raiding many suspected hideouts to nab the absconding drug peddlers but could not get success till the reports last came in.

DIPR hosts symposium cum cultural prog

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Jan 28: Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Cultural wing Jammu, in collaboration with District Information Centre Udhampur, today organised a Symposium cum cultural programme on "Cultural Practices for Sustainable Environment" here at Government Girls High School, Udhampur.

President Senior Citizen Club Udhampur Mahadeep Singh was the chief guest at the event organised under the supervision of Cultural Officer, Jammu Parul Khajuria.

As many as seven students participated in the symposium competition and threw light on the topic.

Addressing the gathering, the chief guest lauded the efforts of the information Department for organising the programme. He said that the contest has enabled the students to explore their talent on a common platform which would help in building self-confidence amongst them. He urged the department

to organize more such programmes to raise awareness of the future of the nation.

In Symposium competition, Shruti of host school clinched first position while Ipsitha and Sandhya bagged second and third positions, respectively.

Sarita Kumari, Anita Kumari and Naveen Sharma acted as judges.

Later, artists of the Information department presented a scintillating cultural program which was highly appreciated by everyone.

The proceedings of the whole program was conducted by Pooja Thappa and Suresh Kumar.

At the end of the programme, Head Master of the school Nek Ram Sharma presented the vote of thanks.

Among others, Bal Krishan, Assistant Cultural Officer, Members of Senior Citizen Club Udhampur, staff members and students of the school besides officials of Information Department were present on the occasion.

Rahul must come clear on Article 370: Abhinav

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: Raising a big question mark on Rahul Gandhi's eerie silence over the issue of scrapping of Article 370 during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, Abhinav Sharma spokesperson BJP J&K sought a detailed response from the Congress leader and questioned the joining of hands with staunch supporters of the contentious Article of Constitution including National Conference (NC) and PDP besides other constituents of PAGD.

In a statement issued here, today, the BJP leader said that Rahul should come clear on the issue of Article 370 because if the Congress is in

support of making this Article null and void then why it is allowing the constituents of PAGD to be part of its Bharat Jodo Yatra? He said that hobnobbing of Congress with Kashmir based NC and PDP especially during the BJJ clearly means that Congress is on their side.

"Whatever is the case, Rahul should clear the stance of the party to clear the doubts among the people of UT of J&K and the entire country because being the oldest political party should not keep the people in dark over this sensitive and significant issue, which has the potential to decide the fate of Kashmir imbroglio," Abhinav said.

BIS conducts sensitization programme for DLOs

Excelsior Correspondent

GANDERBAL, Jan 28: The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), Jammu and Kashmir Branch Office organized a sensitization programme for the District Level Officers (DLOs) of Ganderbal here today.

As per a statement, the objective of the programme was to develop better understanding and insights of standard formulation, use of Indian Standards and to promote procurement of ISI marked products by Government offices.

Addressing the participants, the ADC Ganderbal, Mehraj Ud Din Shah said that standardization is of utmost importance for development. He praised the BIS care app

and other initiatives taken by BIS for the development of the activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods.

Pankaj Atri, Joint Director BIS-JKBO gave detailed presentation on department specific standards, standards formulation, product certification, hallmarking and compulsory registration scheme. He demonstrated "Know Your Standards" portal of BIS through which standards can be easily located and downloaded free of cost.

The BIS Officers also highlighted various initiatives of the BIS in bringing quality products to the customers.

The programme was attended by more than 20 district and sectoral officers of the district.

Neelam Wali's Sharda Lipi Prakashika hits stalls

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: Sharda Lipi Prakashika a comprehensive manual for learning of



Sharda Lipi Prakashika being released at Jammu on Saturday.

Sharda script hit stalls today. The manual was released at a simple but impressive function here, today.

It was released by Ramesh Hangloo founder Director Radio Sharda along with T N Razdan, Senior Supreme Court advocate and Pt Avtar Jyotshi, spokesperson Pt Prem Nath Shastri Sanskritik Shodh Sansthan.

The book has been written by Neelam Razdan Wali for the promotion of Sharda Lipi around the globe.

Speaking on the occasion, Ramesh Hangloo termed the book as a great contribution of Neelam Razdan. He said the book is outcome of her dedication towards the civilizational roots. He appealed the Government to make the Sharda

script mandatory for primary and middle school students especially for the students of Kashmiri Pandit community in the camp schools.

He said the book will definitely connect the Kashmiri Pandits to the thousands years of rich civilization of Kashmir.

T N Razdan, Advocate Supreme Court, while giving accolades to Neelam for her contribution, asked the community members especially the youth to take advantage of her work.

Pt Avtar Krishan Jyotshi described the book as cultural symbol and appealed socio-cultural organizations for its promotion and propagation. He said we all should learn the script and translate the great works written in this script. He assured all possible help to Neelam from the Panchang Karyalya. The vote of thanks was proposed by Sunil Wali another a social activist.



Secy Mining, Amit Sharma during visit to the mining sites in Kathua-Samba districts on Saturday.

Amit Sharma visits mining sites in Samba, Kathua

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: Secretary to Government, Mining Department, Amit Sharma on Saturday visited several mining sites located close to the Delhi-Katra Expressway and Semi Ring Road in Kathua and Samba Districts.

Sharma was accompanied by District Mineral Officers and Managing Director, J&K Minerals Limited.

As per a statement, Amit Sharma, Secretary Mining Department, took first-hand account of the ongoing mining works close to the road projects of the national importance and issued explicit directions to the officers to ensure uninterrupted supply of raw material for such projects to ensure their timely completion.

He also directed the departmental officers to hold regular meetings with the stakeholders so that their issues could be

resolved on the spot. He also laid emphasis on widespread publicity campaigns in all the 20 districts of the UT for popularising the mining e-marketplace platform.

"It can be accessed at geologymining.jk.gov.in with e-challan as the basis of same with online payment and choice-based selection of supplier for purchase of raw material, which has been created on the pattern of popular Amazon and Flipkart e-marketplaces," the Secretary Mining said.

Before concluding his visit, Amit Sharma assured the executing agencies of the road projects of the national importance that Director Geology and Mining shall be ensuring in future that the requisite mining materials are supplied uninterruptedly. "But at the same time, the executing agencies must also ensure that they take mining material from legal sources only," hoped Sharma.

Robotics changed outcome of knee replacement in big way: Dr Avtar Singh

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 28: Amandeep Group of Hospitals is one of the leading healthcare service provider groups of the country, providing best knee pain treatment and joint pain treatment.

Dr. Avtar Singh, who is the Chief Orthopaedic Surgeon of the hospital, has successfully performed more than 2000 robotic knee replacements. He has made innumerable contributions to the field of orthopaedics. It was in the year 2018 when he first introduced robotic knee replacement technology to the hospital. Since then, Dr. Avtar and his team have performed over 2,000 operations.

He considers this to be one of his great achievements and says, "This achievement is not just about numbers, but the lives we have changed and the pain we have alle-

viated with our technology."

Dr. Singh further said: "Next-generation robotics technology is an innovative tool that allows us to improve patient outcomes and reduce complications significantly. The recovery time is also faster as compared to traditional treatment methods. I'm glad that I found success in bringing this technology to people and thus rewriting their lives from an entirely new perspective."

He asserted that Robotics has changed the outcome of knee replacement patients in a big way and all his patients who underwent robotics knee replacement surgery are happier than before.

Dr. Avtar Singh is world's first Punjabi Sikh surgeon to perform robot-assisted knee replacement surgery.



Tehsildar Pahalgam, Dr. Mohammad Hussain gets Certificate and Award of Excellence by the Administration in Pahalgam on Republic Day. Dr. Hussain has streamlined the Revenue Administration in Pahalgam.