

## Facilitate movement of civilians, tourists on National Highway as well: CS

**\*Yatris also free to visit other tourist places**

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, July 1: In view of the beginning of Shri Amarnathji Yatra 2023 today, a high-level meeting of both Civil and Police administration was today held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta to review the traffic scenario on NH-44 including that of the roads leading to Pahalgam and Baltal.



On the occasion, Dr Mehta maintained that J&K has moved much ahead and our approach towards the management of affairs should be facilitative. He impressed upon the concerned to streamline both tourists and civilian traffic along with the yatris for their movement on the National Highway.

He asked for maintaining a reasonable gap between LMVs and HMVs so that none face any difficulty in reaching their destinations. He observed that the highway today is in much better shape with four lanes and tunnels except few difficult stretches. He reflected that all this should have the desired impact on ground. He asked the concerned authorities to perform their roles efficiently.

The Chief Secretary even directed the senior officers from the Traffic Department to closely monitor and supervise the performance of their subordinates through field inspections themselves on the ground. He advised them to completely take the affairs in their hands and decide for themselves about the effective use of the resources at hand.

He enquired about the use of traffic management paraphernalia like installation of CCTVs on National Highway, Motor bikes, interceptors and their outcomes. He called for a detailed report to be submitted to him about the same within a couple of days. He also emphasised on taking full advantage of Integrated Command and Control Centres established in both the capital cities for better management of traffic. He asked for fully switching to e-Challenging in the city limits for having better control over the traffic and its violators.

Regarding the movement of

yatra and other tourists, the Chief Secretary said that all of them should be facilitated and there should be no undue restrictions on anyone. He stated that adherence to time discipline in terms of ROP is the part of SOP that is largely aimed at ensuring safety of one and all. He emphasised on creating ample awareness about these timings at all the base camps including tourist locations of Pahalgam and Sonamarg etc so that people are able to comply readily and enjoy visits to the breath-taking locales of J&K.

As far as the satisfaction level



A delegation of GPC Pulwama during meeting with LG.

## Delegation of GPC Pulwama calls on LG

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, July 1: A delegation of Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee Pulwama called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today.

Earlier, Surinder Ambarar, former Legislator also called on the Lt Governor and projected various public welfare issues.

## DGP sanctions special welfare relief of Rs 1.16 cr

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, July 1: In order to extend a helping hand to the families of the police personnel/SPOs who have passed away while in service, the Director General of Police (DGP), Dilbag Singh, has sanctioned a special welfare relief of Rs 1.16 crore. He has also sanctioned a retirement gift of Rs 79 lakh.

A press statement said that under the welfare initiative, special welfare relief of Rs 22 lakh each has been sanctioned for the dependents/legal heirs of the deceased police personnel SI Nand Lal, ASI Mohammad Farooq, Selection Grade Constables Mushtaq Ahmad, Kamal Kishore, and Ram Parshad, who lost their lives while serving the department.

As immediate relief, an amount of Rs 1 lakh has already been provided to the Next of Kin (NoK) of the deceased police personnel to assist them in performing the last rites. This financial assistance has

been granted from the Contributory Police Welfare Fund. Additionally, the DGP has sanctioned special relief of Rs 6 lakh for the dependents/legal heirs of deceased SPO Ghulam Nabi, who passed away while engaged with the department. This financial aid has been disbursed from the Contributory Welfare Fund of SPOs.

In another gesture of appreciation, the DGP has sanctioned a retirement gift of Rs 79 lakh to honor 79 police personnel who are retiring from service today after attaining superannuation or opting for voluntary retirement. This token of appreciation has been granted in favour of 8 gazetted officers, 48 non-gazetted officers, 18 lower subordinates, 4 followers, and 1 nursing orderly, belonging to different units and wings of the Department. Each retiring police personnel will receive a retirement gift of Rs 1 lakh from the Contributory Police Welfare Fund.

## Night temps drop below normal in Kashmir

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, July 1: Amid forecast of mainly dry weather with possibility of isolated light rain in Kashmir, the minimum temperature dropped and settled below normal in Kashmir today.

The other instructions passed on by the Chief Secretary during the meeting included providing opportunities to the locals to do trade as per the past practice, strictly complying with RFID based registrations, restriction on overcrowding of passenger vehicles besides taking all the measures of waste collection and cleanliness enroute, and around the basecamps for pleasant experience of all the devotees.



Head LPG North of Bharatgas Ranjan Nair along with other officials and distributors during an event at Jammu.

## BPCL declares Jammu as Zero Cash LPG City

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, July 1: To ensure trust and transparency among LPG consumers, Bharatgas division of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has declared Jammu City as Zero Cash LPG City i.e. all customers shall be encouraged to do 100% digital transactions for booking LPG cylinders and no LPG staff will insist for cash payment.

The declaration was made by higher officials of BPCL and Bharatgas during an event held here today. This event has been launched all across Northern Region by Ranjan Nair, Head LPG North, State Head PSO Mainak Mukherjee, Territory Manager Sandeep Kumar Raina and Manager Sales Naveen Kumar participated in the event which was attended by distributors across Northern Region.

LPG distributors shall communicate the same to consumers through various means and empower 100% their LPG Delivery Boys with Universal QR Codes for all major portals like Gpay, PayTM, Amazon etc to enroll both Post Paid and Pre Paid City i.e. all customers shall be encouraged to do 100% digital transactions for booking LPG cylinders and no LPG staff will insist for cash payment.

Jammu Distributor representatives and delivery boys from M/s Tawi Gas, M/s Shiva Gas, M/s Manhas Bharat Gas, M/s Maa Vaishno Devi Bharatgas and M/s Om Sai Bharatgas were present and made commitment to ensure 100% transparency and trust by going 100% digital, making Jammu City for Bharatgas consumers a Zero Cash LPG City, further strengthening the vision of Digital India.

## Khour murder case accused arrested

**Excelsior Correspondent**

JAMMU, July 1: Police claimed today that they have arrested six people who were allegedly involved in the murder of one person in Khour Area.

A police spokesperson said that on June 21, 2023, a case FIR number 65/2023 under sections 307/147/109/34 IPC was registered at Police Station Khour after one Darshan Lal son of late Gari Ram of Chak Malal Tehsil Khour, District Jammu, was grievously injured by some persons over a land dispute.

During the treatment, the injured person succumbed to the injuries and accordingly offence under section 302 was added in the FIR, he said.

According to him, all the accused persons in the murder case identified as Swarn Singh alias Gosha, Sudesh Kumar alias Shinda, Neelam Kumari wife of Sudesh Kumar, Seema Devi wife of Swarn Singh, Madan Lal, and Soma Devi, all residents of

Prangla Tehsil Khour, District Jammu, had fled away from the spot after the commission of the crime.

In the instant case, he said, various teams were constituted by the SDPO Akhnoor Mohan Lal Sharma under the supervision of SP Rural Rahul Charak to arrest the accused persons.

"The teams raided various places at Kathua, Samba, and Reasi Districts and arrested all the accused persons involved in the gruesome murder of Darshan Lal over the land dispute," he said.

The tractor used in the commission of the offence has also been seized, said the police spokesperson.

The arrest and recoveries were made by SHO Khour, Inspector Rahul Mahajan, assisted by PSI Kapil Singh, incharge Border Police Post (BPP) Jogawan.

Further investigation in the case is in progress, added the police spokesperson.

## 19th All India Legal Services Authorities Meet concludes

**Excelsior Correspondent**

SRINAGAR, July 1: The two days 19th All India Legal Services Authorities meet organized by Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority concluded today at SKICC here.

On the second day of the meet, five sessions were held under the chairmanship of Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Executive Chairman NALSA and Judge Supreme Court of India.

The first session dealt with confirmation of the minutes of

The third session extensively dealt with court based legal aid with subject area encompassing Legal Aid Defence Counsel System (LADCS), its existing status in States/UTs, selection criteria at various levels and office space and infrastructure relating to the system. A discussion was also held regarding resizing the panel of Legal Aid Counsels and the concept of Open Prisons and role of Legal Services institutions in context thereof.

In the fourth session, the subject area of legal empowerment and Eco-Justice was deliberated, discussions were focussed

Services Committee, Judges of Supreme Court of India, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State for Law and Justice; Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor UT of Jammu & Kashmir; Brig. Dr. BD Mishra, Lieutenant Governor UT of Ladakh; Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh & Patron-in-Chief J&K Legal Services Authority; Justice Tashi Rabstan Judge High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh & Executive Chairman J&K Legal Services Authority and Ladakh and Judges of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh.



Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and other dignitaries during ALLSA meet at SKICC in Srinagar.

the 18th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authority held at Jaipur, Rajasthan in July, 2022. The session also deliberated upon the subject area of technology in Legal Services with a discourse on strengthening National Legal Aid Helpline -15100 and NALSA's digital digital platform.

The second session focused on the subject area of Legal Aid to under trial prisoners with emphasis on strengthening legal services at pre-arrest, arrest and remand stage along with strengthening and monitoring of legal services in prisons and at police stations. The role of legal services authorities in rehabilitation of prisoners after release was also discussed in the session.

on need based and area specific legal services covering the subjects of "Reach-Out", awareness and community participation in dispute resolution. The role of Legal Services institution in eco-justice was also discussed in this session. The fifth session exclusively dealt with the utilisation and audit of NALSA grants.

Pertinently, the 19th All India Legal Services Authorities Meet was inaugurated by Justice Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud, Chief Justice of India in presence of Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Judge Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman NALSA; Justice Sanjay Khanna, Judge Supreme Court of India & Chairman Supreme Court Legal

D.C Raina Advocate General; Senior Advocates, Officers from the Civil Administration, Police department, Registry of Supreme Court and High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Judicial Officers, Prominent NGOs, Law students also, attended the inaugural function. The Meet was also attended by Chief Justices of High Courts, Executive Chairpersons State Legal Services Authorities, Chairpersons High Court Legal Services Committees, Member Secretaries SLSAs and Member Secretaries of HCLSCs.

The programme concluded with the valedictory session and concluding remarks by the chair.

## Sky-rocketing prices of vegetables spoiled budget of common man in Jammu

**\*Tomato topped the chart with price of Rs 80-100 per kg**

**Govind Sharma**

JAMMU, July 1: The skyrocketing prices of vegetables have levied an additional burden on the people of Jammu and spoiled the budget of common man, who was already facing the heat of high prices of cooking gas and other food articles.

Local citizens told Excelsior that vegetable prices have gone beyond their purchasing capacity. Tomato which is used to cook every vegetable and pulse (dal) is being sold at Rs 70-100 per kg, Beans Rs 40-50 per kg and Gourd Rs 40-50 per kg in the retail market of Jammu. They said that with the advent of monsoon, prices of vegetables have become double and even triple.

"Middle class consumers are finding it hard to purchase the vegetables. Tomato was being sold at Rs 20-30 per kg few days back and Gourd at Rs 10-20 per kg and now Tomato prices have become four times and prices of Gourd have become three while at the same time, their quality is not good," said Puran Lal, a retired Government servant while talking to Excelsior.

Meenakshi, a housewife which had come to purchase some vegetables in Parade Vegetable Market,

said, "Every vegetable seller has set its own price. Some are selling Tomato at Rs 70 while others are selling it at Rs 80 or 90. There is no check and shopkeepers are looting the public with impunity." She appealed the LG Administration to form committees for market checking and keep check on rising prices of vegetables.

"Fruits prices were already beyond the reach of poor and now vegetables prices are also making

**\* Watch video on [www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)**

new records. There is no vegetable less than Rs 50-60 per kg. Gourd which is recommended to the patients by the doctors is also out of the reach of common masses. Even prices of potatoes and onions have also soared," Viorender Kumar, who works in a private company, said.

Reena Rani—a private tutor said that earlier they used to purchase vegetables in kilograms but due to steep hike in prices, now they are forced to buy either 250 g or 500 g. Even prices of green leafy vegetables are touching sky, she added.

"The incessant rainfall for the past few weeks in other parts of North India has damaged the vegetable crops. This is not anything new,

prices of vegetables soar in Monsoon season every year but this time unseasonal rains and hailstorms in the month of June severely affected the local production of various vegetables, squeezing the supply chain," said Surinder Singh, president of Wholesale Vegetable Market, Narwal.

He further shared that earlier, several vegetables like cauliflower, peas, beans, tomatoes, brinjal, radish, etc used to come at Narwal Mandi from hilly and mountainous regions of Jammu, Udhampur, Kathua and Ramban districts but this year, all crops grown in these areas damaged due to incessant rains occurred few days back. "The slump in supply and rise in demand for vegetables have further led to prices shooting up," opined Singh.

Singh said the only local vegetable which is coming in the wholesale market of Narwal is 'Kasrot' and its prices are stable but prices of other vegetables have doubled in the last 10 days due to lack of supply. He said in the near future, there is no hope of cooling down of prices until local supply of vegetable starts and chances of this are very grim.

## Connectivity to Kishtwar restored after 12 hrs

**Excelsior Correspondent**

KISHTWAR, July 1: Road connectivity to Kishtwar was restored today after it remained close for about 12 hrs.

As per reports last night at around 3 am there was a landslide between Thathri-Kishtwar on NH 244 near Kandani, 22 km from Kishtwar as a result of which the vehicular traffic was stopped from both sides.

"Though men and machinery were pressed into service to clear the slide but it was only after carrying out blasts the boulders could be removed and the road was cleared for vehicular moment after 2 pm giving a big relief to the people who were stuck on the highway due to landslide.

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**Date & Time:**  
Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 | 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**For an appointment,**  
9419116821, 8715801555

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