



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana during meeting with Gau Raksha Samiti.

Gau Raksha Samiti meets Rana

Rana lauds philanthropic organizations for serving humanity, sustaining biodiversity

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 6: Lauding the philanthropic effort of non-governmental, voluntary and socio religious organizations in serving humanity and sustaining biodiversity, Senior BJP leader Mr Devender Singh Rana today called for a greater role in minimizing human sufferings. "Philanthropic organizations can play their vital role in harmonious growth of the society", Rana said while interacting with a delegation comprising representatives of various social, religious and other organizations under the aegis of Jammu and Kashmir Gauraksha Samiti here this afternoon.

He said that service to humanity is service to God and keeping this spirit alive will inspire generations to mitigate sufferings of the people, sustain biodiversity and maintain ecology. He said in the present day materialistic age, working for fellow human beings is laudable.

He also complimented the delegation, saying their contribution will inspire others to come forward for the service of humanity. He said it is heartening that these organizations remain always in the forefront to shoulder social responsibilities and contribute towards the betterment of the society at large. "This spirit is to be promoted in a big way and, I am sure, those associated with philanthropic causes will play their crucial role in this regard", he maintained.

Play 'Ghalib in Quarantine' staged

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 6: Natraj Natya Kunj Jammu staged Play 'Ghalib in Quarantine' on the ongoing 20th National Theatre Festival organized by Punjab Sangeet Natak Akademi in collaboration with North Zone Cultural Centre Patiala and Amandeep Hospital at Amritsar.



A still from the play 'Ghalib in Quarantine' staged in Amritsar.

The Theatre Festival was organized by 'Manch Rangmanch Amritsar'. Director of the Play Abhishek Bharti said the play is about a present-day character, who in order to pass time during the pandemic lockdown discovers Ghalib through his letters and poetry and also enacts selective facets of the poet's life.

Written by Roheet Verma and directed by Sangeet Natak Akademi awardee Abhishek Bharti, this musical play emerged as an ode to poetic genius of Mirza

House destroyed in devastating fire, 2 animals roasted alive

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Mar 6: Heavy loss of property has taken place while some animals were roasted in devastating fire which broke out at village Dhar Dugnoo in teshil Billawer late last night.

The fire incident took place in the house of Romail Chand, son of Balku Ram of Dhar Dugnoo Upper Ward Number 8, Khandray, teshil Billawer of district Kathua when the family members were sleeping. As the family members, came to know about fire they ran away. But the domestic articles and valuables were burnt in fire. Two animals were burnt alive and two were seriously injured. The local people tried to douse the fire but all in vain.

The Tehsildar, Billawer visited the spot and assessed the loss occurred due to fire.

The BDC, Baggan, Nisha Thakur also took stock of situation and loss.

She has asked the administration to immediately release ex-gratia relief and demanded compensation in favour of fire victim.

Jugal takes stock of public issues at Aatham

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 6: A meeting was organised under the leadership of chairman Religious and Heritage Cultural Trust, Mahant Rajash Bittu, in which Member Parliament, from Jammu - Poonch Lok Sabha constituency, Jugal Kishore Sharma was the chief guest.

During the meeting, Chairman Religious and Heritage Cultural Trust, Mahant Rajash Bittu raised issues that locals from Aatham and said that they are facing problems like road connectivity of Raja Pehad Devsthan as the road connecting to the Devsthan is in bad condition for so many years.

Mahant Ji demanded road connectivity on both sides connecting Raj Pehad Devsthan and other issues including proper water and electricity facility to locals.

He put these demands before Member Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma.

Jugal while taking stock of the area ordered that after

15days officials will meet and discuss all possibilities of constructing a proper road that is the main concern. And after that a draft will be made that will be submitted to the Government, he added.

Jugal Kishore assured that full support will be given, and in the coming days all the demands will be fulfilled.

He added that he will constitute a team which can look for all the things and forward related concerns to officials and I will try my best to settle the demands, he further added that I will talk to concerned authorities to release funds for the construction works and other facilities.

The other persons who were present in the meeting were Mandal president, Ajay Kumar, Sarpanch Shoba Devi, Sarpanch, Bodh Raj, Satish Bharti Kisan Morcha, Gopal Sharma, Sham Singh former Sarpanch Balvant Singh and concerned officers also.

Proceedings of the meeting were conducted by Narayan Bharti.



DDC Member and senior AAP leader, Taranjit Singh Tony kick starting development works in Suchetgarh on Monday.

Tony slams Irrigation Deptt for not desilting canals at Zero Line

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 6: Taranjit Singh Tony, Chairman Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Jammu and Kashmir for Administrative Engagement and Minority Affairs, and District Development Council (DDC) Member, Suchetgarh expressed disappointment over the failure of Irrigation Department in desilting the canals at Zero Line, Suchetgarh Border.

Addressing a gathering after starting development work in the area, the senior AAP leader criticized the officers sitting at the helm of affairs despite knowing that the Ranbir canal is the only source of farmers for irrigating their fields, no desilting work was carried out in the canals at Zero Line. He said that hundreds of farmers in the border belt are feeling dejected as none is coming for their rescue due to water not yet reaching the tail-end of the canal while the tube wells have become defunct due to plummeting of ground water level.

The DDC member said that the callous attitude adopted by the

Irrigation Department is forcing the farmers to face hardships especially during the sowing season when the requirement of the water is at peak. He appealed to the Chief Engineer to look into the matter and pass on necessary directions to the authorities concerned to clean the Ranbir canal at tail end failing which the farmers have no other option to come on roads to highlight their woes.

Earlier, Tony started development work of bridge and blacktopping of road from Gharani to Nawa Pind Post on Zero Line in Suchetgarh constituency. He said the blacktopping of the road work was a long pending demand of the people of this area which has been finally fulfilled and it also reflects the failure of the successive regimes in the former State of J&K and thereafter in addressing the vital issues of the border people.

Pertinent to mention that during the election campaign, Tony had promised the people of village Gharani for connectivity of roads which has been fulfilled today.

NC slams Govt for hiring black-listed Coy for JKSSB exams

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 6: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar today slammed the government on selection and the award of contract to tainted and blacklisted APTECH company for conducting the Jammu Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) exam.

Echoing the public rage over the decision, Imran said, "The company has been penalized by the Supreme Court and is on the blacklists of various states including Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. In J&K also, the company was accused of blatant irregularities and violations of the law in altering the tender's terms and conditions. Why such a company is being selected which has consistently failed to provide transparency and accountability in conducting such an exercise? This question begs to be answered. The board instead of addressing the genuine concerns and fear of the educated, skilled local youth seems hell bent on destroying

their future. Such an undue decision doesn't inspire confidence of aspirants in such public examinations," he observed.

In the first place the company shouldn't have been allowed to compete in the tendering process. "Commercial interest should never outweigh the public interest. As is happening in this case. There is every likelihood of biasness, favouritism and unfairness in the said process. I hope the incumbent LG administration will refrain from letting the company conduct public examinations which require a high degree of secrecy/fairness as the future of aspirants would depend upon such examinations."

It goes without saying that there is a major scam at work, he said, "Despite J&K high court's questioning the awarding of the contract to APTECH, the assigning of the contract to the same company doesn't stand any reason. I also request the High Court to take Suo moto cognizance of the issues in the public interest," Dar added.

ARTO suspends more DLs, RCs & Permits for bovine smuggling

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, Mar 6: Continuing the drive against habitual offenders, Assistant Regional Transport Officer Reasi, Rajesh Gupta suspended two each driving licenses, Route Permits and Registration Certificates of persons involved in Bovine smuggling.

Reasi suspended licenses bearing the number JK02-20180004502 & JK2020150001017 for violation under Motor Vehicle Act and the Registration Permit and Registration Certificate of the vehicles bearing Registration Number JK20A-9835, JK20B-6546, JK20-8510 & JK20B-1603.

In addition to this show cause notices have been served to violators for violations of various MV Act/Rules and their driving licenses will be suspended after completion of codal formality.



BJP UT president, Ravinder Raina addressing a party workshop at Solki Kalakote on Monday.

Govt did justice to every section'

Raina terms Modi's 9 year rule as golden era

Excelsior Correspondent

RAJOURI, Mar 6: Terming the nine years of governance by his party led by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi as golden era of India, president, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir said his Government did justice to all sections of society.

Ravinder Raina was addressing in the Sunderbani-Kalakot constituency Booth Sashaktikaran Abhiyaan workshop held at Solki, Kalakot.

District Prabhari, Sanjay Kumar Baru, district president, Neena Sharma, Th. Randir Singh, Vinod Gupta, Pritam Sharma and others were amongst the prominent present in the workshop.

Ravinder Raina, while addressing the workshop, said that the entire organization should get involved in the whole exercise to reach the booth level worker and the prominent persons of the booth. He laid special stress on meeting the beneficiaries of the public welfare

schemes initiated by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi led Union Government.

Modi Government did justice to all sections of society, Raina said and added that the party leaders must know the exact ground reality about the implementation of those schemes providing benefit to every needy person irrespective of caste, creed and colour. He said that by highlighting that 100 percent of deliverance of these schemes has been made to the needy persons will ensure that the people will build even stronger faith on the Modi Government and the nationalist policies of BJP.

Sanjay Baru described the motto of the "Booth Sashaktikaran Abhiyaan". Speaking on the importance of the Abhiyaan, he apprised the party leaders about the blueprint to reach every booth of the region.

Neena Sharma said that the senior party leaders have taken responsibility to strengthen the party at booth level.



DC Ramban distributing Emergency Response Kits among trained Aapda Mitra volunteers.

DC Ramban distributes Emergency Response Kits among Aapda Mitra volunteers

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Mar 6: Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Mussarat Islam, who is also chairman of District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), today distributed Emergency Response Kits among 100 trained Aapda Mitra volunteers of the district.

DDC Councillor Ramsoo, Bashir Ahmed Naik, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Harbans Lal Sharma and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

The volunteers have completed a 12 day training programme under Disaster response at Central

Training Institute Kot Bhalwal, Jammu.

The Deputy Commissioner distributed Emergency Response Kits among these Aapda Mitra volunteers here at the District Administrative Complex.

The DC outlined the scope and mandate of the trained volunteers who shall be in readiness to tackle and rescue the people during any natural disaster.

He said more such training programmes would also be held in near future to train and sensitize the volunteers and for the benefit of people in real time, he added.

9 arrested for illegal mining in Budgam, Baramulla

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 6: Police today arrested nine persons, seizing as many vehicles for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals in Budgam and Baramulla.

A police party of Police Station Chadoora at a checkpoint established at Magraypora Bapora intercepted 06 vehicles (Dumpers) carrying illegally extracted minerals. "All the vehicles have been seized and drivers have been arrested. They have been identified as Anayatullah Khan resident of Ladoo Khrew, Abdul Qayoom Wani resident of Batapora Ladoo, Abid Mushtaq Lone resident of Shar-Shali Pampore, Arfat Ashraf Khanday resident of Mage Pampore, Aejaz Ahmad Ganai resident of Ladoo Pampore and

Mushtaq Ahmad Kumar resident of Ladoo Pampore," police said.

At another checkpoint established at Bugroo Khansahib, a police party of Police Station Khansahib intercepted a tractor carrying illegally extracted minerals from Nalla Shali-Ganga. "The tractor has been seized and the driver has been arrested. He has been identified as Ishfaq Ahmed Bhat resident of Shamasabad Khansahib."

In a similar action, a police party of PP Kungambara during patrolling at Khore Sherabad seized 1 Tipper and 1 Tractor for illegal extraction & transportation of minerals. "The drivers identified as Ajaz Ahmad Wani resident of Khore Sherabad & Manzoor Ahmad Teli resident of Bungam Kunzer have been arrested."

Major ENT surgery performed at DH Pulwama

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 6: A major ENT surgery was conducted today at the District Hospital, Pulwama, as part of the National Program for Reduction of Deafness, with the case being the first canal wall down Mastoidectomy performed at the DH.

DHSK said that the patient belonging to district Baramulla came to DH Pulwama with a history of recurrent discharge right ear. "The patient was evaluated and a diagnosis of cholesteatoma was made based on radiology and clinical findings."

The patient, following the eval-

Rural areas development Modi Govt's top priority: Col Mahan

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Mar 6: The development of rural areas is the priority of the Modi Government and the picture of rural areas has dramatically changed during the last eight years.

This was stated by Col (retd) Mahan Singh, DDC Chairman, Kathua while interacting with people during his tour to rural areas of Basohli.

The DDC Chairman said that the Central Government has pri-

The villagers narrated their woes mainly related to road connectivity, shortage of drinking water, shortage of electricity and shortage of teachers in school. Col Mahan listened to their problems and assured resolution of their issues on priority basis.

The DDC Chairman briefed the people about development works and Central sponsored schemes. He emphasised upon the people of far-off areas to take maximum benefits out of several welfare schemes



DDC Chairman, Kathua, Col Mahan Singh during tour to Sandhar, Basohli on Monday.

oritized the overall development of rural areas with main focus on far flung and remote areas. He said that the Union Government stands fully committed to ensure the improvement of roads and infrastructure in rural areas as proper road connectivity is the lifeline for every area and the people living there.

During his hectic tour, Col. Mahan Singh visited Shar, Jaishree, Nagana, Dodla and Jandhrali villages falling under Sandhar, Dodla and Jandhrali Panchayats in Bhoond Block of Basohli Sub district. He walked more than 10 KM on foot and interacted with residents and inspected development works on the way.

launched by Centre for them.

He asserted that the Modi Government is committed to the development of rural areas and doubling farmers' income by 2024. "The Modi Government is fully committed to double the income of farmers across the country and in this regard there is no dearth of funds and the Union Government is taking all adequate measures to enhance their produce and income," he added.

Prominent among those who were present include Capt (retd) Anchal Singh, Anand Seth, Varinder Singh, Sarpanch Hiranagar Singh, Ramesh Singh and Mohammad Latif.

Horti Deptt organizes awareness program for farmers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 6: The Department of Horticulture Jammu today conducted one-day farmers' awareness cum interaction programme at village Sayal, Nardi of Horticulture Zone Akhnoor.

The program was organized under the chairmanship of Director Horticulture Jammu Ram Savak and in the presence of Chief Horticulture Officer Jammu Sarbjeet Singh, DL Subject Matter Specialist Sandeep Gupta, HDOs Amit Saraf and Varinder Sharma besides large number of farmers/fruit growers and PRI members.

Plan (HADP) and its execution with the PRI members. He urged farmers to adopt integrated farming in their fields and avail the benefits on different components viz. Bore Well, Water harvesting tanks, Drip irrigation, Mechanization, Protected cultivation, Tools & Implements etc. for upliftment of their socio-economic status. Further, he impressed upon them to form Self Help Groups (SHGs) for setting up of small fruit and vegetables processing units with the financial assistance from the department, which can play an important role in enhancing the family income.

Earlier, Ram Savak as a



Director Horticulture Jammu Ram Savak addressing farmers during an awareness program in Akhnoor area of Jammu.

While addressing the gathering of farmers during the program, Ram Savak briefed them about various Centrally and UT sponsored schemes of the Department. He said that keeping in view the suitable agro-climatic conditions, there is immense potential for horticulture crops in the area which must be tapped. He appealed the PRI members and field functionaries to work in tandem for doubling the farmer's income.

He also discussed in detail the Holistic Agriculture Development

Prabhari of Panchayat Lower Narayna of Block Khour, chaired a review meeting regarding the decisions taken in the Back to Village-4 Programme. The representatives of various departments besides Sarpanch and Panchs of the Panchayat participated in the meeting. The chair reviewed the progress of works under taken for the overall development of the Panchayat and impressed upon the stake holders to enhance the pace of works under taken for completion in a time bound manner.

Sat, Angral start road blacktopping work

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 6: Senior BJP leader, Sat Sharma along with Jeet Kumar Angral, JMC Councillor from Ward number 12 here today started blacktopping work of roads near

Speaking on the occasion Sat Sharma said that blacktopping of roads was done long time back and it will provide relief to the residents of the area.

Jeet Angral said that blacktopping of the road was a long pending demand of residents of the Ward which has been fulfilled today.

He also said that he along with BJP Ward members are working together with dedication to make the Ward a model one in Jammu City.

Senior BJP leader, Parmod Kapa, Juggi

Dubay, Partiba Sharma, Manmohan Sharma, Ramesh Kumar, Anil Angral, Kanchan Devi, Darshna Devi, Deepak Kumar and other prominent members of the society were also present on the occasion.



BJP leaders, Sat Sharma, Jeet Angral and others starting road blacktopping work in Ward 12.

Regional Research Laboratory and areas adjoining to Government Girls Hr Sec School Canal Road which shall be completed at an estimated cost of Rs. 36 lakh.