

CM inaugurates two-day Rajasthan Millets Conclave-2023

Excelsior Correspondent

JAIPIUR, Mar 13: Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said that it is our top priority to implement schemes for the all-round development of farmers. The State Government has played its important role in the welfare of the farmers and development of agriculture sector.

Rajasthan took a historic initiative in the entire country by presenting separate agriculture budget twice in the assembly. As the result of this, along with farmers, start-ups and entrepreneurs had got opportunities to move ahead. He said that it is our duty to give due respect to farmers and cattle-rearers.

Gehlot was addressing the Rajasthan Millets Conclave-2023 organised at State Institute of Agriculture Management (SIAM), Durgapura today. He said that there is a need to increase the production capacity of millets and pay special to agricultural research. Strong infrastructure is available in Rajasthan for research on millets. Around 42 agriculture colleges have been set up in the state, with which the younger generation is getting opportunities to improve their future by getting higher education. Recently, veterinary university has been announced.

The Chief Minister said that the green revolution started as the result of agricultural research, as the result the country achieved successful results and we could become self-dependent in the field of food grains. He said that agricultural research would benefit the farmers in preparing their crops for the future. Important suggestions would come in this conclave for better production, management and marketing of millets.

He said that budget provision has been made to provide 2000 units electricity free per month to farmers. This would benefit



Rajasthan CM addressing a conclave.

around 12 lakh farmers. Electricity bills of around 1 crore consumers will become zero by giving 100 units of electricity free per month to domestic consumers. He said that social security pension is being given to around 1 crore people in the state. In this budget, provision has been made to give minimum 1000 per month. The Central Government should implement uniform social security pension in the entire country.

The Chief Minister in the Conclave felicitated farmers

H&ME increases GNM seats for Al-Falah Institute

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 13: Health & Medical Education (H&ME) Department has approved an increase of 30 seats for the General Nursing & Midwifery (GNM) course in favour of Al-Falah Paramedical Institute, Bandipora while two other courses have also been cancelled.

The courses which have been cancelled, and their seats, 10 each, have been added to the GNM while 10 more seats from the MMPHW course-leaving it with only 10 seats-have also been added to the GNM course.

The total intake for FMPHW, 20 seats, has been kept intact, while GNM-which earlier had only 10 seats-now has 40 seats, 10 from MMPHW, 10 from Medical

Assistants and 10 from Dental Assistants.

It is to be noted here that the Medical Assistant and Dental Assistant course which were earlier being offered at the college have now been cancelled.

The provisional 'No Objection Certificate' granted has been made subject to conditions which include that the approval is subject to the fulfilment of provisions laid down in the J&K Paramedical Council, Act, 2014.

It has been noted that no capitation fee will be charged by the Institute and that the permit shall be subject to any policy on the subject, which the Government may sanction in future for regulation of these Institutes.

'Eligibility of candidates for admission to the above courses shall be made on merit basis as per the provisions laid down by the Government from time to time through J&K Board of Professional Entrance Examination.'

The J&K Paramedical Council, as per the conditions, will inspect the institute periodically, to monitor and assess the adequacy of infrastructure regarding the number of trainees.

DDC Chairman Reasi, DC review progress on USBRL project

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, Mar 13: A meeting was convened by District Development Council Chairperson, Saraf Singh Nag and Deputy Commissioner, Babila Rakhwal, to review the progress of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link project and other public issues in the district.

The meeting was attended by DDC Chairpersons, DDC members, railway authorities and other officers from different departments.

The Chairperson gave strict directions to increase the men and machinery to complete the project within the time frame and asked the concerned to monitor the ongoing developmental works. Railway authorities were assured full support from the District

People endorse developmental agenda of Apni Party: Manjit

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: Apni Party (AP) Jammu provincial president and former minister Manjit Singh today said that the people have endorsed the developmental agenda of the Party.

He was speaking at a joining program which was organized by Apni Party leader, Sheikh Mohammed Shafi at the Party Office in Gandhi Nagar. Dozens of people from Marh Block joined the Apni Party in presence of senior leaders while expressing their faith in the leadership of Syed Mohammed Altaf Bukhari.

The Former Minister welcomed the new entrants into the Party and hoped that their joining would strengthen the party. He highlighted the policy of the Apni Party.

Prominent among those who joined Apni Party include Captain Pardeep Kumar, Madan Lal, Bodri Nath, Bishnu Devi, Chaman Lal, Buwa Ditta and Pritoo Devi.

While speaking on the occasion, Manjit said that the Party leadership is committed for equitable development of all the regions of Jammu and Kashmir and to provide equal

Administration in the completion of the USBRL Project, which will connect Kashmir valley to the rest of the country.

Various issues were discussed, including water depletion, land and crop compensation, local employment and payment of dues to contractors and suppliers.

The Deputy Commissioner issued instructions to the stakeholders to be sensitive and responsible to the public problems and fixed time-bound answerability in this context.

The Chairperson also urged Northern Railways, KRCL, IRCON and other construction companies to organise skill training programs for local youth related to construction and engineering to enhance their employability.

Youth booked under POSCO Act

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: Police in Bakshi Nagar area of the District invoked Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act against a 20-year-old youth for allegedly misbehaving with a 16-year-old girl.

A police spokesperson said that the accused is a resident of Roop Nagar, Janipur, Jammu, while the victim is a teenage girl from Sarwal area.

'The accused had been misbehaving with the victim for the past around one year but he was arrested today after the family members of the victim lodged a written complaint.'

SHO Bakshi Nagar, Inspector Vishal Shur told the Excelsior. Police have booked the accused in case FIR number 42/2023 under POSCO Act and taken up further investigations.

13 vehicles seized for illegal mining

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: At least 13 vehicles were seized for illegal mining in Jammu district today, police said.

They said that one tractor trolley was seized by Police Station Akhnora, another by Police Station Nagrota, two vehicles by Police Station Bishnah, one tractor trolley by Police Station Kahnachak, three vehicles by Police Post Sidhra, one tractor trolley by Police Post Pounichak, one dumper by Police Post Phallain Mandal, one tractor trolley by Police Post Chinnore, one dumper by Police Post Canal, and one dumper by Border Police Post Treva.

The recoveries of the vehicles mining in violation of a High Court order was made by SHO Akhnora, Inspector Harjeet Singh; SHO Bishnah, Inspector Vikram Sharma; SHO Police Station Nagrota, Inspector Vishav Partap Singh; SHO Kahnachak, Inspector Rahul Mahajan; Incharge Police Post Sidhra, Arun Kumar; Incharge Police Post Pounichak, SI Ram Rattan, Incharge Police Post Phallain Mandal, PSI Ajesh Singh Jamwal, Incharge Police Post Chinnore, PSI Rajesh Kumar; Incharge Police Post Canal, PSI Mohammad Younis Khandey and Incharge BPP Treva PSI Sunil Singh Ketraval, police said.

'DMO Jammu has been intimated about the seizures made,' police further said.

DAK puts low immunity behind spring spike in flu cases

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 13: With the spring spike of influenza cases in Kashmir valley, the Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) today attributed the surge to lower levels of natural immunity in the population against flu viruses.

In a statement, DAK president and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan said that people have not been exposed to influenza in the past two flu seasons due to Covid restrictions which have led to lower levels of natural immunity within the population.

'We see influenza cases every year during winter months, but the last two seasons witnessed negligible flu cases. The decline was because of Covid precautions such as face masking and social distancing,' he said.

Now, that people are out without masks, travelling extensively, the business has resumed and children are back to school. The flu has made a comeback, the DAK president said.

He said that in typical years a good percentage of the population gets infected with these viruses and builds immunity against the infections. 'What we are seeing is a couple of years where we didn't see infections.'

Dr Nisar said flu viruses tend to mutate. 'Small changes keep on happening. And that could be another reason that we have severe and prolonged flu

J&K to auction lithium block discovered in Feb: Mines Minister

NEW DELHI, Mar 13:

Jammu and Kashmir will put on sale lithium block discovered last month, Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi said today.

Lithium is a non-ferrous metal and is one of the key components in EV batteries.

'The mineral block will be auctioned as Composite License (CL) by the Government of Union Territory of J&K. The financial viability will be determined after auctioning by the successful bidder,' Joshi said in Rajya Sabha.

The expected date of extraction of lithium will depend upon successful auction of the mineral block.

'GSI (Geological Survey of India) carried out a G3 stage project during Field Season 2020-21 and 2021-22 in Salal-Haimna areas of Reasi district, J&K and estimated an inferred resource (G3) of 5.9 million tonnes of lithium ore and the report has been handed over to

the Government of Union Territory of J&K," the Minister said.

In a separate reply, the minister said that GSI generates baseline geoscience data through mapping, e.g. Geological, geochemical, geo-physical which is a prerequisite for identifying the potential area for systematic mineral exploration.

Based on the mapping data, GSI carries out systematic mineral exploration activities for various major mineral commodities including lithium.

'In part of J&K, as a follow up of lithium exploration in

Salal-Haimna areas of Reasi district, GSI has taken up another reconnaissance G4 stage exploration programme on lithium and associated mineral in Panasa - Dugga - Baldhanun - Chakar - Sangarmarg (Saro-da-Bas) area of Reasi district during current field season 2022-23 and the work is in progress,' he said.

Based on the mapping outcome more exploration programme on various mineral commodities including lithium will be taken up in future in different parts of the country including J&K. (PTT)



Members of All India SC/ST/Buddhist LEWA posing for group photograph at a conference.

SC/ST/Buddhist LEWA form New Committee

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: All India SC/ST/Buddhist LIC Employees Welfare Association (LEWA) held a conference/meeting wherein R.L Meena, Zonal president; Hoishar Singh, Zonal secretary and Ravinder Kumar, Zonal treasurer from New Delhi participated as chief guest, special guest and guest respectively.

J&K president of All India Confederation of SC/ST/OBC Organisations, R.K Kalsotra and chairman Ambedkar Sena J&K, Tarsem Khullar were guests of honour.

In meeting, the Srinagar

Division president dissolved the old committee and formed

New Division Committee for Kashmir with Mohan Lal as president; Mohd Shafi Akhnoun, working president; Tariq Ahmed Lone, vice president; Vijay Kumar, secretary; Jang Bahadur; admin secretary; Mohan Lal, secretary organization; Sham Sunder, secretary Pb.; Vijay Kumar, secretary legal, Pervinder Kumar, treasurer and Ajay Kumar, auditor.

Dinesh Tanania (SDM) LIC Division Jammu graced the conference and assured the organization to solve their issues under the provisions.

Orientation programme for M.Ed students commences

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: Two day orientation programme for M.Ed students, organized by Govt. College of Education in collaboration with Govt. College of Education (IASE) Srinagar, commenced at GCOE Jammu, here today.

This program is a part of 'Memorandum of Understanding' which was earlier signed by both the Premier Colleges of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prof. Aekta Gupta, Principal Govt. College of Education Jammu in her inaugural address stressed upon the importance of research in the prevalent times focusing on advanced and effective teaching tools.

She also talked about artificial intelligence and 'Chat GBT' and 'Chat BOT' software and focused on how they as researchers need to master the ever changing technology.

Prof. Seema Naz, Principal (IASE) Srinagar, in her welcome

address welcomed everyone through virtual mode and laid stress on the motive of the workshop and said: "Research is not just generating new knowledge infect it is also an attempt to train the young minds for developing a problem solving aptitude, innovative thinking and an ability to look at solution oriented approach."

The resource persons on the occasion were Dr. Syed Noor Ul Amin, faculty of School Education and Behavioural Sciences University of Kashmir and Dr. Showkat Rashid Wani for day one, while Dr. Habib Ullah Shah from DDE, University of Kashmir and Dr. S.D. Ahangar are resource persons for day-2.

The entire programme was coordinated by Dr. Rajinder Kour, Coordinator M.Ed GCOE Jammu, Dr. Deep Kumar (Coordinator ICT), Dr. Shubhra Jamwal (Member IQAC), Assistant Prof. Sunita Devi and Dr. Shams-ud-din, GCOE Srinagar.

Kapahi, Raina inaugurate development work

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: BJP president Jammu District Parmodh Kapahi and JMC Councillor, Suneet Raina inaugurated the construction work of lanes and canopy at Nariana Mohalla in Ward no. 9.

Speaking on the occasion, Raina said that the area was denied development work for a long time and there was an old demand of the people to construct the lane and drain which has been fulfilled now and people will get a lot of relief after completion of this development

work.

Parmodh Kapahi said, to save the people from inconvenience caused during rainy season, construction work was done in the area and now people have got relief from the problem of water logging.

He said that BJP is working on the agenda of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sab Ka Prayas'.

Kapahi also said that Prime Minister, Narendra Modi is committed to developing each and every corner of J&K.

Asha Gupta, Ramesh Gupta, Rakesh Sethi, Jyoti Gupta, Deepak Raj, Tahir Abbas Naqvi, Avinash Kour and others were also present on the occasion.

Similarly, the power supply to Greater Kailash, Jallo Chak, Kahu Chak and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 14 from 9 am to 1 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Jhajjar Kotli, Dansal, Jindrah, Battal Manwal, Surinsar, Kishanpur, Mansar and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 14 from 9 am to 2 pm.

'The accused have been booked under relevant sections of the law and further investigations taken up,' he said.

He noted that the H3N2 flu virus is not new and is the commonest seasonal flu virus and has been in circulation for the last 55 years.

General secretary DAK, Dr Arshad Ali said people who develop flu symptoms like cough, fever, runny nose and sore throat should isolate themselves till their symptoms resolve. 'Doctors should prescribe antiviral medicines instead of antibiotics to flu patients,' he said.

Four held with 100 gm heroin

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: Police claimed on Monday that they have arrested four people with 100 grams of heroin in different areas of this district.

A police spokesperson said that 50 grams of heroin was recovered by City Police Station from two persons identified as Karan alias Lock Hand and Raju Masih of Gurdaspur, Punjab while 50 grams of heroin was recovered by Police Station Miran Sahib from two persons identified as Gagandeep Singh of Camp Gole Gujral, Tallab Tillo, Jammu, and Sahil Choudhary of Chak Alawal, Tehsil RS Pura, District Jammu.

'The accused have been booked under relevant sections of the law and further investigations taken up,' he said.

Pick pocket steals Rs 42000 in Chenani

Excelsior Correspondent

UDHAMPUR, Mar 13: A pick pocket allegedly stole Rs 42000 from two persons in Chenani Tehsil of Udhampur District today.

A police spokesperson said that the pick pocket stole Rs 24000 of one Babu Ram of Lehri Singh and Rs 18000 of one Kisso Ram son of Durga, both residents of Madha, Chenani.

'Acting on duo's written complaint, police have started investigation into the theft incident,' he said.

Lakhanpur police seizes 200 grams of Chitta

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, Mar 13: Continuing its crackdown on drug menace, Kathua police busted an interstate drug smuggling nexus and arrested a drug peddler with 200 grams of narcotics known as Chitta (Heroin) from a car at Lakhanpur.

SSP Kathua, Shivdeep Singh told that following the input Lakhanpur police team led by DySP, Shammi Kumar and SHO, Vijay Kotwal laid down a trap at Lakhanpur and stopped a car bearing Registration No HRI10T3099 which was on the way from Taran Taaran Punjab to J&K at Lakhanpur. After physical verification police found 200 grams of narcotics as Chitta. The arrested smuggler was identified as Sanam Preet Singh resident of Amritsar,

Punjab. He was an interstate drug peddler and used to supply the drugs in Jammu region. SSP Shivdeep Singh added that the Taran Taaran area being the International Indo-Pak border, the possibility of smuggling of drugs from Pakistan could not ruled out. He said in past exercises the BSF has gunned down number of drones loaded with drugs in Punjab area. The Punjab based interstate gangs are active to supply the drugs in various areas as inputs reach here.

The SSP said nearly one Kg of drug substances as Heroin is seized during the past few days and 18 FIRs are so far registered in various cases. Lakhanpur police registered a case FIR No 22/2023 under Section 8/21/22 NDPS ACT at Police Station, Lakhanpur.

Baru hands over compensation letter to flood victim's family

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: Sanjay Kumar Baru, BJP senior leader and councillor of JMC Ward 41 along with Jammu West Tehsildar, Satish Kumar and Samvedna Society Chairman, Keshav Chopra handed over compensation letter of Rs four lakh three thousands eight hundred to Birbal Mochi, a migrant labourer.

Kari Devi, wife of Birbal Mochi had lost her precious life in a flash flood during rainy season, when the heavy flow of water suddenly entered into their Kacha house.

Birbal Mochi while complimenting the councillor said that Sanjay Baru had immediately reached the spot and made endless efforts to help him in the hour of distress. He said it was with the efforts of Sanjay Baru that he will be able to meet the needs of his children.

Birbal Mochi also complimented district administration

Missing boy recovered

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA, Mar 13: Kahara Police here today recovered a missing boy from Indlu in Sub-District Thathri within 24 hours.

A police spokesman said, the boy Abu Sufiyun, son of Hasham Din, resident of Indlu went missing from his house last evening as per a report filed with the Police Post Kahara by his family members.

SHO Gandoh, Inspector Vikram Singh said, on specific inputs by the police, the boy was recovered within a record time and was later-on handed over to his parents after completing the legal formalities.

Police send Challans at home to 13 violators of Traffic Rules

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, Mar 13: Police here today fined 13 violators of Motor Vehicle Act and sent Challan copies along with violation photographs at their residential addresses.

In compliance to the order of the SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Poswal, cops of Kishtwar Police with the help of technical aid from CCTV surveillance mechanism shooting photographs/videography for violation of traffic rules, identifying the vehicles through number plate reading system and subsequently, after ascertaining residential addresses of owners of the erring vehicles, Challan copies along with photographs of violation of traffic rules were sent at their homes.

SSP Kishtwar has said that drive will continue till the violators get channelized to follow traffic rules and traffic violators are directly or indirectly responsible for causing fatal road accidents leading to the loss of precious lives.

The committee will have the District Magistrate, Ganderbal as Chairperson, District Social Welfare Officer, Ganderbal as Member Secretary, Chairperson/Member, Child Welfare Committee as Member, Representative of Specialized Adoption Agency (SAA) as Member, Protection Officer (Non-Institutional Care) DCPU as Member and Chairman of SRDGW as Member.

The SFCAC will be responsible to sanction sponsorship and foster care on receipt of the final order from the CWC, while it has been further stated that the committee shall meet every month and function in a time-bound manner.

Two gamblers held with Rs 30585 stake money

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 13: Police claimed today that they have arrested two gamblers with stake money of Rs 30585 from City area.

A police spokesperson said that during patrolling duty, a police team received information regarding gambling in Paharian Mohalla, Jammu.

'Accordingly, a raid was conducted and two gamblers, identified as Manmohan Lal of Paharian Mohalla, and Anil Kumar Khurana of Basant

Ganderbal admn frames SFCAC for sponsorship/foster care as a deserving case.

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 13: Authorities in Ganderbal have formed a Sponsorship and Foster Care Approval Committee (SFCAC) to review and sanction, sponsorship for preventive settings and Foster care fund under Juvenile Justice in the district.

The SFCAC has been tasked to monitor the sponsorship and foster care programme within the jurisdiction of the district as provided under the mission, apart from reviewing each recommendation and approving cases of sponsorship and foster care support in cases found deserving.

'Such cases will then be referred to the Child Welfare Committee for the final order

DHSK organises diabetes screening camp

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Mar 13: A diabetes screening and awareness camp was held today at Gousia Hospital Khanyar, where all OPD patients were examined for diabetes as part of the National Plan for the Prevention and Control of Cancer.

Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS). The camp was organised on the directions of Secretary Health and Medical Education Bhubender Kumar by Director Health Services Kashmir Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather in presence of Medical Superintendent Gousia Hospital Dr Tariq Jan and

for sponsorship/foster care as a deserving case.'

The committee will have the District Magistrate, Ganderbal as Chairperson, District Social Welfare Officer, Ganderbal as Member Secretary, Chairperson/Member, Child Welfare Committee as Member, Representative of Specialized Adoption Agency (SAA) as Member, Protection Officer (Non-Institutional Care) DCPU as Member and Chairman of SRDGW as Member.