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## 4 Ministers, NSA, CDS, Army chief, LG attend Rajnath reviews infra development, situation along borders

**\*Committee of Secys to fast track works**

**Sanjeev Pargal**

JAMMU, Mar 14: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today held high-level review of infrastructure development along the borders with China with Union Ministers, Chief Ministers of couple of States, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh Brig (Retd) BD Mishra and senior officers of various Ministries and officials of States/UTs.

The Central Government including the Defence Ministry has been taking series of steps for infrastructure development in the border areas falling along Line of Actual Control (LAC)

with China which will not only help the local people but will also facilitate troop movement up to last border posts.

"Several infrastructure development works have been completed while many more are under execution. A number of works have been identified for launching shortly," the officials said.

The meeting decided to set up a Committee of Secretaries to fast-track implementation of infrastructure projects along the border with China.

Singh called for expediting all pending projects on top priority, stating that a "whole of

nation" approach should be adopted in matters of national security, a Defence Ministry statement said.

The meeting was attended by Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, Railways, Communications and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, Power Minister RK Singh, Environment Minister Bhopender Yadav and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Pushkar Singh Dhami and Ladakh Lt Governor Brig BD Mishra (Retd), Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil

(Contd on page 2 Col 3)



LG Manoj Sinha presenting medal to a martyr's wife at Raj Bhawan, Jammu on Tuesday.

## LG presents Gallantry, Distinguished Service Awards at Investiture Ceremony

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 14: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, presented Gallantry Awards and Distinguished

\* For full list of Awardees, visit [www.dailyexcelsior.com](http://www.dailyexcelsior.com)

Service Decorations at the Jammu Kashmir Police Investiture Ceremony held at

Raj Bhawan, here today.

During the Ceremony, 218 medals were conferred by the Lt Governor to the police personnel. One President's Police Medal for Gallantry was awarded to Constable Imtiyaz Ahmad (posthumously for Year 2019) who had attained martyrdom during terrorist attack at SOG camp, Pulwama. The medal was

(Contd on page 2 Col 7)

## NIA raids in Kashmir regarding militancy case, one detained

Fayaz Bukhari

SRINAGAR, Mar 14: The National Investigation Agency today carried out searches at several locations in Kashmir in a case related to militant conspiracy and detained one person.

An official said that the NIA raids were conducted at 6 locations in Kashmir.

He said the case was filed last year alleging criminal conspiracy for carrying out militant and subversive activities hatched by the cadres and OGWs of various proscribed organisations and their affiliates and off-shoots, operating under various pseudo names, at the behest of their Pakistani handlers.

The officials said the suspects are involved in carrying out attacks by using cyber-space

in J&K, targeting of minorities, security personnel and spreading communal disharmony.

"Initial searches carried out last year had led to seizure

\* Pic on page 2

Video on

[www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

of digital devices which were analysed forensically. Current searches are based on those leads," he said.

Searches were underway at different locations in Srinagar, Kulgam, Pulwama, Anantnag and Shopian.

In Pulwama, the NIA team accompanied by CRPF and

(Contd on page 2 Col 5)

## JKSSB defers all CBT

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 14: Due to apparent controversy over hiring of a previously blacklisted company for conducting the recruitment tests and continuous protests by the job aspirants, Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) today deferred all the computer-based written tests (CBT) scheduled to start from March 16.

In a post on its official Twitter handle, JKSSB said that the Computer Based Examinations for various posts scheduled with effect from March 16 are deferred till fur-

(Contd on page 2 Col 7)

## AC nod for amendment in Pharmacy Act to end uncertainty over fate of Medical Asstts

Nishikant Khajuria

JAMMU, Mar 14: For ending uncertainty over the fate of thousands of Pharmacists, who possess Diploma in Medical Assistant/Pharmacist from the institutions recognized by the erstwhile J&K Para Medical Council, the Administrative Council (AC) has once again given its nod for amendment in Section 32-C of Pharmacy Act 1948 (Central Act)-Introduction of draft Bill.

The Administrative Council, which met here under the chairmanship of Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, gave its assent for amendment in Section 32-C, inserted in Pharmacy Act, 1948

(Central Act) through an Adaptation order under S.O No. 3465 (E), dated 5th of October, 2020.

The instant proposal is for amendment in the existing Section 32-C of the Pharmacy Act, 1948 to the effect that notwithstanding anything contained in Section 32, any person whose name has been entered in the register of Pharmacists maintained under the Jammu and Kashmir Pharmacy Act, 2011 (1955 AD) or possesses qualification Medical Assistant prescribed under the said Act, shall be deemed to have been entered in the register of Pharmacists prepared and maintained under Chapter IV of this

(Contd on page 2 Col 1)

## Courts not equipped to decide feasibility of any project: DB

Mohinder Verma

JAMMU, Mar 14: A Division Bench of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh comprising Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice M A Chowdhary has held that courts are not equipped with the necessary expertise to decide feasibility and viability of any project and interference without noticing malafides on the part of concerned authorities will impact the developmental works.

The Division Bench was hearing a petition filed by inhabitants of village Plangarh Kote in Thannamandi area of Rajouri district seeking direction to the respondents to construct the

road from Rajouri to Thannamandi strictly as per original indent/Detailed Project Report whereby width of the road has been sanctioned as 24 meters throughout.

The petitioners were seeking further direction to the respondents not to reduce the width of the road from 24 meters to 12 meters within kilometers 12.910 to 17.680 which area caters to the villages of Plangarh, Kote, Badakhana and Khabala.

After hearing counsel for the petitioners and respondents, the Division Bench observed, "court cannot on its own adjudicate as to whether the road alignment as proposed by the technical team is feasible or not as the official respon-

(Contd on page 2 Col 3)

## Inaugurated by ACS in 2022, new hospital at Akhnoor yet to become operational

Rs 32 cr SDH Project took 10 yrs in 'completion'

Gopal Sharma

JAMMU, Mar 14: Inaugurated by the then Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Vivek Bhardwaj last year, new Sub District Hospital (SDH) building at Akhnoor town in district Jammu, still awaits its operation in the new complex.

Constructed by the J&K Housing Board with the cost of Rs 32.31 crores, this building took about 10 long years for completion despite the fact that agency had been given just 24 months for completing all the

works allotted including installations of lifts and providing power and water supplies.

Population of about 2 lakhs from Akhnoor, Jourian, Chowki Choura, Pargwal, Khour and Pallanwalla area, is feeling dejected/cheated as this new hospital with upgraded facilities and good parking space for staff and visitors, as compared to the old one located in a very crowded area, has not been made operational by the J&K Health Department, even after the e-inauguration by the then Additional Chief Secretary, Vivek Bhardwaj on May 9,

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commissioner-smc@jk.gov.in



**ULBJ**  
Urban Local Bodies, Jammu  
14420\*  
dlbjammu@gmail.com



**ULBK**  
Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir  
9469469458  
7006685983  
9906608209  
ulbkdirector@nic.in

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