



LG Manoj Sinha chairing a meeting.

LG chairs review meeting of Industries & Commerce Deptt

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a review meeting of the Department of Industries & Commerce, at Civil Secretariat today. The Lt Governor exhorted officials to strive to maintain the momentum of growth recorded in the previous year and build a stronger ecosystem for nurturing start-up culture that would further

drive our economic growth. "Sustained efforts are required to give a fillip to start-up ecosystem that will further support entrepreneurship, and enable large-scale employment opportunities," the Lt Governor said. During the meeting, the Lt Governor was informed about the progress made and the milestones achieved towards developing a robust industrial ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir.

Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar, CHC Katra among 175 facilities of J&K to bag Kayakalp Awards

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Under "Kayakalp Awards to Public Health Facilities" 2022-23, a total of 175 facilities have qualified for Awards under NHM, J&K. Among the top winners, Govt. Hospital Gandhi Nagar has bagged winner award among the District Hospitals and CHC Katra has bagged winner award among the Community Health Centres.

Pertinent to mention that under the Swachh Bharat Mission for promoting Cleanliness Hygiene and Infection Control in the public Health Facilities (District Hospitals/ Community Health Centres/Primary Health Centres/ Urban Public Health Centres), Government of India gives awards to those public health facilities that demonstrate high levels of cleanliness, hygiene and infection control after being qualified the three tier Assessment process as per the guidelines, named as Kayakalp Awards. Mission Director NHM J&K, Ayushi Sudan, while giving details, informed that a total of 4 District Hospitals, 23 CHCs, 56 PHCs, 7 UPHCs and about 85 Health & Wellness Centres have qualified Kayakalp criteria as per the Govt. of India guidelines and checklist. The award and the incentive involved with the Kayakalp motivates the health care staff to improve the cleanliness indicators

and sustain those standards in the health care facilities. Kayakalp award scheme not only encourages the Public Health Facilities to maintain cleanliness, but also creates a healthy competition among the public health facilities, which further improves and enables environment for improving the quality of care, she added. Ayushi said that over the years, the UT of J&K has observed a progressive progress under Kayakalp in the cleanliness of the public health facilities and it is because of the behaviour change and acceptability of Kayakalp among the Public Health facilities of the UT.

The impact of Kayakalp over the years could be observed by the percentage improvement of the qualified facilities under Kayakalp over the years. During the year 2022-23, there is about 58% improvement in the qualified facilities over the previous year. In J&K, Kayakalp has become the first step towards Quality Implementation and the facilities qualifying in the Kayakalp strive to implement the NQAS standards as well through a process of Quality improvement cycles and regular facilitating by the Quality Assessors. Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar and Mission Director, National Health Mission, Ayushi Sudan have congratulated the award winning Facilities.

CAT allows petition of Revenue officers against pay anomaly

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: In a petition filed by All J&K Revenue Officers Association claiming various reliefs with regard to pay anomaly, which has been rejected by the respondents arbitrarily, a Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) comprising D S Mahra, Judicial Member and Krishna, Administrative Member has directed the respondents to grant the applicants notionally and monetarily the pay scale of Rs 7450-11500 instead of Rs. 6500-10500, as has been granted to their counterparts—Assistant Accounts Officers and Section Officers. The respondents have also been directed to grant the applicants the pay scale of Rs 9300-34800 with grade pay of Rs 4600 under the 6th Pay Commission from the effective date of its implementation, notionally and monetarily from same dates as have been granted to Assistant Accounts Officers and Section Officers. Further pay revisions shall accordingly follow. While allowing the petition, CAT observed, "the Government of India has also considered the issue of similarly situated employees and has issued Office Memorandum dated 13.11.2009 in this behalf. It is clear from the OM that the Government of India has issued a clear direction that the

posts in the pre-revised scale of Rs 6500-10500 which were granted the replaced grade pay of Rs 4200 in PB-2 will now be granted Grade pay of Rs 4600". "The posts falling in the two pay scales—6500-10500 and 7450-11500 thus stand merged together in same pay scale with grade pay of Rs 4600 in terms of the order issued by the Government of India. Even if the OM would have been applied by the respondents to consider and decide the claim of the petitioners, their grievance in as much as the existence of pay anomaly after implementation of 6th pay commission is concerned, would have been redressed", the CAT said. The respondents, however, have not settled the grievance of the applicants. Moreover, it is also evident from the record that the Naib Tehsildars in State of Punjab are receiving a much higher pay band and grade pay and same is the case in State of Haryana. The respondents have also issued an order declaring the Naib Tehsildars as Gazetted posts as is the position in other parts of the country but the benefit has not been given to the applicants till date, the CAT said.

"Rather the Naib Tehsildars have been downgraded in status and pay grade from their other counterparts in an arbitrary and discriminatory manner", the CAT added.

9 youth arrested for harassing family, netizens demand severe action

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR Mar 27: Police today arrested a group of youth who allegedly harassed and attacked a family travelling in a car near Parimpora area of Srinagar. A video went viral on social media wherein a family travelling in a car was seeking help while a

posts in the pre-revised scale of Rs 6500-10500 which were granted the replaced grade pay of Rs 4200 in PB-2 will now be granted Grade pay of Rs 4600". "The posts falling in the two pay scales—6500-10500 and 7450-11500 thus stand merged together in same pay scale with grade pay of Rs 4600 in terms of the order issued by the Government of India. Even if the OM would have been applied by the respondents to consider and decide the claim of the petitioners, their grievance in as much as the existence of pay anomaly after implementation of 6th pay commission is concerned, would have been redressed", the CAT said. The respondents, however, have not settled the grievance of the applicants. Moreover, it is also evident from the record that the Naib Tehsildars in State of Punjab are receiving a much higher pay band and grade pay and same is the case in State of Haryana. The respondents have also issued an order declaring the Naib Tehsildars as Gazetted posts as is the position in other parts of the country but the benefit has not been given to the applicants till date, the CAT said.

"Rather the Naib Tehsildars have been downgraded in status and pay grade from their other counterparts in an arbitrary and discriminatory manner", the CAT added.

"All 9 accused have been arrested and 4 bikes seized. FIR registered in Police Station Parimpora", it added. One of the members of the family while narrating the story said that these youth were doing stunts on the highway from Magam to Narbal. She said that the family was travelling in a car and one of the members shot their video on mobile. "As one of the biker saw them recording videos of their stunt biker, they chased the car and finally started harassing them at Parimpora," she said. She thanked the police for prompt action and demanded that their other members should also be arrested and brought to book. The act of the youth drew strong reaction from the people and they condemned the act and demanded that stern action should be taken against those responsible.

* Watch video on www.excelexportnews.com

group of youth on scooters were chasing and attacking them at Parimpora area of Srinagar on last evening. "Police took cognisance of a video wherein a group of youths on bikes are seen harassing and attacking a family on road. Midnight raids were conducted by teams led by SDPO West & SHO Parimpora," Srinagar police said in a tweet.

BJP MP seeks project details under Tourism Sector

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Mar 27: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Rajya Sabha, Gulam Ali sought the details of projects for the development and promotion of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir.

Gulam Ali sought details regarding schemes promoting tourism in Tribal dominated areas, the number of proposals under Prashad Scheme received from J&K, reasons for delay in sanction of Purmandal-Uttarvahini proposal, budget allocated for development of tourism in Doda, Poonch, Kishtwar, Rajouri and Kashmir and status of schemes for pilgrim tourism.

Minister for Tourism said that major schemes implemented are Swadesh Darshan, Prashad, Safe Tourist Destinations for women, champion service schemes etc. Union Minister of State for Tourism, G Kishan Reddy presented elaborate details of various schemes sanctioned for promotion of tourism in Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

He gave the bifurcation of the budget allocation of the

Jammu and Kashmir Tourism. Only one work, Hazratbal Srinagar, under Prashad, has been sanctioned for whole Jammu and Kashmir. Proposals of Katra-Reasi are under sanctioning process whereas proposals for Sunderbani-Rajouri are awaited. It is to mention that under this scheme places of religious, spiritual and heritage are restored, developed and promoted.

Gulam Ali sought answers from the Ministry of Tourism on the specific schemes promoting tourism in Tribal areas along with details of employment generated through tourism for Tribals through promotion of tourism in these particular Tribal areas.

Seeking replies from the ministry about reasons for Purmandal-Uttarvahini proposal clearance delay and details regarding tourism budget for Jammu and Kashmir as there has been much delay in the restoration and development of these places of much importance for the people of Jammu and despite visits and assurances by Ministry of Tourism nothing on ground has been achieved through announcements were made in the past.

MP sought in detail the number of proposals received from Jammu and Kashmir under Prashad scheme and how many of those proposals been accepted and what is the status right now.

Minister replied in detail about projects under Swadesh Darshan. He said in all six projects were sanctioned in 2016-17 with a total budget allocation of 519.58 crore of which 434.50 have been release till now. Work is underway on many of these projects and some had been completed.

Power shutdown

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Superintending Engineer, O&M Circle Jammu, JPDCCL has informed that the power supply to Nanak Nagar, Railway Complex and their adjoining areas shall remain affected on March 28 from 10 am to 2 pm. Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to CTM Factory, GMC, Chackludan, Godrej Factory and Industries under SICOP Ist and SIDCO shall remain affected on March 28 and 29 from 8 am to 1 pm.



Principal Medical College Jammu, Dr. Shashi Sudhan Sharma addressing media persons at Jammu on Monday.

Over 1400 people pledged organ donation in 4 years: GMC Jammu Principal

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Ever since the establishment of State Organ and Tissues Transplant Organization (SOTTO) at Super Speciality Hospital (SSH) Jammu in the year 2019, over 1400 people have pledged donation of their organs through 140 awareness campaigns.

This was stated by Principal Government Medical College and Hospital Jammu, Dr Shashi

* Watch video on www.excelexportnews.com

Sudhan Sharma during a press conference held here today. Accompanied by Dr Elias Sharma, HoD Urology & Renal Transplant and Nodal Officer SOTTO J&K, Dr Sanjeev Puri, Joint Director SOTTO J&K and other prominent medical professionals, Dr Shashi Sudhan Sharma highlighted the critical need for organ and tissue transplantation in India, including Jammu and Kashmir, where there is a large deficit between demand and availability.

She noted that the Medical College Jammu has been providing training for transplant surgeons, nurses, and coordinators in collaboration with SOTTO J&K. She said GMC Jammu has successfully performed 13 Renal Transplants, all under Ayushman Bharat, with logistics provided by the hospital since its registration from the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) in April 2022. The hospital has also established an Eye Bank in the Department of Ophthalmology, which has performed four Corneal Transplants, giving sight to the blind, she said.

She also shared that GMC Jammu is the first hospital to perform live Kidney Transplant in the Jammu Division. She added that GMC Jammu has been working to start Deceased Organ Donation from Brain Dead Persons diagnosed after road traffic accidents or brain haemorrhage, who can be potential donors for eyes, kidneys, lungs, heart, liver, etc. "Families of such persons can donate organs and tissues for saving the lives of end-stage organ failure patients who otherwise are going to die. Unused organs and tissues, other than eyes and kidneys, shall be transplanted to other hospitals by creating a green corridor," she said.

ACB registers case against Revenue officials for illegal mutations

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Mar 27: Anti-Corruption Bureau Jammu has registered a corruption case against the then Revenue officers/officials and beneficiaries for illegal mutations in revenue record.

According to the FIR, a preliminary enquiry was conducted to look into allegations that officers/officials of Revenue Department in district Samba attested number of mutations of Gair Mumkin Khads, Banjar Qadeem Araks, Gair Mumkin Lands in Village Birpur in violation of norms/stipulations contained in LB-6, S-432-254C etc which does not permit conferment of rights of Govt orders.

During course of probe, record pertaining of Mutation Numbers 2041, 2105, 2157, 2173, 2423, 2979, 189/1, 616/3, 649/J 835/J, 1389/J, 1461/J, 1469/J, 2848/J & 3164/3 under Govt Order S 432, Mutation Numbers 972, 981, 1051, 1074, 1077, 997, 1298/1, 1200, & 1071 under Govt Order LB/6-C and Mutation Numbers 3810, 4491, 846/1, 1294/3 & 3357/) under Govt Order No. 254- C were scrutinized.

It came to the fore that out of 15 Mutations attested under Govt Order No. S-432 and 09 Mutations attested under Govt Order LB-6, all mutations except Mutation No. 2105 and 1071 (attested under Govt Order S-432 and Govt Order No. LB-6C respectively) have been found attested in violation of conditions

contained in Govt Orders S-432 and LB as continuous recorded cultivating possession of the beneficiaries was not there since 1957-58 which is a pre-requisite for attestation of such mutations. The kind of soil in majority of these mutations was recorded as Qadeem Banjar, Arak Gair Mumkin etc which also is not covered within the ambit of the Government orders. In addition out of 05 Mutations attested under Govt Order 254-C, Mutation No. 3357/), 3810 and 1491 have been found attested in violation of the order. The allotment orders in this regard by PRO Jammu are missing which is pre-requisite for attesting such mutations. The then officers/officials of Revenue Department Samba in connivance with beneficiaries of village Birpur thus by abuse of their official positions conferred undue benefits upon the beneficiaries by illegally mutating approximately 450 kanals of land against pecuniary gains with corresponding loss to the state. The omissions and commissions on part of various officers/officials of Revenue Department Samba who remained associated with attesting/entering/verifying these mutations along with beneficiaries constitute offences punishable under Section 5 (1) (d) read with Sections 5 (2) JK PC Act Svt. 2006 and Section 120-B RPC.

Accordingly a case has been registered in Police Station, Anti-Corruption Bureau Jammu.

Dr Jitendra announces integrated strategy for 'TB Mukh Bharat'

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Mar 27: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today announced integrated strategy for "TB Mukh Bharat"

Mtb isolated from TB patients and development of a novel blood bag technology at DBT-InStem, Bengaluru. Dr. Jitendra Singh was interacting with the Press on Bio-Next-Tech Innovations.

Presentations on new initiatives on improving Tuberculosis outcomes - a) AYUSH interventions to improve TB patient quality-of-life (QOL) b) Mapping

(DBT) was launched on World TB Day in 2022. Indian Tuberculosis Genomic Surveillance Consortium (InTGS), one of the key components of the program, is a joint initiative between the Ministry of Science & Technology and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, led by the Department of Biotechnology, DBT, ICMR, CSIR and other R&D institutes are part of the consortium & aim to perform Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) of 32500 strains of TB.

Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology stated that InTGS is modelled on the lines of the highly successful Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG).

Dr. Jitendra Singh said, this will be the first pan-India initiative at such scale to fully understand the biological characteristics of Mycobacterium tuberculosis (Mtb) and the effect of the mutations on transmission, treatment and disease severity. He stated that this could lay the groundwork for use of modern technology such as WGS for TB diagnosis and surveillance in future. He mentioned that the Hon'ble Prime Minister had recently addressed the One World TB Summit at Varanasi on the occasion of World TB day on 24th March, 2023 where several initiatives were launched and the efforts of the Department align with the vision of 'TB Mukh Bharat' by 2025.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing a press conference at National Media Centre, New Delhi on Monday.

and said, the Department of Biotechnology, which gave the world first DNA vaccine against Covid, is going to play an important part in this integrated holistic healthcare approach against elimination of Tuberculosis, in keeping with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment of 'TB Mukh Bharat' by 2025.

Inspired by PM Narendra Modi's clarion call at the One World TB summit at Varanasi on 24th March, the Minister declared commencement of the pilot phase of Indian Tuberculosis Genomic Surveillance Consortium (InTGS) with successful completion of WGS of 182 strains of

drug resistance through genomics & artificial intelligence (AI) and novel blood bag technology to enhance quality and shelf life of stored blood were made.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that considering the deep societal and economic impact caused by Tuberculosis, the Govt. of India has placed a high priority for 'TB Mukh Bharat' by 2025. Biotechnology is going to play a huge part in the integrated holistic healthcare approach against elimination of Tuberculosis. Data-Driven Research to Eradicate TB - 'Dare2eraD TB' an umbrella program of the Department of Biotechnology

Story of 'Project Tiger' incomplete without knowing people behind endeavour to save national animal: Karan Singh

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Mar 27: Dr Karan Singh, former Member Parliament has emphasized on knowing the facts behind the success story of Project Tiger, which was envisaged after days of research and sheer hard work and finally launched on April 1, 1973.

In a statement issued here today, the former Member Parliament said very few people now recall the genesis of this project in which he played a crucial role. "In the late 1960s when I was in her Cabinet, Indira Gandhi asked me to take over Chairmanship of the Indian Board for Wild Life. The first meeting was simply introductory, but in the second meeting, I realised to my

astonishment that till then it was the lion that was our National Animal, based obviously on the

Ashoka Lions in our national symbol. The lion is found only in one corner of

India whereas the tiger stretches all the way from Himachal Pradesh to Kerala and from Gujarat to Meghalaya. We, therefore, passed a Resolution in our meeting requesting the Government of India to change the national animal from the lion to the tiger," he recalled.

"I took the proposal to Indira ji who got it through the Cabinet and made the necessary amendments.

In this way I was responsible for the tiger becoming our National Animal," he added.

The former Member Parliament said, "Immediately thereafter we set up Project Tiger with the Prime Minister as Chairman and myself as Vice-Chairman, and I selected an excellent Forest Officer from Rajasthan K.S Shankhala as the first Project Director. We started with 9 tiger reserves, and I had the privilege to inaugurate Project Tiger in the Corbet National Park on first of April 1973. According to Dr Karan Singh, he mentioned these facts simply so that when the articles are written they should, in all fairness, mention these interesting facts which are not known to the general public."

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