

# Air Vice Marshal Praveen Vohra, Kerala Legislative Assembly panel meet LG J&K

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SRINAGAR: Air Vice Marshal Praveen Keshav Vohra, AVSM, VM, Air Officer Commanding Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh on Friday met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here.

The AOC and the Lt Governor discussed various important issues pertaining to the air defence management system in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Lt Governor lauded the courage and valour displayed by the Indian Air Force personnel while discharging their duties and appreciated their valuable support to the population living in remote & high-altitude areas and the crucial role played by the IAF during emergent situations.

Meanwhile, Members of Kerala Legislative Assembly Committee on Welfare of Backward Class Communities called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here.

The Committee comprising of its members including



AOC Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, Air Vice Marshal Praveen Keshav Vohra calling on Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

Kurukkoli Moideen, K. Babu, A. Prabhakaran, KK Ramachandran and G. Stephen are on a study tour to the UT of J&K.

The Lt Governor observed that the end of Articles 370 and 35A has heralded a new dawn of equity, fairness and empowerment and due rights have been conferred upon the deprived communities and the J&K Government is working tirelessly towards social equality and justice for all.

Later, a deputation of BJP

leaders including Dr. Ali Mohammad, Incharge BJP J&K Minority Morcha and Umar Jan, District President, BJYM Budgam also called on the Lt Governor and apprised him of various developmental issues of Budgam pertaining to strengthening of road network of prominent tourist & religious places like Doodhpathri, Tosamaidan, Yumarg and Charar-i-Sharief; water filtration plant at Khansahib and repair of LT Poles.

Similarly, a delegation of Shia Community members led by Aga Syed Abbas Rizvi of J&K Peoples Justice Front projected various demands for the upliftment of Shia Community, including establishment of Shia Waqf Board.

Meanwhile, Chowdhary Khurshid Doie, Tehsil President, J&K Gujar & Bakerwal Youth Welfare Conference from Karnah submitted a memorandum of demands to the Lt Governor pertaining to construction of Gujar Boys & Girls hostel, smart schools for tribal villages & Women ITI Centre at Karnah; provision of solar plants for inhabitants of tribal villages; special recruitment drive for SPOs, besides water supply; strengthening of road connectivity; playground and establishment of Skill Development Centre in Karnah area.

The Lt Governor, while interacting with the members of the delegations reiterated the commitment of the UT Government for equitable development of all regions and welfare of every section

of the society.

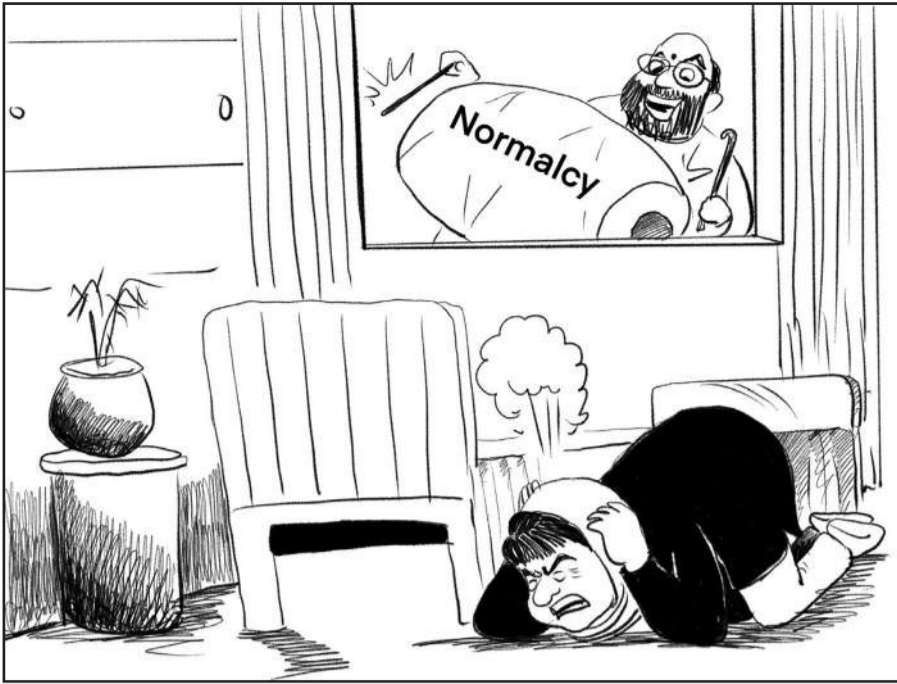
The Lt Governor assured the delegations that their genuine issues would be taken up for consideration and early redressal.

Later, Young Scientists of Kashmir University called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, here.

The scientists led by Dr Ajaz ul Hamid Wani apprised the Lt Governor about the research initiatives they have taken in the UT of J&K.

Discussion was held to establish a world-class research and capacity-building ecosystem in the UT.

The Lt Governor assured all support and assistance from the UT Government in enhancing the research development activities. He extended his best wishes for the success in research of the young scientists, who have returned through "Brain Drain to Brain Gain" mission of the Government of India to take up research positions in various universities, and set up cutting-edge research programmes.



## Amit Shah's public rallies bound to change political discourse in J&K: BJP



Jammu and Kashmir BJP Chief Ravinder Raina addressing a press conference.

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JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir BJP chief Ravinder Raina on Friday said Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent public rallies will change the political discourse in the Union territory.

Shah's rallies in Rajouri in Jammu province on Tuesday and north Kashmir's Baramulla on Wednesday witnessed a massive public participation.

"These mega rallies will prove to be a turning point in the political scenario of Jammu and Kashmir. The enthusiasm of people in both the rallies was unmatched and historic," Raina told reporters here.

Senior party leaders, including former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta, were also present at the press

conference.

Raina, who had accompanied Shah during most of his engagements, said the rallies verified the public's 'acceptance, faith and love towards the development policies of the Narendra Modi-led government.

"The Modi government has devoted itself to the welfare of every community in Jammu and Kashmir beyond their region and religion. The prime minister has ensured development policies keeping every sector in mind," the BJP leader said.

Raina expressed gratitude towards the people for making the two rallies successful and claimed that for the first time in history, every community in Jammu and Kashmir was feeling empowered.

Reacting to a white paper

issued by National Conference president Farooq Abdullah over Shah's frontal attack on the three political families -- the Abdullahs, the Muftis and the Gandhis -- Raina said, He (Farooq) must answer about the atrocities committed against the refugees from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, Gorkhas, Dalits, Gaddi-sippi, Valmiki, women, Gujjar-Bakarwals, Dogras and Kashmiris.

There were gross human rights violations on these communities for 70 years. Now, the Modi government is ensuring justice to all, he added.

After Shah's allegation linking regional parties with separatism, Abdullah had issued a white paper on the development undertaken by his party while in power.

## Amit Kapoor, others restrained from holding any protest near Nagbani School

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Excise Magistrate, Jammu Umesh Sharma after hearing Advocate Rajat Gupta appearing for Maharaja Hari Singh (MHIS), DAV Cent Public School, Akhnoor, Jammu has passed a restraining order against Amit Kapoor, President Parents Association, Jammu & other parents from holding any protest as well as from causing any sort of obstruction/ interference into peaceful and smooth management, affairs of School or disturbing teachers, staff, students or any other person associated with School in any manner.

In a civil suit filed by school it was stated that on 16.09.2022, Amit Kapoor openly provoked and instigated parents of the students studying in aforesaid

school to gather at school on 19.09.2022 at 08:00 AM-08:30 AM for holding protest against the school. Neither any of the children of Amit Kapoor is studying in school nor he is remotely associated with Schools' affairs, but despite that he is time and again interfering into affairs, management of the Plaintiff's School by holding various illegal protests, provoking parents and disturbing peaceful atmosphere of the school by gathering unlawful assembly thereby also affecting the students, teachers and other staff members.

Amit Kapoor, who projects himself as President of Parents Association Jammu, (an un-registered association) has been infamous for holding various protests, instigating parents of the students study-

ing in school by misleading them and blackmailing the plaintiff. Amit Kapoor along with few parents on 19.09.2022 gathered an unlawful assembly outside school premises and raised Anti-Administration, Anti-School Slogans which caused great hardships not only to the reputation of the school but also the teachers, staff and students studying in the school.

The court directed that Amit Kapoor should refrain himself from passing any remarks and instigating parents on issue of fee payment by parents to any private un-aided schools, particularly when the department is already addressing the issue. The Court after hearing the counsel for the school passed a restraining order against defendant and the next date of hearing has been fixed on 28.10.2022.

## J&K Bank settles insurance claim swiftly; SMVDSB employee's wife gets Rs 30 Lakh cheque

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JAMMU: In a swift settlement of insurance claim on Friday, IFFCO Toyota-General Insurance part-ners of J&K Bank-settled claim of deceased employee of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), amounting to Rs 30 lakh under Group Accidental Insurance Cover.

CEO (SMVDSB) Anshul Garg on Friday handed over the cheque of Rs 30 lakh to Anita Devi, widow of late Kuldeep Chand, in presence of Chief Accounts Officer SMVDSB Mahesh Sharma, Bank's Zonal Head Udhampur Rajesh Gupta, Zonal Head (North) Iffco-Tokio General Insurance Company Pawan Shah, Cluster Head (Reasi) Ravi

Sharma and other officials of Bank and shrine board.

Speaking on the occasion, Anshul Garg appreciated J&K Bank and Iffco-Tokio General Insurance Company for prompt settlement of the insurance claim and releasing the amount to the nominee of the deceased employee in a hassle free manner.

"While the irreparable loss cannot be compensated, the settlement of insurance claim was a good gesture towards addressing the immediate financial needs of the bereaved family", he said.

On the occasion, Zonal Head Udhampur reiterated the Banks policy of prompt and easy settlement of insurance claims of all its customers.

## 25,000 Kg narcotics to be destroyed in presence of Amit Shah

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GUWAHATI: About 25,000 kgs of drugs, seized as part of a massive drive carried out by the Narcotics Control Bureau and state agencies, will be destroyed in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah here on Saturday, officials said. Shah will also chair a regional meeting on 'Drug Trafficking and National Security' here to discuss drug scenario in the northeastern region and ways to mitigate it. Chief ministers and DGPs of all northeastern states will participate the meeting.

About 11,000 kg of narcotic substances will be destroyed by the NCB here on Saturday. Additionally, approximately 13,675 kg of confiscated narcotics (heroin, ganja, codeine cough syrup, narcotic pills) will be destroyed by Assam (2,531 kg) and Tripura (11,144 kg), an official said, adding around 25,000 kg of drugs will be destroyed.

Exhibiting the commitment of the Narendra Modi government to make the society drugs-free,

the NCB, which functions under the Ministry of Home Affairs, is running a special mission from June 1 to destroy confiscated drugs.

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of Independence, the NCB had decided that during this special campaign of 75 days, 75,000 kg drugs will be destroyed by all regional units of the NCB.

The NCB achieved the target in just 60 days, well before the deadline, and reiterated its commitment to the nation regarding the fight against drug abuse. Around 82,000 kg of seized drugs were destroyed by July 30, another official said. Under this campaign, during a national conference held on July 30 in Chandigarh, the home minister started the process of destroying 31,000 kg of narcotics by various field units of the NCB through virtual medium.

During this special extermination drive from June 1-7, about 1,09,000 kg of confiscated narcotics have been destroyed by the NCB, the official said.

## Secretary Mining visits Parlanka Gypsum Mines

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Secretary, Mining Department, Amit Sharma, on Friday conducted an exhaustive visit of Gypsum Mines located at Parlanka in Ramban district being managed by Jammu and Kashmir Minerals Limited. He also convened a review meeting regarding ongoing mining works in the district.

Managing Director, J&K Minerals, Vikram K Gupta and Manager, JKML, Parmod Khajuria and others accompanied the Secretary during the visit.

Secretary had firsthand account of ongoing gypsum mining works during which he was informed about the daily extraction, transportation, sales and supplies sta-



Secretary, Mining Department, Amit Sharma inspecting working of Gypsum Mines at Ramban.

tus of gypsum from Parlanka site. He was further apprised that these gypsum mines have helped the Corporation become self-sufficient to a great extent in last couple of years. This has greatly supported the Corporation in smooth conduct of routine affairs including timely pay-

ment of salaries and other dues.

Later, Secretary had a review meeting regarding current mining activities in the district.

District Mining Officer, Kulwant Singh, informed that two new mining blocks, one for Gypsum and other

for River Bed Mining, have been recently identified in the district.

Secretary directed the concerned to expedite the requisite paper work of these newly explored gypsum sites so that the pressure on Parlanka mines can be reduced, as sole dependence for gypsum on Parlanka mines should be done away with, since Parlanka sites would get submerged in Chenab waters after commissioning of Sawlakote Hydel Project.

Secretary also discussed critical issues concerning the mining sector in the district with Additional District Development Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner especially regarding pending land

acquisition cases. He asked for settling private land related issues at the earliest so that the public could get their legitimate compensation.

Amit Sharma mentioned that there should be full utilization of latest e-Governance initiative of department regarding launch of G2B2C Portal geologymining.jk.gov.in through which all transactions should be done through issuance of e-Challans only.

He asked the district authorities to organise more awareness camps on procurement of mining material through e-Marketplace on this website to achieve the objective of transparency and accountability without human intervention.

## Court awards 20-yr RI, Rs 2 lakh fine to heroin smuggler

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Principal Sessions Judge Jammu Sanjay Parihar on Friday awarded 20 years rigorous imprisonment (RI) to one Sanjeev Kumar, from whom 10 Kg Heroin was recovered. According to case, on November 24, 2017 a docket written at 11:45 AM was received at Police Station Gandhi Nagar through Constable Narinder Singh on behalf of SI Madan Lal, Incharge Police Naka that on November 24, 2017 at 11:15 AM, he along with some police personals were performing Naka duty near Shamshan Ghat Pulli, Shastri Nagar and stopped a bike (Endeavour bearing Registration No PB10GB/6247) for checking. The rider disclosed his identity as Sanjeev Kumar; son of Brij Lal, resident of Miran Sahib Jammu. On frisking, 9 packets of heroin like substance were found from accused, who used to supply heroin to youth in Shastri Nagar Jammu. On receipt of docket, FIR No. 220/2017 dated 24.11.2017 was registered against under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS and investigation was handed over to Mohammad Rafiq Manhas DySP South/SDPO City Jammu who along with Magistrate 1st Class South Jammu went to the spot and seized the contraband. On further enquiry and disclosure of accused, the IO along with Magistrate went to house of accused at Indira Nagar; Miran Sahib and recovered 1 Kg heroin as well as proceeds of heroin sale amounting to Rs 24,21,350.

Principal Sessions Judge Jammu Sanjay Parihar after hearing Public Prosecutor Kulbhushan Sharma for UT and Adv Fahim Showkat Bhat for accused, observed that facts as

proved in the present case are that convict was in conscious possession of 10 Kg Heroin. "Drug has become a major problem not only in our UT but also in the country. The younger generation may be, due to the exposure of latest electronic technology and other factors in fast paced life, has got a particular temptation towards the use of drug which is nothing but destruction of the youth and the mankind. The persons, who deal with the Narcotics, are not only a menace to the society but also to the entire social environment. Therefore, in order to effectively control and eradicate this proliferating and booming devastating menace, causing deleterious effects and deadly impact on the society as a whole, the sentence should be deterrent to the perpetrator of the crime which should serve a message to the persons involved in the narcotic trade. Though convict is first time offender as there appears to be no past history of convict but having indulged in such acts of big quantity so recovered, the maximum sentence as provided under law is required to be imposed in this case so as to act as deterrent for other wrong doers. Consequently, convict Sanjeev Kumar is convicted under sections 8/21 of NDPS Act and sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for a period of twenty (20) years and a fine of Rs 2,00,000. In case of default of payment of fine, the convict shall undergo simple imprisonment for a period of one year; the Court directed adding that copy of sentence along with copy of finding of guilty shall be provided to convict free of cost in open court. The case was investigated and challenged by the then SDPO Gandhi Nagar, DySP Rafiq Manhas.

## Dr Jitendra holds 'luncheon interaction' with J&K IAS, IPS officers

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NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday held a luncheon interaction with IAS, IPS and also some Indian Forest Service officers belonging to erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir cadre, and presently posted in the national capital.

During the interaction, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi accords highest priority to Jammu & Kashmir and therefore it is the added responsibility of All India Service officers to strive to transform it into one of the best governed States/UTs of the country. He said, Jammu & Kashmir is witnessing a new dawn of development and peace. The Minister pointed out that Modi also fulfilled 70 year old demand of Kashmiris for international flights by starting direct flights from Srinagar.

Dr Jitendra also underlined that the new comprehensive Film Policy launched with much fanfare is attracting film-makers for shooting after decades and within a year of notification of this policy, as many as 140 shooting permissions for films and web-series have been issued. He said, there is a proposal to set up a film studio with state-of-art facilities catering to the young talent of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr Singh also informed the senior officers of IAS, IPS and IPoS from erst-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh holding a luncheon interaction with IAS, IPS and IFS officers of erstwhile J&K Cadre, currently posted in Delhi, on Friday.

while J&K cadre that deputation roles of Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) have been relaxed to encourage IAS and other All India Service Officers as well as officers of Central Services to get posted in J&K. He informed that due to this relaxation, 22 officers belonging to various services and different cadres have been posted in Jammu & Kashmir at various levels.

Dr Jitendra said, DoPT has played a major role in facilitating induction of Jammu & Kashmir Administrative Services Officers into IAS by coordinating with UT of J&K, Ministry of Home Affairs and UPSC. As a result recently 16 officers from JKAS have been

inducted into IAS and another 8 such vacancies will be filled up shortly giving opportunities to the JKAS officers to become part of prestigious IAS service after a long gap of 12 years.

The Minister also added that Mid-Career Training of JKAS officers of various seniority was carried out in collaboration with LBSNAA and this has provided a new level of exposure to the JKAS Officers and more than 200 officers. Senior IAS officers including Pradip Kumar Tripathi, Secretary, (Coordination) in Cabinet Secretariat, Sundeep Kumar Nayak, Director General, National Productivity Council (NPC), Department for Promotion of

Industry & Internal Trade, Shantmanu, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Manoj Kumar Dwivedi Joint Secretary DoPT, Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Niraj Kumar ARC, JK House among others exchanged views with Dr Jitendra Singh over a luncheon meeting at his residence.

The IPS officers posted in crucial organisations like CBI, NIA, BSF, ITBP, CRPF, SSB were also present at the interaction. S.M. Sahai, Joint Secretary, Lalatendu Mohanti, DG, BSF Academy, Pankaj Saxena, Joint Secretary, Abdul Ghani Mir, IG, ITBP, Rajesh Kumar, ADGP, CRPF, T. Namgyal Kalon, IG, SSB, Vipray Kumar Choudhry, DIG, NIA, Vidhi Kumar Birlid, DIG, NIA, Amit Kumar, DIG, NIA, Keshav Ram Chaurasia, DIG, CBI, Tejinder Singh, SP, NIA, Shailendra Kumar Mishra, SP, NIA, Rajiv Omprakash Pande, SP, NIA, Nitish Kumar, S.P. Pani, Atul Kumar Goel, Rahul Malik, Ambarkar Shriram Dinkar, Uttam Chand joined the interaction.

Among the Indian Forest officers, Biswajit Kumar Singh, Dr. Rajeev Kumar Tiwari, Roop Avtar Kaur, Preet Pal Singh, Naveen Kumar Shah, Praveen Kumar Raghav, Mohammad Sajid Sultan took part in the deliberations.