

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

AC approves J&K...

public disclosures. In order to make the recruitment process fully transparent and merit based, screening by the Public Service Commission and reduction in weightage to interview has been proposed for gazetted positions.

For non-gazetted positions, it has been proposed to do away with interviews altogether and conduct recruitment through the Service Selection Board. Screening/recruitment by Public Service Commission/s/ Service Selection Boards have been introduced in varying measures by other states like Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand etc.

In yet another decision, the Administrative Council approved 'The Jammu and Kashmir Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2022'.

'The Jammu and Kashmir Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2022 is reform in the existing system and permits diversification of commodities & services other than those distributed under the TPDS at FPS, which will, besides making FPSs economically viable , will help in putting an end to leakage/pilferage.

The new policy shall significantly revise the existing provisions pertaining to opening of new FPS and their licensing and will ensure atleast one FPS in each Panchayat/Municipal Ward/ULB and for this purpose new FPS will be also be established.The number shall be based on the population of the Panchayat/MunicipalWard/ULB.Opening of new FPSs shall result in livelihood opportunities for unemployed youth as well as for destitute & separated women, orphan girls, as they have been given additional weightage by virtue of this scheme.

In deference to the position of PRIs in the governance structure, the policy stipulates that the location of the Fair Price Shop and transfer of license to dependent family member shall be done in consultation with the concerned Gram Sabha. The Licensing Authority shall consider the opening of new FPS to cater the need of the ratees in an area, satisfying the indicative norms under the order.

The present FPS dealers shall have to obtain a license under this order within 4 months so that uniformity in licensing system can be ensured. The provisions concerning ration cards, portability, maintenance of records, e-POS, penalties, monitoring, inspection and removal of difficulties, etc, have also been introduced in the order. The new policy is in consonance with National Food Security Act, 2013 and the guidelines of GoI.

SHO Channi Himmat...

to Police Station Akhnoor as SHO; Inspector Vijay Kumar from DPL Jammu to Police Station Janipur as SHO; Inspector Joginder Singh from Police Station Gangyal to Police Station Gharota as SHO; Inspector Vishal Dogra from DPL Jammu to Police Station Bus Stand as SHO; Inspector Hiral Azhar has been transferred from Police Station Akhnoor and posted to DPL Jammu and Inspector Deepal Katoch from Police Station Channai to DPL Jammu.

Two 'Nari Niketan'...

the Union Territory. Director General, SWD, Jammu, Vivek Sharma said an enabling environment is being created in all the institutions of the department to pave the way for overall development of the enrolled students.

"More facilities for the welfare of the students are in offing and shall be made available to the enrolled students in due course of time, he said.

ACB books XEn ...

contractual/temporary appointment without adopting proper procedure has been restricted/banned.

In this way, involved officers/officials of PDD Division Handwara, abusing their official positions under a well-knit conspiracy, illegally and fraudulently engaged 36 beneficiaries against pecuniary gains without having competence in this regard and later recommended them for regularization by resorting to manipulations of record, thereby conferring undue benefit upon themselves and beneficiaries. Accordingly, FIR No. 27/2022 was registered in Police Station ACB Baramulla against aforementioned officers/officials of PDD Division Handwara and beneficiaries.

Court directs DC...

respondent Radhey Sham Sharma in the execution in hand is Rs 4,62,000 (rupees four lakh sixty two thousand only). Court further observed that the dilly dalling and recalcitrant disposition of respondent proprietor in making aforesaid payment is only driving petitioners to great deal of hardship for over five years now. Court issued fresh attachment warrant against respondent Proprietor, authorising therein District Collector (Deputy Commissioner) Jammu to attach moveable property of respondent proprietor to the tune of Rs 4,62,000/- (rupees Four lakh sixty two thousand) and submit compliance report by or before next date of hearing. Court further issued non-bailable arrest warrant, to be executed by SHO Police Station Gandhi Nagar, Jammu in case aforesaid attachment warrant remains un-executed.

Three IEDs, 3...

"He was earlier convicted in a case and was lodged in Kot Bhalwal jail for 14 years and was released in 2019. He had developed relations with JeM terrorist Fareed who had returned to his country, Pakistan after serving his jail term in J&K," the police said,

He was planning to revive old terrorist activities in his area by roping in other old terrorists at the behest of Pakistan-based commanders, they added.

A police official said the latest recovery was made from the Malhar village of Kathua and the search operation was underway at the time the last reports were received. "An operation was launched on the disclosure of the arrested terrorist and a total of six explosive devices three each IEDs and three sticky bombs were recovered so far," he said. Earlier, a sticky bomb was recovered from Bhat at the time of his arrest.

Police conducts searches...

suspected houses at Sheeraz Colony Ganie Near Ration Ghat Soura and Shalbahf Mohalla New Colony Jinab Sahab Anchar Soura, the official said.

The raids were conducted with the help of the administration and the police station concerned after getting proper search warrants from competent courts, he added. "During the course of the raids by the SIU, various incriminating materials were recovered and are being investigated. "These raids will continue in the future

also, for the logical conclusion of all UL(P) A cases," the official said.

All conscientious countries...

not promote it. They also do grave injustice to the victims of terrorism," Bagchi added.

At the press conference in Berlin on Friday, Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said peace inside South Asia would not be possible without the peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN resolutions and taking into consideration the aspirations of Kashmiri people.

India has been strongly maintaining that Kashmir is a bilateral issue between New Delhi and Islamabad.

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said she believed that every country in the world has a role and responsibility for solving conflicts and for ensuring that "we are living in a peaceful world".

Former Guv Malik...

government and claimed to be very close to the prime minister (Narendra Modi)," he had said.

"I was informed by secretaries in both departments that there is a scandal and I accordingly cancelled both deals.

"The secretaries told me that 'you will get Rs 150 crore each for clearing the files' but I told them that I have come with five kurta-pyjamas and will leave with that only," Malik had told a gathering at an event in Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan in October last year.

In April this year, the CBI registered the two FIRs in connection with corruption allegations levelled by Malik in the awarding of contracts for a group medical insurance scheme for government employees and civil work worth Rs 2,200 crore related to the Kiru hydroelectric power project in the erstwhile state.

The central agency has booked Reliance General Insurance and Trinity Re-Insurance Brokers Limited as accused in its FIR related to a controversial health insurance scheme for Jammu and Kashmir government employees reportedly cleared by Malik in the state administrative council meeting on August 31, 2018.

"...unknown officials of Finance Department of Government of Jammu and Kashmir by abusing their official position in conspiracy and connivance with Trinity Reinsurance Brokers Ltd, Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd and other unknown public servants and private persons have committed the offences of criminal conspiracy and criminal misconduct," the FIR alleged.

They caused "pecuniary advantage to themselves and wrongful loss to state exchequer during the period 2017 and 2018 and thereby in this manner cheated the Government of Jammu and Kashmir", it alleged.

It was alleged in different quarters that there were glaring deviations from the government norms in the contract awarded to Reliance General Insurance like the absence of an online tender, removal of an original condition that the vendor should have experience of working in the state and companies having turnover of Rs 5,000 crore among others.

"The case was registered on the request of Jammu and Kashmir government on the allegations of malpractices in the award of contract of J&K Employees Health Care Insurance Scheme to private company and release of Rs 60 crore (approximately) in the year 2017-18," CBI Spokesperson R C Joshi had said.

After allegations of irregularities surfaced, the scheme, which was rolled out on September 30, 2018, was scrapped, officials said.

"The governor has approved foreclosure of the contract with M/s Reliance General Insurance Company (RGIC) for implementing group mediclaim health insurance policy for the employees and pensioners in the state," a Raj Bhavan spokesperson had said on October 27, 2018.

He had said the matter was referred to the Anti-Corruption Bureau for examining the entire process to see whether it was conducted in a transparent and fair manner:

In the scheme which was initially signed up with RGIC for one year, the employees and pensioners would have got Rs 6 lakh cover for themselves and five dependent family members by paying an annual premium of Rs 8,777 and Rs 22,229 for employees and pensioners, respectively.

In its second FIR pertaining to the alleged malpractices in the award of contract for the civil works package of Kiru hydroelectric power project, the CBI said guidelines related to e-tendering were not followed.

"The case was registered on allegations of malpractices in the award of the contract worth Rs 2,200 crore (approximately) of civil works of Kiru Hydro Electric Power Project (HEP) to a private company in the year 2019," Joshi had said.

The agency has booked Navin Kumar Chaudhary, former chairman of Chenab Valley Power Projects (P) Ltd, M S Babu, former MD, M K Mittal and Arun Kumar Mishra, former directors and Patel Engineering Ltd.

"Though a decision was taken in the 47th Board meeting of CVPPPL (Chenab Valley Power Projects Ltd) for re-tender through e-tendering with the reverse auction after the cancellation of the ongoing tendering process, the same was not implemented (as per the decision taken in the 48th board meeting) and tender was finally awarded to Patel Engineering Ltd," the FIR alleged.

Not drug seizure...

as insurgency, arms smuggling, and other anti-national activities are linked to trafficking, he said.

"Insurgency along with arms trade and drug trafficking are two sides of a coin", he said.

The Union Home minister urged the law-enforcing, health, revenue, and social revenue departments to adopt a twin-pronged approach for ensuring that drug trafficking is stopped.

"We must be harsh with the traffickers while at the same time the victims must be dealt with sensitively", he said.

Shah said that considerable efforts have been made to tackle the issue in the Northeastern states, where drugs enter from the neighbouring countries, but "it is not enough".

He urged the chief ministers, chief secretaries, and directors general of police of the Northeastern states to adopt strategies both "from top to bottom and vice versa so that the results percolate to the lowest level and the problem of trafficking can be eradicated from the roots".

Approximately 40 thousand kilogram narcotics were destroyed in the northeastern region under a special campaign against narcotics

The Home Minister said that under Azadi ka amrit Mahotsav, a target to destroy 75,000 kilogram narcotics was set but under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, over 1.5 lakh kilogram narcotics has been destroyed so far, which is more than double of the target set

Amit Shah said that use of drugs is fatal for any society as the loss of a terrorist incident is limited, but the spread of drugs in the society ruins generations. Drugs work like termites to hollow the youth power of our society and country. He



described drug trafficking as a borderless crime and called for better coordination between all Drug Law Enforcement and Intelligence agencies and bordering districts of the northeastern states is essential to tackle it

"We have to go beyond catching the 'faces' like drug abusers and distributors involved in any seizure and go behind them to nab the masterminds who send drugs from outside the border to India", the Home Minister said, adding that on directions of Prime Minister, the Ministry of Home Affairs has adopted a three-pronged formula of strengthening the institutional structure, empowerment and coordination of all narcotics agencies and a comprehensive awareness campaign to crack down on narcotics

He said that every state should have one Forensic Science Laboratory and the Government of India is ready to give financial assistance of 50 per cent in this endeavour

Shah said Regional Office of NCB has been established at Guwahati, New Regional Offices are being set up at Agartala in Tripura and Pasighat/Lower Siang in Arunachal Pradesh besides a Zonal Office has also been started at New Jalpaiguri for better coverage of the areas adjoining Sikkim

Issue of drugs smuggling is not an issue of Centre or state but a national issue and efforts to deal with it should also be national and unified, he added.

Union Home Minister emphasised that Chief Ministers of all Northeastern states should chair NCORD meetings and efforts should be made to percolate these to the district level. He favoured use of drone, artificial intelligence and satellite mapping for identification and control of areaus cultivating opium

Cases of drugs should be investigated thoroughly from its source to destination to crackdown on its entire network, he added

It was stated in the meeting that a total of 1257 cases were registered between 2006-2013 which increased by 152 percent to 3172 between 2014-2022, the total number of arrests during the same period increased by 260 percent to 4888 from 1362.

During 2006-2013, 1.52 lakh kg of drugs were seized which doubled to 3.30 lakh kg between 2014-2022, drugs worth Rs 768 crore were seized during 2006-2013, which increased by 25 times to Rs 20,000 crore between 2014-2022.

135 Patwaris promoted...

substantive vacancies of Girdawars in the revised Pay Level-6 (Rs 35400-112400) with effect from September 1, 2022," reads an order issued by Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu.

As per order, Patwaris who have been promoted as Girdawars include Shabir Ahmed, Anayat Hussain, Rafia Akhter Wani, Riaz Ahmed, Bashir Ahmed, Ch. Khadam Hussain, Suresh Kumar, Jaswant Singh, Irshad Hussain, Vinay Kumar Chandail, Mirza Mohd Aslam Beg, Parvez Iqbal, Adil Hussain, Tazeem Hamid, Santosh Kumar, Zaffar Iqbal, Pardeep Singh, Gopal Sharma, Jagdish Raj Sharma, Raghibir Chand, Shakti Kumar, Khursheed Ahmed, Rakesh Kumar, Ruhi Bano Quadri, Ajay Kumar, Shaishta Koser, Firdous Ahmed, Mahesh Dutt Sharma, Mohd Inuran Malik, Chaman Lal Pandith, Sandeep Kohli, Abdul Aziz, Mohd. Ashraf Sohail, Romesh Chander, Parshotam Lal, Bahir Ahmed, Shaheen Akhtar, Chanderjeet, Surjeet Basotra, Prem Singh, Pritam Chand, Mohinder Paul, Parvesh Kumar, Surinder Gupta, Arun Kumar, Kirpal Singh, Mohd. Hidayatullah, Rajeev Sharma, Ishtaq Ahmed Butt, Shafiq Ahmed, Mohinder Kumar, Deep Kumar, Dharam Veer, Subash Chander, Krishan Chand, Asrar Ahmed, Sher Singh, Anil Kumar, Kishore Kumar, Jai Pardeep Singh, Atul Khajuria, Raman Kumar, Mumtaz Hussain Shah, Adarsh Kumar, Mohd. Lateef Butt, Vijayant Singh, Akram Khan, Mohd. Intiaz Butt, Javed Iqbal, Tanvir Ahmed, Shesh Kumar, Anzar Ahmad Kalal, Dharminder Singh, Shahid Qayoom, Indrjeet Singh, Mohd Amin, Ali Asghar, Sarfraz Hussain Shah, Mohd Rafiq, Musarat Hussain Shah, Koser Niazi, Mohd Aziz, Anjum Javaid, Mohd Shafiq, Mohd Moneem, Mushtaq Ahmed, Kala Khan, Sarfraz Ahmed, Abdul Majid, Haroon Rashid, Abdul Rashid, Jamila Tabassum, Reghubir Singh, Mohd Wasim Khan, Mohd Rafi Khan, Shabeena Anjum, Mohd Yaqoob, Shamshad Akhtar, Riaz Mohd, Mohd Mushtaq, Ramesh Kumar, Pervaiz Hussain Mir, Zakir Hussain, Ikram Hussain, Jagdish Kumar, Rajeshwar Singh, Mohd. Shoket, Shah Nawaz Ahmed, Arshad Hussain, Tara Chand, Om Parkash, Ashwani Kumar, Javed Iqbal, Balbir Singh, Zassin Malik, Mushtaq Ahmad, Kushla Devi, Neetan Dubey, Jamal Din, Shakshi, Pankaj Singh, Upkar Singh, Ghulam Mohd, Mohan Lal, Bittu Ram, Dharat Kumari, Vinay Kumar, Rehana Akhter, Raj Singh, Naveen Kumar Katoch, Milap Singh, Rasila Saleem, Mohd. Shakeel, Mohd Saleem, Vimal Sharma, Ajeet Singh and Rifaqat Ali.

Thirid accused arrested...

was arrested from Anantnag district in south Kashmir on October 1 after a woman accused him of rape and extortion.

Another journalist, Salman Shah, a close friend of Ganie, was arrested on October 3.

Police in a tweet on Saturday identified the third arrested man as Showkat Ahmad Ragoo from Anantnag.

'They said Ragoo is an associate of Nadeem Nadu and working in PHE Department.

According to the woman's complaint, the accused had lured her through a WhatsApp group made for people seeking help and had sex with her sedating her with some intoxicant on the sly.

Srinagar police arrested a self-proclaimed journalist Nadeem Ahmed Ganie @ Nadeem Nadu, a resident of Qazibagh, Anantnag, in a rape case on a complaint received from a girl, a police spokesman had said on October 1.

The victim has also alleged that the accused took her pictures too when she was unconscious and used these to have sex with her many times, said a police spokesperson.

The accused also took her gold ornaments in the course of blackmailing her. Pertinent to mention, the lady was a student in an institution in central Kashmir at the time of the occurrence of this crime, the spokesperson added.

Police have booked the accused under various sections including 376 IPC (rape) at Women Police Station, Srinagar and have constituted a Special Investigation Team to investigate the matter.

DDC Chairperson, delegation, J&K Students Association meet LG

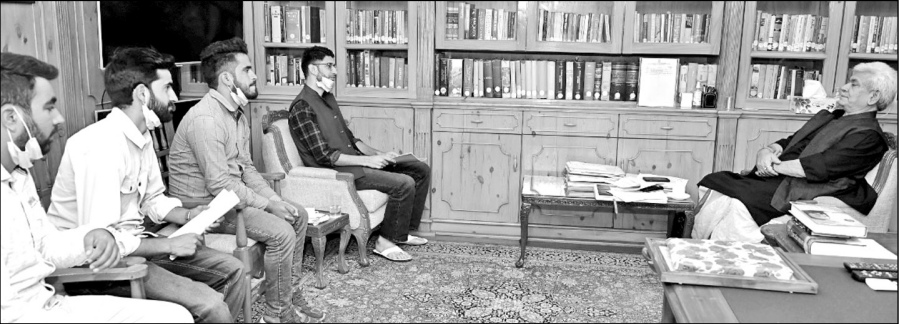
■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Nuzhat Ishfaq, DDC Chairperson, Ganderbal on Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here.

The DDC Chairperson accompanied by former Legislator, Ishfaq Jabbar apprised the Lt Governor about various issues of public importance of Ganderbal area pertaining to development of prominent tourist and religious places, expediting major development projects and strengthening the revived water transportation.

The DDC Chairperson also projected the demands for beautification of Nallah Sindh and construction of amusement park in the district.

Similarly, a public delegation led by Vijay Raina, Sarpanch Chowgam A and BJP District Spokesperson, Kulgam also called on the Lt Governor and raised several public issues including permanent rehabilitation of



Members of Jammu & Kashmir Students Association calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

families of village Gund Tankipora, Devsar affected during 2014 floods and creation of CD Block for Village Chowgam in Kulgam.

Later, Jammu & Kashmir Students Association headed by Nasir Kheuhami submitted a memorandum of demands pertaining to the welfare of student community of J&K including establishment of National Law University; introduction of training course for teachers of Higher education; establishment of Women Degree College in Bandipora; enhancing PG seats in medical colleges in J&K and fast-tracking of recruitment process.

The members of the delegation also extended their gratitude to the Lt Governor-led UT Administration for taking revolutionary steps for the empowerment of tribal students through various new initiatives.

The Lt Governor gave a patient hearing to the demands put forth by members of the delegations and assured appropriate redressal of the genuine issues and demands.

While interacting with the members of J&K Students Association, the Lt Governor observed that the UT Government is making dedicated efforts to ensure access to quality education for all.

We are implementing the National Education Policy in letter and spirit and ensuring that all the educational institutions maintain academic standards and empower students to be a key driver of socio-economic growth of the UT of J&K and the nation, added the Lt Governor.

PAGD constitutes panel to counter move to include non-locals as voters in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A 14-member committee has been set up to chalk out the strategy as regards any attempt of "manipulation and inclusion" of non-locals in the revised electoral rolls of Jammu and Kashmir; the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) said on Saturday.

The panel has members from the five PAGD constituents and several other political parties such as the Congress, the Shiv Sena, the Dogra Swabhiman Sangathan Party (DSSP) and the Dogra Sadar Sabha (DSS).

Announcing the formation of the committee, nearly a month after arriving at a consensus on the issue at a meeting chaired by former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah here, PAGD spokesperson M Y Tarigami said National Conference (NC) MP Justice (ret'd) Hasnain Masoodi will be the panel's convenor.

The PAGD, an amalgam of five political parties -- NC, PDP, CPI(M), CPI and the Awami National Conference (ANC) -- is campaigning for the restoration of the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Besides Masoodi, the other members of the committee include working president of Jammu and Kashmir Congress Raman Bala, former MP Sheikh Abdul Rehman,

NC provincial president (Jammu) Rattan Lal Gupta, People's Democratic Party (PDP) leaders Mehboob Beg and A S Reen, former minister and DSSP president Chowdhary Lal Singh and former minister and DSS president Gulchain Singh Charak, Tarigami said.

He said Shiv Sena's Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sawhney, CPI(M) leader Hari Singh, CPI leader G M Mizrab, ANC president Muzaffar Ahmad Shah, International Democratic Party president I D Khujuria and Jammu and Kashmir People's Movement leader M Hussain are the other members of the panel.

Tarigami said the committee was formed after deliberations and consultations, in accordance with a decision taken at a meeting of senior leaders of various political parties under Abdullah's chairmanship in Jammu on September 10, to set up a panel to chalk out the future strategy on the issue of any attempt at manipulating and including non-locals in the revised electoral rolls.

Hardening its stand on the issue of inclusion of non-locals as voters in the Union Territory despite a clarification from the administration, the PAGD held two meetings -- one in Srinagar on August 22 and another in Jammu on September 10.

The issue surfaced when the then chief

electoral officer Hirdesh Kumar said in August that Jammu and Kashmir is likely to get around 25 lakh additional voters, including outsiders, after the special summary revision of the electoral rolls being held for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution.

Following an outcry, the administration clarified that "this revision of electoral rolls will cover existing residents of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the increase in numbers will be of the voters who have attained the age of 18 years as of October 1, 2022, or earlier".

LG's greetings on Eid-i-Milad-un-Nabi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has greeted the people on the eve of Eid-i-Milad-un-Nabi.

In a message, the Lt Governor said, "On the auspicious occasion of Eid-i-Milad-un-Nabi, the birthday of the Holy Prophet, I convey my greetings and good wishes to all."

The Holy Prophet showed us the path of compassion, love and righteous living. May his teachings of universal love and compassion guide each one of us to live in harmony and unity and bring peace, prosperity and happiness to all".

