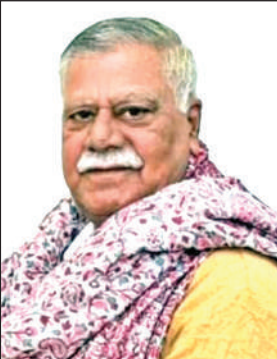


Jammu farmers likely to face shortage of fertilizer

Sukhnandan demands appointment of Nodal officer for fertilizer allocation from Ministry of fertilizer

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Following the vacant position of Director Agriculture, who also holds the post of Nodal Officer for fertilizer distribution, there is likely to be acute shortage of DAP fertilizer which is urgently required in November by the Jammu based farmers for sowing Rabi crop-the season almost passing by. Raising this demand, the senior BJP leader and former Minister Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar has demanded filing up of the post of Director Agriculture or handover the charge of Nodal officer fertiliser to some other officer so that the sowing Rabi crop season don't go



waste. The charge of Nodal officer was earlier with the Registrar Cooperatives and I got this charge transferred to Director Agriculture in 2009-2010 as Registrar Cooperatives has no knowledge about the fertilizers usage and its timings, said

Sukhnandan Kumar, adding, " Now this year as the post of Director Agriculture has fallen vacant, there is no Nodal Officer for the fertilizer allocation from Ministry of fertilizer and companies at centre.

3,000 MT of DAP fertilizer was received this month while the requirement for Rabi Season is 7,000 MT on urgent basis in the month of November, said senior BJP leader Sukhnandan Kumar, adding the DAP is urgently required as there is need of early sowing of varieties of wheat crop this year due adequate availability of soil moisture conditions. Regular intervention of Fertilizer

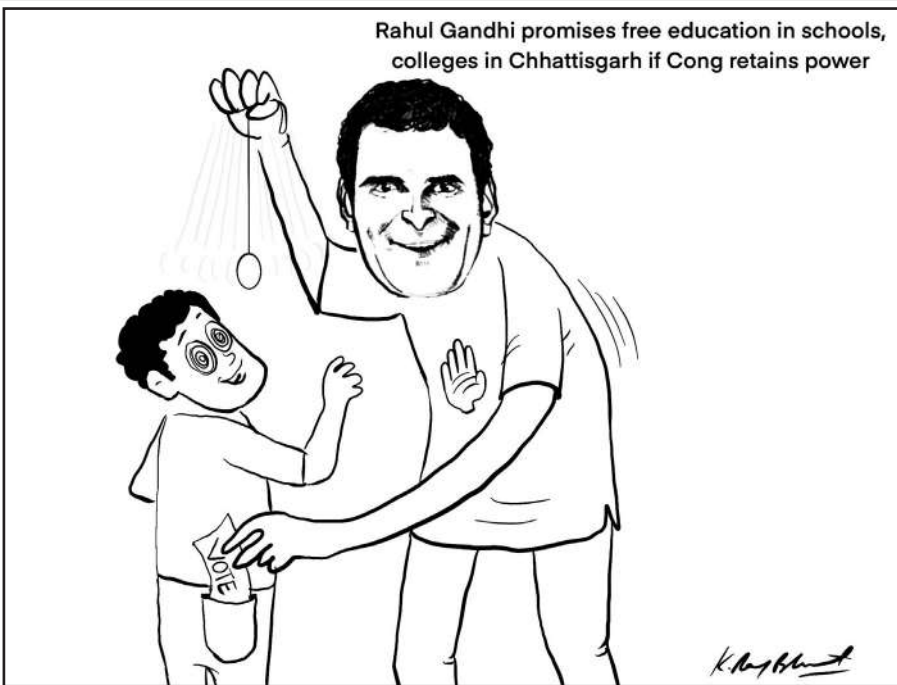
Controller is required with Fertilizer Ministry and Fertilizer companies and in absence of its Nodal officer who happens to be Director Agriculture, there is serious issues for the farmers, who are already facing other challenges.

Seeking the intervention of LG Manoj Sinha, the former Minister and senior BJP leader Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar said the demand for charge of Nodal officer be assigned to some officer in absence of Director Agriculture so that the farmers don't face any other challenges.

The farmers of Jammu province are already suffering because of climate conditions and untimely

heavy rains and thunderstorms, said Ch Sukhnandan Kumar, adding, "Our Prime Minister has also always assured support to farmers throughout the country.

"The shortage of DAP a fertilizer essential for Rabi crops, mainly wheat and vegetables, is due to unavailability of Nodal officer, the senior BJP leader said after meeting with hundreds of farmers who gathered at Marh block near the office of BJP leader Ch Sukhnandan Kumar, who assured the villagers that he would take up the matter with the LG Manoj Sinha to intervene and resolve the issue at an earliest.



Excise Deptt J&K cracks down on illicit liquor production Seizes 30 ltrs of Illicit Liquor, destroys 3,000 kg Lahan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the directions of the Excise Commissioner, Pankaj Kumar Sharma, and under supervision of Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive), Jammu Kusum Sharma, a team of Excise Range South led by ETO South Ankit Gupta, and comprising of Inspectors Dheeraj Kumar and Sanjeev Kumar, Sub Inspectors Sanjeev Lalotra, Abhishek Abrol and Ajay Kumar Excise guards Kamal Kumar and Hitesh Sharma raided Baddipur, Tarachak, Kothe, Salehar adjoining areas of Bishnah and R S Pura Sub Ranges to arrest the menace of illicit distillation of liquor.

As a result of this operation, 3000 kilograms of "Lahan," a key ingredient in



Excise sleuths along with seized material.

the production of illicit liquor, and 30 litres of illicit liquor were seized and subsequently destroyed on the state land.

Excise Department remains committed to upholding public safety and preserving the integrity of the state's regulations.

Amar Singh Club Jammu organizes an expo 'Panache'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Amar Singh Club Jammu on Saturday organised a two-day gala event, an expo "Panache" on the eve of Karwa Chauth and upcoming Diwali Festival.

"Panache" exhibition is exclusively organised to give all the empowered and upcoming women entrepreneurs to showcase and sell their products.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar along with Secretary of the Club Anil Kapahi and other executive members of the club. Various stalls were put



Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar inaugurating expo.

up to display top clothing brands designer wear, bangles, makeup articles and designer kitchen wares. Besides this, Tarot card

readers and Mahendi artists were also present.

The event was managed by Pans & Pots co. , P.P Concepts in association by

Kaushvi events and was supported by Print & Copy (printing Partner), Asura Studios (Designing & Digital Partner).

The Food Court was managed by Gaurav Gumble. Ramesh Kumar applauded the role of women as entrepreneurs and stressed upon the need to bring them on such platform more often to encourage and help them to get recognised in their respective business. He said a self built strong women is an asset to the nation.

Anil Kapahi thanked the team of club members especially Dr. Neerupama Dogra, Vikram Puri, Raman Gupta, Pooja Puri and all the people who came and became a part of this extravaganza.

Labour Deptt Udhampur releases education assistance to registered workers through DBT DC Udhampur for social security to labour class



Education assistance cheque being released by the labour department.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

U D H A M P U R : Commissioner Secretary, GAD, Sanjeev Verma on Saturday released an amount of Rs. 28,16,000 in favour of the wards of the 379 registered Construction workers on account of educational assistance under Building and other construc-

tion Workers Welfare Board schemes. District Development Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, while speaking on the occasion, lauded the efforts of Labour Department in providing financial assistance to poor labourers from time to time and she exhorted for giving

maximum benefits to poor labourers from Govt schemes.

She said that economic and social security of labour class is priority of the government.

On the occasion, Pradyot Gupta, Assistant Labour Commissioner Udhampur, apprised about several upcoming enhancements to the welfare schemes, including an increase in the rate of scholarships for various classes.

He also apprised about the special scholarship of Rs. 50,000 for the wards of registered BOC workers who secure 90 per cent and above marks in 10th and 12th classes.

He emphasized the importance of registration of construction workers to avail benefits offered by the welfare schemes for the betterment of their livelihoods.

BJP Govt unnecessarily putting people in hardships: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SURANKOTE: Congress Working Committee member, Tariq Hameed Karra and JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Saturday addressed mammoth public gathering at Surankote organized by JKPC Vice President and DDC member Shah Nawaz Choudhary.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include District Poonch President Rajinder Singh Kaka, Dr Jahanzaib Sirwal, Bilal Rashid, Fiaz Diwan, Ch Mumtaz, Arif Kazmi, Tahir Mirza, Ch Naiz, Haji Javed , Waheed Shah, Mukadam Akram, Mula Khadam, Mohd Rashid , Madasar Choudhary, Asif Bajjar, Sikander Hayat, Ajaz Chouhan besides others.

Karra said that the process of systematic disempowering one region in Jammu and Kashmir goes on. He expressed that the level of disappointment among the



Congress Working Committee member, Tariq Hameed Karra and JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla during the public meeting.

residents of Jammu and Kashmir with the current LG administration has reached unprecedented heights.

Calling out the policies of the incumbent government, he said that the situation in Jammu and Kashmir is different now, people are unhappy and disappointed in every region, youth are angry, chaos is everywhere, inflation is touching new heights.

"On the other hand, LG

claims that 80 percent people are happy with him and they do not want assembly elections to be held."

He emphasized that without fixing accountability, the working culture cannot be improved, and urged for measures to address this issue.

"I assure you that Congress will ensure that the people of Jammu and Kashmir receive their rightful entitlements and everything necessary for sus-

tained peace, enduring prosperity, and equitable development in this region," he said.

Expressing deep concern over the prevailing drug menace, he urged people to play their part in eradicating this social evil.

Bhalla in his address highlighted the prevailing challenges in different government departments, leading to inadequate services for the people in whole of Poonch District particularly Surankote.

He requested the District Commissioner to hold all officers accountable for their responsibilities in implementing various public-related schemes. Bhalla raised serious concerns about the dilapidated condition of roads, failures in water supply schemes, frequent power outages, and the lack of adequate health-care facilities.

He also raised concern

over the failure of the government to provide regular water supply to the people of Poonch, specifically in Surankote. He also highlighted the sub-standard quality of roads constructed in villages. Additionally, he also emphasized the urgent need to address the rising drug menace in the district, calling for effective measures to control and combat this issue. Bhalla said that on the name of modernization government is unnecessarily putting people in problem. "We are not against taking new steps for social reforms but those should only be taken after ground is ready and all preparations are finalised" he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Shah Nawaz Choudhary advised people not to allow traditional political parties and their leaders to fool them through emotional sloganeering, deceptive narratives, and fake promises.

Govt should safeguard lives, property of frontline warriors: Sadhotra



Ajay Sadhotra, Additional General Secretary NC interacting with border dwellers.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ajay Sadhotra, former Minister and Additional General Secretary of J&K National Conference and Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, Jammu, on Saturday visited the Pak firing affected villages and met border dwellers facing the difficult time due to heavy shelling from across the IB.

The senior NC leaders, during their visit to Bhula Chak in Sae area of R S Pura and Arnia Sectors respectively, visited the house of Om Prakash which was badly damaged due to heavy shelling and the house of Tarsem Lal in Arnea whose daughter in law Rajni Devi was badly injured. They listened to their plights as their houses came under heavy firing during ceasefire violation on Thursday night. Ajay Sadhotra, while calling the border dwellers as frontline warriors, demanded that government should safeguard the lives and property of people living along borders as they are the first ones who face the brunt of enemy country like the case on Thursday when they were caught unaware and had to leave their homes and hearth in a hurry. The former minister demanded that the government should immediately assess the losses and ensure compensation as soon as possible. He also reminded the government about its promise of providing 5 Marla plots to border people to have safer accommodation in case of such an emergent situation. The Provincial President said that the public exchequer has been drained by the lethargic government in the case of bunkers as they are proving to be worthless. Prominent among those who were present include District President Naresh Bittu, Raghubir Singh District President, Ankush Abrol Joint Secretary , Dr Vikas Sharma Secretary Jammu Central Zone, Sham Lal Block President, Bobby Chouhan Block President, Jatinder Singh Block President and party workers of the areas were also present.

Chairperson DDC Ganderbal call on LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Nuzhat Ishfaq, Chairperson District Development Council (DDC) Ganderbal, accompanied by Ishfaq Jabbar, former Legislator called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday.

Saina Jan and Anayat Ullah Rather, Members District Development Council from BK Pora,



Nuzhat Ishfaq, Chairperson DDC Ganderbal and Ishfaq Jabbar, former Legislator calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

Budgam and Frisal, Kulgam also called on the Lt Governor and apprised him on the developmental

issues of their respective constituencies.

The Lt Governor assured the PRI representatives of

appropriate redressal of the issues and demands put forth by them during the interactions.

MP Hasnain Masoodi chairs DISHA meeting at Anantnag

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: Member Parliament, Anantnag Lok Sabha constituency, Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi on Saturday chaired the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committees (DISHA) meeting here at Dak Bungalow Khanabal.

While addressing officers of district administration, Masoodi said that the aim of DISHA meeting is to identify any impediments in implementation of welfare schemes so that effective solutions can be worked out.

He said that DISHA is a multi-departmental forum to evaluate development activities across the spectrum and to identify gap areas. He said that several CSS schemes are presently operational in the district and monitoring their implementation is essential to ensure that intended benefits percolate to



genuine beneficiaries.

Masoodi reviewed various schemes including MGNREGA, PMAY, NRLM, NIM, Ayushman Bharat/ JK Sehat Scheme, JSY, JSSK PMGSY, SBM, IDPS, RDSS, JJM, AIBP, PMKSY, ICDS, DIL-RMP, ICPS, MSK, OSC-W, NFBS, Credit Linkage etc.

He also took department wise extensive review of Horticulture, Agriculture, Animal and Sheep Husbandry. While taking stock of Department wise progress, MP stressed upon bettering the per-

formance under these schemes especially under power transmission and distribution schemes, MGNREGA, SBM, PMAY, NRLM, JJM and ICPS.

Focusing on the welfare measures for dairy farmers, the MP said that while the milk production in the district is on the rise, however, increased intervention for improving marketability of milk produce is essential to increase the income of dairy farmers.

He also said that a project for replacement of barbed wire from

the electrical network is going on and will be replaced by cable wire soon.

He appreciated the district administration for completing the targets given in previous Disha meeting. He said that the government is committed to ease the life of the general public and the schemes for creating employment must be implemented in letter and spirit.

While taking the review of the each department Masodi stressed for cooperation, coordination and to work with enthusiasm. He further advocated for every beneficiary to be benefited under CSS and other social security schemes.

Prior to this, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SFHamid apprised the chair of developments across various sectors. He said that works under District CAPEX are being taken up with added vigour and estima-

tion and tendering has been completed in most projects and several works are under execution.

He assured the chair that regular reviews are being held separately with departments to identify any gap areas.

DC also said that Block Diwas is being held regularly to listen to people's grievances. He informed the chair that several services, particularly related to revenue, are being provided online for the benefit of citizens.

The meeting was attended by DDC Chairman MY Gors, ADDC, CEO MC Anantnag, JD Planning, PO ICDS, , ACD, SEs of R&B, Hydraulic and PDD, CMO, CEO, CAHO, CHO, Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti, PWD, Irrigation, Flood Control, PMGSY, DD Fisheries, DSWO, DSHO and other officials of District Administration.