

CCI team calls on Principal Secy Housing, seeks early redressal of public issues



CCI Jammu delegation calling on Principal Secretary Housing, Dheeraj Gupta.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Jammu in its quest to sort out issues of the business community and the people of Jammu region today called on Principal Secretary Housing Dheeraj Gupta and held a threadbare discussion on issues the aforesaid lot is confronting with.

Leading the CCI team, Arun Gupta, President raised the issue of shopkeepers of Shiv Market and Bahu Plaza claiming that some shops in these markets are on lease and others on rent. Reminding the Principal Secretary of the proposal to macadamize the Kuchha road stretch from Balidan Stambh to Sabji Mandi in Narwal for creating an alternate route to cope up with traffic rush on Railway Station - Narwal

Road and highway stretch outside hotel Radisson and Bahu Plaza claiming that some shops in these markets are on lease and others on rent. Reminding the Principal Secretary of the proposal to macadamize the Kuchha road stretch from Balidan Stambh to Sabji Mandi in Narwal for creating an alternate route to cope up with traffic rush on Railway Station - Narwal

despite the freehold rights given to the Channi Himmat Residents by the concerned agency the Jammu Municipal Corporation is demanding NOCs every time thus leading to undue harassment of the residents. He said that the issue should be taken up with the concerned officials of JMC to make sure that no resident of Channi Himmat faces difficulty.

Raising another issue of vital nature, Arun Gupta asked the Principal Secretary Housing to revisit the notice issued to Gandhi Nagar residents for vacating 10 feet land chunks from their plots claiming that the order is arbitrary as these people are living on these land chunks since last over 50 years and some have even started their businesses over the same. He also took up the case of shop-

keepers of Gole Market Gandhi Nagar who have been served with the notice to wind up their shops which they have been running since the 1960s.

Arun Gupta also raised the issue pertaining to the new Bus Stand terminal and the problem being faced by the traders at Bus Stand.

After giving a patient hearing, Dheeraj Gupta assured the Chamber team that all the issues taken up in the meeting shall be addressed on priority and he will also take up the matter of Channi Himmat residents with JMC Commissioner for early redressal.

Among those who were present included Anil Gupta Sr. Vice President, Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President, Gaurav Gupta, Secretary General, Rajesh Gupta, Secretary and Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer.

Ladakh Cultural Forum rejuvenated to safeguard UT's cultural identity



President Ladakh Cultural Forum, Mipham Otsal, addressing cultural societies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: It has become important for all the cultural societies of Ladakh to work united for the cause of protecting Ladakh's cultural identity. Indigenous language is the root of the culture and that needs to be strengthened by inculcating interest in youth for their mother tongue.

This was stated by President Ladakh Cultural Forum, Mipham Otsal in an interactive session held with cultural societies of Leh district in the Lotsava auditorium of the Academy of Arts, Culture and Languages, Leh.

Otsal assured that the Ladakh Cultural Forum will lead from the front to make sure that Ladakh's rich cultural heritage is preserved and handed over to the younger generation.

Ladakh Culture Forum was reorganized and reformed in September this year. This society is one of Ladakh's oldest civil societies founded in 1976 under by scholars and artists of Ladakh.

The aim of reforming the prestigious forum was to make it more inclusive by involving all local stakeholders to work for the revival, preservation, and promotion of Ladakh's rich cultural heritage.

Director, Ladakh Theater Organization (LTO), Mipham Otsal was unanimously nominated president and founder/secretary, Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation (HCHF) Dr. Sonam Wangchuk as General

groups, major and minor fields, secretaries for each science were also appointed. The five major fields of study are Philosophy (nang don rigpa), Logic and epistemology (tshadma rigpa), Grammar and Literature (sgra rigpa), medicine (gsowa rigpa), and arts and Crafts (gzo rigpa). The five minor fields of study are astronomy and astrology (skar rtisri rigpa), poetry (snyan ngag rigpa), rhetoric (sdebs sbayor rigpa), lexicography (mngon brijod rigpa) and drama and dance (zlos gar rigpa).

Secretary, Grammar and Literature (sgra rigpa), Dr. Thupstan Norboo also addressed the representatives of cultural societies of different villages and stressed on feeling pride of one's own language. He suggested several ways for Ladakh Cultural Forum and cultural societies of Ladakh to entice young children to learn their indigenous language and feel the pride of it.

Advisor, Ladakh Cultural Forum, Gelong Thupstan Paldan advised societies to revive traditional values and systems to ensure sustainable development.

Renowned singer Morup Namgyal, Padma Shree awardee, advised cultural societies of Ladakh to work closely with Ladakh Cultural Forum to organize workshops and awareness programmes to educate people about the importance of culture and heritage, and appealed to the people of Ladakh to respect the mother tongue and feel proud of speaking it.

Mayor Chander Mohan lauds JSCL for timely completion of projects



JMC Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta on Thursday chaired a City Level Advisory Forum meet under Jammu Smart City Mission and reviewed the status of projects being executed by the Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) to transform Jammu into a sustainable and economically vibrant city.

The meeting was attended by Member of Parliament, Jugal Kishore; Deputy Mayor, JMC, Purnima Sharma; Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Anshul Garg; CEO, JSCL, Avny Lavasa; Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Jammu, Chandan Kohli; Additional CEO, JSCL, Hitesh Gupta; Director Projects, Sunil Thusu; Team Leader, PMC Pushpendra Srivastava and President Chamber of Commerce, Jammu, Arun Gupta and officials of several government departments. Giving a detailed presentation on the works taken up and completed so far, Chief Executive Officer, JSCL, Avny Lavasa said that the focus of Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) is to improve the quality of life of people by enabling local development and harnessing technology to create smart outcomes for citizens. It was informed in the meeting that the main components of the Jammu Smart City Project are City Beautification, Solid Waste Management, IT Enabled Infrastructure, Road & Parking Improvement, Disaster & Emergency Management and Civic infrastructure Development.

It was also informed in the meeting that the 39 projects worth Rs 671.63 crore have been completed and 45 more projects costing Rs 1294.64 crore are at different stages of execution. The projects including

Vertical Garden, Façade Lighting Illumination of Bahu Fort, Fountains at Rotaries, Multilevel Parking at Bus Stand and Phase-1 of Wayfinding Signage have been completed in a stipulated time frame and work on other important projects is in full swing. "The work on Jammu Smart City's flagship project - the Development of Tawi River Front on the lines of Sabarmati River development front is going on war footing. The DPR of the project is under vetting with IIT-Jammu and the tender shall be floated in next week only," the meeting was informed by the CEO JSCL.

The other crucial projects, which are under execution are Jammu Smart Parking (IT based Smart Parking), Public Bicycle Sharing - PBS, Cycle Tracks at several locations, Modernization of Narwal Fruit / Vegetable Mandi, Modernization of Old Sabzi Mandi at Parade, Upgradation of Schools into Smart Schools, Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) and Smart Poles at Junctions.

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The Advisory Forum members also gave their valuable suggestions for the overall development of Jammu city.

Lauding the officials for timely completion of several projects, JMC, Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta said these projects will add charm to the beauty of the city of temples. "These projects will increase the tourist

footfall in Jammu as well as improve the overall look of the city," he added. He added that the completion of projects will also boost tourism as well as the economy of Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, MP Jugal Kishore said that the Smart Cities Mission is an innovative initiative by the union government and the timely execution of projects will bring Jammu at par with other metro cities. Directing officials to expedite the pace of ongoing projects, MP Jugal Kishore assured all possible assistance

to Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL). He also asked the concerned officers to set a timeline for each under execution work and put in extra efforts to complete these in a time-bound manner.

Other officials present in the meeting were Additional Superintendent of Police, Traffic, Jammu, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Jammu, Superintending Engineer (Hyd), Jal Shakti Jammu, Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B), Jammu, Superintending Engineer, DEED, Jammu Superintending Engineer (Distributions), JPDCL Jammu, Superintending Engineer (Projects), JPDCL and other officials.

Div Com conducts surprise inspection of Sub Registrar Offices

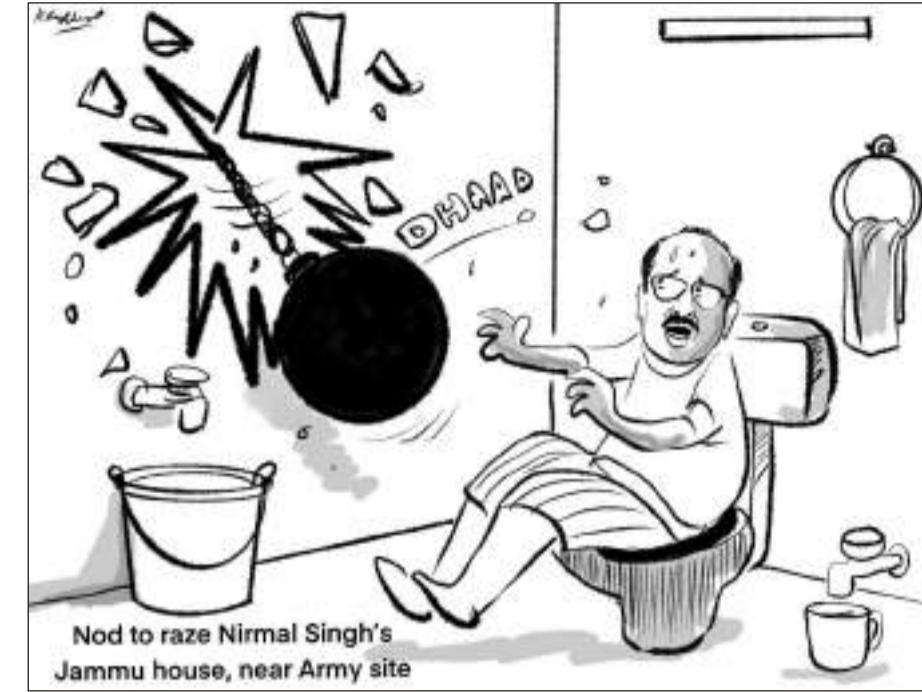


Div Com Jammu, Dr. Raghav Langer inspecting Registries in office of Sub Registrar, Jammu North during a surprise visit.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Dr. Raghav Langer on Thursday conducted a surprise visit in the Offices of Sub Registrar, Jammu North, Jammu South, Jammu Khas and inspected Registries of these Offices.

During the visit, the Div Com inspected the records of

Registries and also interacted with the vendors, vendees and lawyers who had come with their clients for registration of documents and inquired about the issues being faced by them. The Div Com also listened to the general grievances of the people who had come for registration of documents regarding the problems being faced



Nod to raze Nirmal Singh's Jammu house, near Army site

Black Day for Punjab, Congress dancing to tune of Pakistan's ISI: Chugh



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today said that it was a black day for Punjab when the Punjab Assembly passed a resolution against the BSF.

Chugh flayed the Congress government for politicising the issue of national security by passing a resolution against the BSF, a force which has been bravely guarding the national borders for the last many decades. "The Congress seems

to be pleasing its mentors in the Pakistan ISI by passing such deplorable and anti-national resolution in the state Assembly", Chugh said. He said the Congress government

was deliberately turning a blind eye to repeated drone attacks being done by Pakistan.

Incidents of Tiffin bombs in Punjab indicate how serious is the threat to security from Pakistan. Yet the Congress government wants to obstruct the working of the BSF on the national borders, he said. It's a matter of shame that the Congress was playing with national security and is dancing to the tunes of ISI, Chugh added.

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