

Prioritise relief, rehabilitation of those affected by Smart City Project: CCI

► **Urges CS to bring uniform rehabilitation policy soon**

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Jammu appealed to the Chief Secretary of J&K, Arun Mehta to come up with a uniform policy for relief and rehabilitation of those affected by the Smart City Project and make sure that no soul in the Union Territory faces injustice of any sort.

This demand along with other demands was raised by the CCI delegation led by its President Arun Gupta along with the Office bearers Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President; Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President; Gaurav Gupta, Secretary General; Rajesh Gupta, Secretary and Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer which met the Chief Secretary here at Civil Secretariat on Wednesday.

On the occasion, a memorandum of demands was also submitted to the Chief Secretary.

The demands and issues which became the part and parcel of the interaction between CCI members and the CS include redefining of land types in J&K as large chunks of land in Jammu have been declared as



CCI delegation during meeting with Chief Secretary Dr Arun Mehta.

"Gair Mumkin Khuds" by Revenue Department and registration and construction activities on these lands have been barred thus there is need to revisit the policy in vogue, rehabilitation of those who are and who will get affected by Smart City Project, creation of more commercial/residential sites by JDA and Housing Board as the process has been stalled since over three decades, giving new ray of hope to existing liquor vendors who have been rendered jobless by new excise policy by giving a second

thought to the changed policy by involving CCI in the process, lease period of allottees should be extended further after charging minimum possible premium, some commercial sites have been allotted to some persons at Bahu Plaza and regular rent is being charged and received from them but no lease deeds have been executed therefore the same should be executed without any delay, land ownership rights should be given to the existing industrial units and warehouse after charging reasonable premium, putting

an end to demolition drive in the name of Smart City that has been multiplying hardships for the traders as well as people, JMC should create new infrastructure beyond the City limits under the title new Jammu City for realising Smart City project as the Yellow line 'terror' is in no one's interest, revival of The Citizens Cooperative Bank Ltd. Jammu by providing funds in the shape of Share Capital along with added relief of additional funds to write off the accumulated losses, Smooth functioning of new Bus Stand Terminal fully and allotting shops inside Jammu Haat to the affected shopkeepers whose shops was taken for constructing the aforesaid building besides few traders whose business establishments came under Jammu-Akmoor Plyover. Besides, the CCI also demanded removal of security pickets outside the Main Gate of Shree Raghunath ji Temple which was causing problems to the devotees visiting the temple.

After giving a patient hearing, the Chief Secretary assured that he will look into the issues and take up the same with the concerned quarters for early redressal.

IASOWA visits specially-abled; distributes stationary, sports-kits, blankets



IASOWA J&K President, J&K, Dr Amita Mehta and other members distributing gifts among inmates of Home for Mentally Challenged at Channi Rama.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Members of IAS Officers Wives Association (IASOWA) J&K, visited the Muskan-Home for mentally challenged at Channi Rama, Jammu and distributed stationary items, books, sports-kits, blankets, cloths and rations-kits among inmates.

This mega donation drive was initiated by the President IASOWA J&K, Dr Amita Mehta, wife of Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary J&K, who is working with a vision to bring smiles and happiness to all faces.

MUSKAN, a home for specially-abled established

by Rotary Club in 1979, is a residential school for special children. Currently, the school is being managed by the Department of Social Welfare Jammu under guidance of Deputy Commissioner, Jammu.

On the occasion, President IASOWA J&K applauded the efforts being made by the Social Welfare department for providing sufficient facilities to special children besides providing them homely atmosphere. She advised the authorities to take care for overall development of the special children in order to integrate these 'Specially-abled' children with the society.

Other members of IASOWA who were present on the occasion included Sapna Aggarwal, Ruchi Gupta, Anita Chaudhary, Shveta Kansal, Anuradha Jangid, Aashna Garg and Sonali Doifode. They appreciated different kinds of social and other extra-curricular activities done by inmates along with studies, sports and participation in music and singing activities. The members also took a round of the home to check facilities available for inmates.

While listening to demands and requirements raised by inmates and other staff regarding infrastructure development, face-lifting and various other requirements, the visiting members assured that all possible assistance including morale and material will be provided by association and all genuine demands will be highlighted at proper platform for early redressal of the same. District Social Welfare Officer Jammu, Ajay Salaan and other staff members of the home were also present on the occasion.

Lecturers' Forum calls on Prpl Secy SED, highlights issues



Lecturers' Forum members after meeting with Principal Secretary, School Education Department, B K Singh.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of All J&K Plus Two Lecturers' Forum (AJKPTLF) led by its President Pardeep Singh Rakwal and under able guidance of its Chairman R S Slatia, called on the Principal Secretary, School Education Department, B K Singh and highlighted a number of issues faced by the fraternity. Major demands highlighted on the occasion included ACP of the cadre, regularisation of Incharge Lecturers and Principals at an earliest, release of senior lecturers list, adjustment of surplus lecturers and filling up of all the vacant posts of Principals, ZEOs, lecturers & Headmasters, early vigilance clearance of Incharge Principals and their regularisation, repatriation of Principals and lecturers who have completed their tenures in hard areas and hilly zones, sanction of charge allowance in favour of newly promoted Lecturers, non-vocational benefits in favour of all Principals and Lecturers who are officially engaged even during vacations, induction into KAS after completing 14 years of service as Lecturer, special incentives to the teaching faculty involved in COVID related duties etc. The Principal Secretary gave a patient hearing to delegation and assured redressal of all highlighted demanded and grievances in a time bound manner. He further asked all the teaching fraternity members to work with full dedication and zeal for welfare of the students. The delegation comprised of R S Slatia, Pardeep Singh Rakwal, Ghar Singh Saini, Ashok Sharma, Jyoti Prakash, Jasbir Singh and Swarn Lata.

Three-day course for JKP officers on 'Drug Law Enforcement' inaugurated

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a series of training programmes, a three-day capacity building programme for JKP officers is organized by Narcotics Control Bureau on 'Drug Law Enforcement' to improve the investigation skills commenced from Wednesday at Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground, here.

Former Chief Justice, Sikkim High Court, Pernod Kohli was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function.

The training programme is organised under the overall guidance and supervision of Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu



ADGP Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh presenting memento to Former Chief Justice, Sikkim High Court, Pernod Kohli.

Zone who also attended the inaugural session.

The programme was also attended by Danesh Rana,

ADGP Coordination PHQ J&K, Chandan Kohli SSP Jammu, J.S Johar, AIG (Ttg/Policy), Rajesh Kumar Zonal Director Jammu NCB and other senior officers of JK Police.

The course was designed to

have a threadbare study on the various factors responsible for growing drug menace among the youth, social effect, international narcotic cartels and to make aware the participants about the laws and important court judgments to handle the cases related to Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. 100 officers from J&K Police are attending the three days specialized training course.

In his address, Pernod Kohli said the drug cases should be dealt with high scrutiny before producing in the court of law so that the conviction rate can be improved and advised to make it a regular feature to organize such training programmes.

Danesh Rana laid stress on

determining the origins and pathways of drug abuse and addiction so that protective factors could be placed well on time.

He also called upon the police officers to implement the learning on field so that menace of narcotics can be controlled which has significant impact on social & ethical issues in the society.

While concluding today's training programme, Rajesh Kumar said that during this training session officers are advised to make it more interactive and be based more on the practical problems they face during investigation. The vote of thanks was presented by Rannish Gupta, SP Headquarters Jammu.

Laghu Udyog Bharti delegation calls on Chief Secretary, highlights demands

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of Laghu Udyog Bharti (LUB) led by its President Parveen Pargal called on the Chief Secretary, J&K UT, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta in Jammu on Wednesday. The delegation highlighted a number of issues faced by the traders and suggested some measures to be taken in the larger interest of the trader fraternity. A memorandum of demands was also presented to the Chief Secretary by the delegation seeking immediate action over the matter.

Expressing gratitude towards J&K UT administration for providing necessary and timely succor to traders, the delegation raised issue of withdrawal of toll tax exemption and reduction in quantum of incentives. They further said restriction on turnover incentive budget to Rs 50 crore per annum is very meager and not sufficient to fulfill needs of all existing MSMEs and demanded raising budget for incentives from Rs 50 crore to Rs 200 crores.

Other issues highlighted on the occasion included disbursement of incentive on quarterly basis, removal of capping on MSMEs, reservation in allotment of land, splitting office supply orders so that MSMEs may not suffer due to GeM portal, formation of corpus for immediate disbursement of Budgetary support, GST linked incentive be considered for existing industries, measures to safeguard local printers, extension in time limit for submission of remission for 4th Quarter (2020-21) and previous periods (January 2021 to March 2021) etc. The members of Laghu Udyog Bharti present on the occasion included Sudesh Kumar Gupta General Secretary, Pranab Gupta Finance Secretary and Rajesh Jain.

Court rejects bail of Rohingyas in theft case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Municipal Magistrate Jammu Parvin Pandoh has rejected bail application of two Rohingyas namely Mansur Kamal and Mohd Yaseen, who were arrested by police for theft in Grid Station Sidhra.

According to police case, an application was received from Assistant Executive Engineer TLMSD that during intervening night of November 10-11, 2021 an attempt of theft was made at Grid Station Sidhra and it was observed that 8 to 10 persons entered Grid Station with an intention of theft and all of them managed to escape from site alongwith stolen goods including copper coil of damaged transformer lying at Grid Station. Earlier,

February 19, 2021 one of their contractors M/s Power Tech Engineers had also lodged a complaint regarding theft of their material from Grid Station Sidhra. FIR No. 426/2021 under section 379 of IPC was registered. During investigation, it was found that the accused persons along with some other persons stole copper coil after cutting the transformer. When some employees woke up, the accused persons left the spot along with stolen material leaving behind their motorcycle bearing registration no. JK02CN-2589. Later, the applicants herein came back to take their motorcycle out. The moment they started the motorcycle, all the employees of Grid Station caught hold of them and handed-over them to

police. Certain recoveries were made on basis of the disclosure statement of the accused persons including copper wires measuring about 30-40 Kg.

Municipal Magistrate Jammu Parvin Pandoh after hearing APP Vikram Parihar for UT observed that the accused are Myanmar nationals so if the accused are granted bail at this stage, there is every possibility of the accused absconding, thereby evading due course of justice. The criminal law set in motion in the instant case may never end in the culmination of trial thereby affecting the criminal justice system. The applicants are not entitled to concession of bail at this stage. With these observations, the Court rejected the bail application.



Congress launches membership drive with slogan 'Aayo Chalein Congress Ke Sath, Badlein Pradesh Ke Halaat'

People want change as BJP utterly failed on all fronts: JKPC Chief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Launching its membership drive on Wednesday with the slogan 'Aayo Chalein Congress Ke Sath, Badlein Pradesh Ke Halaat', JKPC Chief Ghulam Ahmad Mir claimed that people want change, as BJP has failed on all fronts of governance especially unchecked price rise, record unemployment besides other anti employees, in anti trade, anti poor politics.

PCC Chief said that the decision of Membership drive has been taken by the AICC President Sonia Gandhi in the recent Congress Working Committee.

In the AICC meeting Smt. Sonia Gandhi directed all party cadres with rank and file for the membership drive at booth levels in all the states. The date of membership drive upto March 31, 2022.

Flanked by a galaxy of senior leaders. District Presidents and frontal wing heads, JKPC Chief G.A Mir said that people of all sections are completely fed up with the BJP's performance in the Govt. and its anti youth, anti poor and anti people policies, as there is uncontrolled price rise, record unemployment in J&K, besides anti employees, anti trade, anti farmers and anti people policies of BJP.

He said that Congress has been on fore front to oppose the anti-people policies being imposed on the people through back door by the bureaucrats Govt, as there is no elected Govt. in J&K for three and



J&K Congress Chief G A Mir and senior leaders launching membership drive.

half years, now the people of different sections are being forced to swallow the bitter pills, as they have no representation or forum to raise their voice against the anti people policies of the BJP through bureaucratic system.

Having failed to give employment to highest number of percentage of educated unemployed youth, the Centre Govt. and UT administration is beating about bushes and finding faults in the past Govts.

Let them act wherever they believe wrong has been done and face the people, while reminding BJP's promise to regularize their services with all daily wagers casual, adhoc, contractual and other temporary employees with different nomenclatures and today dub them as sins of past Govts.

They enticed them with false and fake Jumlas and hope to seek votes and come to power and later betrayed them for 7 years.

Mir said that people of all sections have turned against BJP, that is why elections are being delayed fear of losing elections.

Congress Party stands for

change and people will throw out BJP in next assembly elections, he claimed and said that party will go to the people with new slogan of "Aayo Chalein Congress Ke Saath, Badlein Pradesh Ke Halaat".

Earlier there were 9.5 lakh primary members in last elections but this time minimum 12 lakh primary members shall be enrolled in Jammu and Kashmir.

Prominent among those attended the function included Raman Bhalla, Ravinder Sharma, Yogesh Sawhney, Manmohan Singh, Rajnish Sharma, Ashok Sharma, T.S Bajwa (Ex-MP), Shabir Ahmad Khan, Krishan Chander Bhagat, Pankaj Dogra, Uday Bhamu Chib, Vinod Sharma, Gurdarshan Singh, Sanjeev Sharma, Pawan Raina, Thomas Kokhar, Sanjeev Panda, Suresh Dogra, Karan Bhagat, Gajan Singh, Kapil Singh, Sahil Sharma, Rajvir Singh, Satish Sharma, Harvinder Singh Mehta, Ricky Dalotra, Sajjad Tariq, Varinder Singh Chib, Michael Wazir, Gurmeet Singh, Latish Sharma and Lalit Mahajan.

ADGP Security J&K attends 5th World Congress on Disaster Management at IIT New Delhi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dr. S.D. Singh Jamwal, Additional Director General of Police Security J&K chaired a Session on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear defence (CBRN) and Biosecurity of 5th World Conference held at IIT New Delhi.

This Conference has assumed special significance in view of prevailing Covid-19 Pandemic all over the world.

During the Session on CBRN and Biosecurity, eminent scientists and speakers made presentations which among others included Prof. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Saverha Institute of Medical & Tech Sciences, Chennai; Prof. Tamorish Kole, President Asian Society for Emergency Medicine and Dr. K.S Pradeep Kumar, Distinguished Scientist, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

Different issues related to disaster management, including those required for effective management of Covid 19 Pandemic were discussed.



Speaking at the occasion, Dr.S.D.

Singh Jamwal stressed on all stakeholders including government agencies, health care workers, scientific community, industry and civil society, to work in close coordination to ensure that medical interventions like mass vaccination were conducted on a war footing to immunize the people and control the pandemic.

He also stressed upon the need to stay vigilant against future pandemics, especially in view of climate change or chances of a non-state actor initiating a pandemic as an act of terror.

Dr Singh also thanked the organizers for inviting him to chair the prestigious event and deliberate with the stakeholders on an issue which has remained an area of his domain knowledge.

Dr Singh has done his PhD on Biological Disaster Management and has been associated with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) since 2007 and also a member of the Steering Committee of NDMA while drafting Biological Defence guidelines for India.

Tourism Directorate hosting promotional event at Purthu Beach Basholi on Nov 27

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To revive the tourism industry and celebrate the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu, is organizing a one day event of Kite Flying, Painting Competition, Tug of War and Musical Chairs at Purthu Beach, Basohli, in Kathua district on 27th of November; 2021. Addressing a press conference here on Wednesday, the Director of Tourism, Jammu, Vivekananda Rai, Natasha Kalsotra Joint Director of Tourism and Naresh Kumar, Deputy Director (Publicity), Jammu, said that the department is going to promote 75 off-beat destinations with scenic landscape under "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" initiative of the Government of India. These destinations have immense potential for adventure tourism, water sports and leisure tourist attraction and are being promoted as tourist destinations for the future, said Director Tourism, Vivekananda Rai. He further said that tourism bore the brunt when Covid-19 struck India and is on the path of recovery. "Such events will aim at reviving the

tourism sector; and accelerate growth in domestic tourism in a sustainable and responsible manner" he added. He also said that cooperation of the media is required to promote such unexplored tourist destinations. This will also make it easier for all categories of tourists and adventure loving people to explore such unseen spots through adventure sports, environmental research, etc.

He also said that another objective of the events is to benefit the local vendors and boost the local economy as well as of the whole Union Territory (UT) of Jammu & Kashmir. More expeditions and activities are being planned to encourage travellers to visit different areas, he added. Events and activities are considered to be integral part of global tourism and the Covid-19 pandemic has caused massive turmoil in the form of cancellations and postponements. This unprecedented crisis has especially hit the tourism Sector hard and thus, it has become the need of the hour to increase the footfall of tourists in different destinations and revive the economy.