

BJP's Govt made 2021 an year of disappointment: Sadhotra

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JAMMU: BJP's double-engine Sarkar in Jammu & Kashmir has made 2021 an year of disappointment for people especially youth by pushing Jammu & Kashmir towards identity, culture, jobs and land crises instead of pulling out from the crisis as people of Ladakh have been provided resident certificate instead of Domicile Certificates. It was stated by Ajay Kumar Sadhotra, former Minister and senior leader Jammu and Kashmir National Conference while addressing a meeting of Block Committee Mandaal held under chairmanship of Bishan Dass, Block President Mandaal, organised by Lajpal Bhagat, Senior Vice President at Suanjana (Nasi Basti) in Marh.

Sadhotra further said it is unfortunate that in J&K jobs and land security is further being eroded under the



Former Minister Ajay Sadhotra after Block Committee Mandal meeting at Nai Basti Suanjana in Marh.

garb of holistic development by signing MoUs during recently held Real Estate summit. "BJP Govt brought unemployment at level of 21 per cent in J&K against National average of 7 per cent, which in itself is a proof of

anti-youth policies of BJP," said Sadhotra, adding that BJP in 2021 also gave unprecedented price hike of essentials causing numerous hardships to people. Sadhotra asked the Government to give resident certifi-

cate instead of Domicile Certificate to ensure belonging and security to youth as done in Ladakh. He also demanded restoration of statehood before elections so that genuine urges & aspirations of people can be fulfilled. Wishing new year greetings to people, Sadhotra hoped that New Year will bring peace, prosperity and security of job, land, culture and identity in J&K.

Others who spoke on the occasion included Raghbir Singh, Baru Ram, Khajur Raj, Mohan Lal Sharma, Ankush Sharma, Kavi Raj, Swarn Singh, Hans Raj, Des Raj, Kuldeep Raj Lambardar, Karan Singh, Pardeep Sharma, Charan Dass, Baldev Raj, Amrik Singh, Jeet Raj, Shalo Ram, Bishan Dass Gupta, Bhupinder Kumar, Sat Pal, Baldev Raj, Ramesh Kumar, Yash Pal, Manoj Kumar, Tilak Raj, Kaku Masiha and Ashwani Kumar.



Dr Jitendra launches Tele-Digital Healthcare at BHU

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VARANASI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday said that Tele-medicine technology is going to be the main pillar of India's future health care system. Launching the 'Tele-Digital Healthcare Pilot Programme' at Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, Dr Jitendra said, innovative healthcare solutions like Tele-medicine could save India between 4-5 billion US dollars every year and replace half of in-person outpatient consultations.

The Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Digital Health Mission is the next frontier to ensure healthcare delivery is accessible, available, and affordable to all, particularly the poor living in rural and inaccessible terrain. He said, Telemedicine in the country has proven to be cost effective by about 30% less than equivalent in-person visits.

Dr Jitendra said that though Telemedicine technology was in vogue for quite some time in the country, but it got a fillip in post-COVID era and in the wake of PM Modi's push to Digital Health Ecosystem in India.

Referring to Drone delivery of vaccines in some parts of India, the Minister said, with rapid advancement in technology, Robotic Surgery will also become a reality very soon and future doctors will be increasing don the mettle of Tele-Doctors.

Pointing out to very low doctor-patient



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking after launching Tele-Digital Healthcare at Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi, on Friday.

ratio in India that is about one per 1,457 Indian citizens, Dr Jitendra Singh said, 'Tele-medicine is no longer an option but a necessity: He said, about 65 percent of India's population that lives in rural villages, where the doctor-patient ratio is as low as one doctor per 25,000 citizens and therefore they must get best of medical advice from doctors based in towns and metropolitan cities. He said, Telemedicine will not only help the patients save their time and money, but also the doctors who can quickly assist their patients over a call for the same and actively engage in promptly treating patients with major ailments.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the project starting in three districts of Varanasi, Gorakhpur and Kanjoug in Manipur will cover 60,000 patients in the initial

phase and it will be scaled up gradually to cover the entire country in the coming years. Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), an autonomous body of Department of Science and Technology at the Centre has designed a pilot 'Tele-diagnostics' project in collaboration with IIT Madras-Pravartak Foundation Technologies & CDAC Mohali. This will also generate Electronic Health Record (EHR) for Indian population.

The Minister said, the project is a scalable pilot PLUG and PLAY model oriented to provide quality medical care to underprivileged women and children living in remote areas at affordable costs. The key activities include examination of the patients: women/ children with wearable devices, transferring the health data

record through the e-sanjeevani cloud to a pool of doctors for analysis, and concurrently for development of EHR. The parameters that would be analysed include: ECG, Heart Rate, Blood Pressure, Lipid Profile, Haemoglobin & Foetal Doppler. It may be recalled that Dr Jitendra Singh has established tele-consultation facility in his Lok Sabha Constituency of Udhampur-Kathua-Doda from his MP-LAD Fund, in the District Hospital Udhampur with all the Panchayats connected with it and it is being monitored on a regular basis.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given very high priority to the Health Sector and this year's budget increased the spending on healthcare by 137%, which is in line with industry expectations of 2.5%-3% of the GDP. The Minister informed that India will spend Rs 2.23 lakh crore on healthcare this fiscal including Rs 35,000 crore on Covid-19 vaccines.

The Minister said that various health care schemes launched by Modi Government such as PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, Ayushman Bharat Jan Arogya Yojana, Ayushman Health and Wellness Centres, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janashiksha Pariyojana (PMBJP) and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission have made healthcare facilities accessible and affordable to millions of poor people in the country.

Fraudsters charge-sheeted for illegal sale of house to various parties

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JAMMU: Crime Branch Jammu has presented a charge-sheet against three fraudsters for their involvement in duping the complainant of his hard-earned money on pretext of sale of a house located at Matto Colony, Sai Vihar, Deeli, Tehsil Jammu.

As per the official spokesperson of the investigating agency, the sleuths of Crime Branch presented charge-sheet against three fraudsters namely Soma Devi, wife of Late Ganisham, resident of 316, Saini Vihar, Mattoo Colony, Deeli; Mohan Lal and Deepak Kumar, both sons of Khazan Chand, resident of 1717, Sector-4, Nanak Nagar in FIR No. 38/2018 under sections 420 and 120-B of RPC registered at Police Station Crime Branch, Jammu in the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Jammu for judicial deter-

mination. Giving further details, the official said that a written complaint was lodged at Crime Branch Jammu by one Lal Chand, son of Parkash Chand, resident of 171, Nanak Nagar wherein it was alleged that prime suspect Soma Devi approached applicant for the sale of land measuring 2.5 Marlas, on which she had constructed a house and entered into an agreement to sell against payment of Rs 1,00,000 as Byana (advance payment) in 2015. After payment of money, applicant learnt that prior to entering into agreement to sell, accused had already sold aforesaid property to one Vijay Gupta of Trikuta Nagar, Jammu in 2014. Thereafter, applicant approached accused Soma Devi and asked her to return money or give possession of property but of no avail, thereby cheating complainant by offering a

property which had already been sold off by accused. "On receipt of the complaint a Preliminary Verification was initiated, after which allegations leveled were prima-facie substantiated against accused persons, leading to the registration of instant criminal case. During investigation, Crime Branch Jammu seized all the relevant documents, recorded statements of witnesses, collected scientific evidence (FSL Expert opinion)/ material evidence including Bank transactions and Revenue Records which established offences of cheating and criminal conspiracy against all three accused persons for selling off a property to two different parties at different times despite fact that the property did not belong to Soma Devi, thereby, duping complainant of his hard-earned money by way of cheating and criminal conspiracy," the official added.

DGP sanctions retirement gift in favour of 91 police personnel

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JAMMU: As a token of appreciation for their service the Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh has sanctioned retirement gift of Rs 91 lakh in favour of 91 personnel of J&K Police who are attained superannuation or voluntary retirement on December 31, 2021.

Sanction has been issued vide an order of PHQ J&K in favour of seven gazetted officers, 63 non gazetted, 12 lower subordinates and nine followers, the personnel belong to different units and wings of the department.

Retirement gift of Rs 1 lakh each has been sanctioned to police personnel from the Contributory Police Welfare fund at the time of his/her retirement. The gift serves as a token of appreciation for his/her services rendered to the department.

Court awards one year RI to tanker driver

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JAMMU: City Judge Jammu Manjeet Rai awarded one year rigorous imprisonment to one Kartar Chand, who was facing trial in accidental death case for last 11 years. As per brief facts of case, on May 28, 2010 Police Post Nehru Market received information, which was entered in Roznamcha vide report No.20 dated May 28, 2010 and forwarded to Police Station Gandhi Nagar, Jammu for lodging of FIR. As per report, at about 09:00 PM one motor-cycle bearing registration number JK02AM 4091, driven by one Mohinder Singh, son of Bikram Singh, resident of Maheshpura, Bakshi Nagar was going towards Gandhi Nagar, but when reached Tawi bridge near Bikram Chowk, a tanker bearing registration number JK02F-2297, driven in a negligent manner and fast speed, hit motorcycle from back. After completion of investigation challan was presented.

City Judge Jammu Manjeet Rai after hearing APP Arvind Rathore for UT observed that the offences of rash and negligent driving are on rise and required to be dealt sternly. In the considered opinion of the court, the accused is not entitled to benefit of Probation of Offenders Act. "In considered opinion of the court, the custodial sentence is required to be imposed upon the accused to meet ends of justice. For the aforesaid reasons, accused is sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for one year and a fine of Rs 2,000 for the commission of offence under section 304-A RPC," the Court directed.

COVID guidelines nowhere in Valley; Coaching centers to go for mass vaccination amid third wave threat

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Amid rising COVID cases, authorities have failed to implement SoPs to prevent further spread of deadly virus in the Kashmir region. In absence of regulation by authorities, most of the people don't adhere to SoPs to prevent spread of COVID-19 as people are mostly seen without wearing masks at public places. Expressing concern over the unabated violations of SoPs, experts said, "It's an open invitation to third wave of virus".

As per the Critical Care Specialists, omicron will 'spread like a fire if we will not follow proper SoPs. According to experts, omicron is like a volcano which can erupt anytime and will involve a huge number of people if we don't take proper precautions. It has been observed that at present people act negligently. "We need to remind ourselves that threat is still looming large," said experts

"We should vaccinate people and booster dose should also be given to vulnerable people," said experts, adding, "We can save ourselves only by following SoPs,

wearing face masks, ideally double face masks, and maintaining proper physical distance especially at public places,"

Meanwhile, in a significant development to prevent third wave of pandemic in Kashmir, coaching centers on Thursday have decided to go for mass vaccination of students enrolled in various coaching institutes of Srinagar. It was decided in a meeting jointly organised by Coaching Centers Association and Private Schools Association of J&K. The meeting was chaired by Chief Medical Officer Srinagar, Dr Jameel and was attended by all Zonal Medical Officers of Srinagar district. Chief Medical Officer Srinagar urged the representatives to co-operate with medical teams so that no child is left-out in the ensuing vaccination drive, starting from January 10. Urging people to make a collective effort to defeat pandemic, the CMO said "If, God forbid, a situation like European countries or like America arises in Kashmir, then hospitals will get full occupancy and there will be acute shortage of beds."

Illegal constructions at Patnitop: DB directs CBI to produce notification for prosecution of offenders

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JAMMU: In a PIL filed by Harcharan Singh, Hotelier/ owner of Krystal Hotel and Restaurant at Patnitop seeking demolition of illegal/ unauthorised buildings raised in Green Buffer areas of Patnitop, in which Division Bench on December 31, 2019 has directed CBI to conduct indepth enquiry within two months, a Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani granted six weeks time to Counsel for CBI to produce notification for prosecution of offenders.

It is worthwhile to mention here that on December 31, 2019, a Division Bench directed Director, Central Bureau of Investigation to conduct indepth enquiry encroachment on forest land and other public land; illegal change of use and

misuse of the land in violation of the permitted user; raising of illegal constructions; failure of the authorities to take action; fix the responsibility of the persons who were at the helm of affairs, were duty bound to and responsible for their taking action; their failure to proceed in accordance with law on issues regarding several aspects relating to the illegal constructions compounding and misuse thereof and; any other illegality which is revealed during the course of the enquiry. It is worthwhile to mention here that apart from many irregularities pointed out therein, the Court noticed that 37 hotels were constructed unauthorizedly without permission of Patnitop Development Authority in violation of the master plan and 58 hotels were registered with J&K

Tourism Department under the provisions of Jammu and Kashmir Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978 while 21 hotels have either not been registered or their registration have expired. It was also stated that FIR dated 01.08.2020 has been registered against wrongful gainers/ owners/ proprietors of the hoteliers and officers of Patnitop Development Authority besides directing CBI to apprise the court regarding status of investigation. Adv Monika Kohli, Counsel for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) informed that CBI has completed investigation and the other formalities for the prosecution of offenders but notification is awaited from the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Government of India.

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