

Mayor conducts tour of Shiv Akhara near Tawi Bridge

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chander Mohan Gupta Mayor JMC on Saturday conducted a tour at Shiv Akhara near Shiv Mandir Jewel area met with the management committee of Akhara who put forth various issues regarding renovation, beautification, sanitation & other allied activities required on urgent basis at this prominent site situated in the heart of the city.

Ashwani Kumar Executive Engineer, Deep Kumar Sharma Executive Engineer, Danish Kotwal Junior Engineer along with his supervisory staff of works Division-III, Sunil Singh Divisional Forest Officer Jammu, Madam Rabia Khan Assistant Floriculture Officer JMC concerned supervisory staff of Health Section of JMC were also



Mayor, Chander Mohan Gupta during visit to Shiv Akhara near Shiv Mandir.

present.

The Mayor told that JMC has already taken up the job of development/ renovation of various Akharas which reminds us our traditional games and in order to execute it on ground level sufficient funds have been kept in the capex budget and he along with all the concerned officers has visited the Shiv Akhara and directed the

concerned works Division to prepare a proper estimate on urgent basis so that the renovation work may be started.

He also directed the DFO Jammu to remove all the defunct poles & other materials from the site & deploy its field staff accordingly. Besides this, Assistant Floriculture Officer was also issued on spot directions to

plant more & more ornamental and seasonal saplings at the available sites for maintaining eco friendly and green atmosphere for visitors. The management committee also requested the Mayor for construction of community toilet within the premises and also extended gratitude for visiting the area and listened to their grievances patiently.

Mayor assured them that all their genuine matters will be fulfilled on priority basis and appeal to the general public to come forward and cooperate with JMC and other allied agencies in all the development activities being undertaken in various wards of the city so that the aim of Swachh Bharat Mission can be achieved successfully.

FAIVM urges Div Com to lift lockdown restrictions in Jammu



FAIVM members presenting memorandum to Divisional Commissioner Jammu Dr Raghav Langar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Federation of all India Vyapar Mandal (FAIVM) delegation led by its President, Sanjay Bansal met Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Dr Raghav Langar and requests him to lift the lockdown restrictions in Jammu as situation looks better now because cases are declining in Jammu province and it's also in better interest of economy and trade fraternity.

FAIVM clears that Delhi

also lifted the lockdown restrictions for the betterment of economy and whole business community.

After receiving memorandum of FAIVM, Divisional Commissioner Jammu promised that he will take necessary measures in the better interest of the society as a whole.

Those who are present in the meeting were Vice President Sandeep Mengi, Secretary Arun Sabharwal and Joint Secretary Sanjeev Aggarwal.

Dr Sonam Dawa Lonpo remembered on 4th Death Anniversary

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Late Dr Sonam Dawa Lonpo (former CEC LAHDC Leh) was remembered on his 4th Death Anniversary at Dr Dawa Memorial Park in Leh on Saturday.

Choskyong Palga Rinpoche, Chairman/CEC, LAHDC Leh, Adv. Tashi Gyalson, MP Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Executive Councillor for RDD, Tashi Namgyal Yakzee,

Executive Councillor for Minority Affairs, Ghulam Mehdi Ashoor, Executive Councillor for Agriculture, Stanzin Chospheh, Councillors, Religious as well as Political heads, District officers of Leh and close relatives of late Dr Dawa paid tribute to him.

While addressing the gathering, all the dignitaries highlighted late Dr Dawa's vision with values based on justice and equity in society.

Rare Lung Cancer surgery successfully performed at AOI at ASCOMS

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In continuation to its promise to provide best cancer care and treatment, American Oncology Institute (AOI) at ASCOMS Hospital, Jammu has achieved yet another milestone when a team of surgical oncology surgeons lead by Dr. Sujet Bhat and Dr. Avinash Rajra and assisted by Vishal and Abhilash performed a rare and first of its kind Lung Cancer Surgery on a patient aged over 61 years.

Kumar (name changed), a chronic smoker who had developed a cough and chest pain was identified with a mass on the right lung. Dr. Sujet Bhat and Dr. Avinash Rajra said.

On further investigation, they said, the patient was diagnosed with lung cancer in the middle lobe of the right lung.

Due to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Kumar was having low Hemoglobin and Albumin Levels, they said adding that he was prepared pre-operatively with blood transfusion and albumin infusions.

During the surgery, they said, it was found that the patient has dense adhesions of lungs with the chest wall due to chronic smoking.

But, they said, with the expertise of Surgical Team of AOI Jammu, the surgery was accomplished successfully.

Post-operatively patient was managed in ICU by the critical care team and was shifted to the ward on next day. Patient recovered well and was satisfactorily discharged on 7th post-op day.

"American Oncology Institute (AOI) is committed to offer top class cancer care facilities to the patients and provide access to the best and most advanced cancer diagnostics and treatment at affordable cost", says Dr Neeraj Bishnoi, Regional Director - North, Operations, American Oncology Institute.

500-Km rural road network to be laid under PMGSY-III in Ladakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Centre has targeted to construct 500-km rural road network, in the Union Territory of Ladakh, sanctioned under the third phase of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), an official spokesman said on Saturday.

The information was given at a meeting chaired by Union Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh. The minister reviewed the progress of the implementation of PMGSY and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G)

with various state governments and Union Territory administration through video conference.

Since the creation of the Union Territory of Ladakh in August 2019, 195 km of road has been constructed and blacktopped in Ladakh under PMGSY, providing connectivity to villages.

An amount of Rs 149 crore has been spent during this period and an additional Rs 50 crore have been approved by the Centre under this scheme which will be released soon, Commissioner Secretary (Public Works

DGP sanctions over Rs 81 lakh special welfare relief

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing with its endeavour to provide financial assistance to the families/NoKs of the martyred/deceased Police personnel/SPOs, the Director General of Police J&K Shri Dilbag Singh has sanctioned Rs 38 lakh ex-gratia relief in favour of dependents/legal heirs of a martyred Police officer and Rs 40 lakh as Special Welfare Relief in favour of 04 Police personnel/SPOs. He has also sanctioned Special Welfare Loan/Relief in favour of three Police personnel for their treatment.

Vide a PHQ order Rs 38 lakh as ex-gratia relief has been sanctioned in favour of NoKs of PSI Arshad Ashraf Mir who attained martyrdom in a terrorist attack at Khanyar, Srinagar. Similarly Special Welfare Relief of Rs 22 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of deceased Police personal SgCt. Ashani Kumar who passed away while in service due to health-related issues. Besides Special Relief of Rs 6 lakh each has also been sanctioned in favour of NoKs of deceased SPOs Karam Chand, Neeraj Kumar and Rakesh Kumar who passed away during the course of their engagement with the department. Out of this amount (special welfare relief) Rs 1 lakh to the

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NoKs deceased police personnel and rupees fifty thousand each to the families/NoKs of SPOs has already been paid for performing the last rites as immediate relief by the PHQ through their concerned units/Districts. The financial assistance has been given out of the Contributory Police Welfare Fund.

Meanwhile the DGP has also sanctioned financial assistance of Rs 1.50 lakh each in favour of two personnel as welfare loan who are suffering from different ailments.

Besides Rs 25000 each has also been sanctioned as welfare relief in their favour and another policeman for the purpose of self treatment.

Teli nominates NC Provincial office bearers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With the approval of Provincial President Jammu Province Rattan Lal Gupta, Abdul Gani Teli nominated seven Vice Presidents, four Secretaries, three Joint Secretaries and one Treasurer of OBC Cell Jammu Province to strengthen the party at gross root level and address the problems of OBC people in Jammu Province.

Mohd Rafiq, Bua Ditta, Mohd Ayoub Bhatt, Jagdish Dutt Sodi, Sunil Kumar Mehra, Mohd Sadiq, Joginder Kumar and Mohd Ashraf have been nominated as Vice Presidents.

Sain Dass, Mohd Nasar, Naseema and Haji Mohd Sharief shall be Secretaries of the OBC Cell.

Seema, Shama and Ram Parkash Verma will be Joint Secretaries. Haji Mohd Bashir will be treasurer.

Gupta congratulated newly constituted Provincial Office bearers of OBC Cell Jammu Province and hoped that Provincial Office bearers shall reach to the gross root level to mitigate the sufferings of the people in their respective areas particularly OBC and shall strengthen the party at gross root level.

ASCOMS sensitizes faculty about electives for under-graduate students

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting of faculty members of ASCOMS was held in the virtual mode to sensitize to the faculty about the electives for under-graduate students as per the new curriculum in accordance with the norms of National Medical Commission. Dr. Pavan Malhotra, Director Principal welcomed the faculty and apprised that approximately 90% of them attended this sensitizing programme organized under the aegis of Medical Education Unit of ASCOMS.

Dr. Rajesh Kumar Gupta, Prof & HOD Orthopaedics and Coordinator MEU, ASCOMS gave a detailed view of the electives

and formation, implementation and governance of electives during MBBS curriculum.

He also explained some of the electives and asked the faculty to prepare the same as per the need of their subject so that the students remained interested in Electives.

Answering to a query, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Gupta said that the allocation of the elective will be done based on merit-cum-preference of the students wherein the merit of 1st and 2nd prof MBBS will be taken jointly into the account and the merit will be prepared and taking into account, preference of the candidate, the electives will be allocated.

Agriculture Department continues drive against unregistered insecticides

Prevents sale of 40,000 ltrs of TSO/ HMO

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its drive against the distribution and sale of unregistered insecticides, Agriculture Department Kashmir (Enforcement Wing) on Saturday inspected some dealers of district Baramulla and prevented

the sale of 40,000 litres of unregistered Tree Spray Oil (TSO)/ Horticulture Mineral Oil (HMO) under various sections of insecticides act 1968.

The Director Agriculture Kashmir (Controller Insecticides) Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal

impressed upon the Enforcement Officers that all the provisions of insecticides act 1968 must be followed in letter and spirit. He said that the valley wide campaign against unregistered insecticides will continue in the coming days.

He also asked the moni-

toring teams already constituted at the directorate level to remain vigilant and work in coordination with the allied departments and give weekly performance reports to the directorate so that a compact mechanism is devised to curb the flow of unregistered products.

Bird Census conducted in Wular Lake

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Annual Bird Census was on Saturday conducted in Wular Lake by Wular Conservation and Management Authority Kashmir, here.

In the survey, volunteers from multiple bird clubs and organizations participated.

This was first such a major census conducted in the lake in which around 25 birders cum volunteers participated in the survey.

The trainees were given orientation prior to census operation.

For count purposes, 22 points were laid all across

the lake for bird counts. The survey was conducted both via boats as well as by foot. During the survey birds like Common Teal, Common Shelduck, Ruddy Shelduck, Gadwall, Sandpiper etc. were spotted in large numbers.

Mudasir Mehmood, Coordinator WUCMA, said that regular scientific monitoring of birds and other faunal diversity is being carried for long term population monitoring and to take informed management decisions.

The report on the census will be published soon after analyzing and assessing the data.

BSA Udhampur exposes major scam in books' piracy; demands nation-wide NCERT sale depots

Seeks Law College for students of Udhampur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Exposing a nexus of publishers for spreading pirated books especially in rural areas of country, President, Book Sellers Association (BSA) Udhampur; Arun Kumar Gupta has invited attention of concerned authorities over the issue regarding piracy of books of first to twelve standards. In a press statement issued here, Gupta said that publication and distribution of textbooks right from class one to higher classes is controlled from New Delhi. The major distribution work is controlled by NCERT New Delhi from where registered book sellers, from all

over the country, make purchases for their respective states and Union Territories by paying huge freight. "NCERT pays them some commission and book sellers have to pay all expenditure out of that due to which students get these books either on print rates or some times on higher rates," he added.

Gupta suggested that NCERT must open its sale depots in every State and UT as the move will help students and as well as book-sellers to make available books at reasonable rates besides providing sufficient scope of local recruitment. It is worthwhile to mention that in absence of book depots, there is a

huge scope for pirated books that are flooded in market. "There is no check on the sale of such books especially in rural areas. With the opening of sale depots, the genuine book-sellers and students both can be benefited. There is no mechanism to put a check on the practice in rural areas. Many times book-sellers from outside J&K sell pirated books in rural areas without the notice of concerned authorities. Police and other law enforcing agencies have no knowledge and no check over this mafia," he alleged.

The Books sellers association has sought intervention of senior officers

at the helm of affairs at NCERT and Union Ministry of Education to get this matter probed in interest of the genuine books-sellers and students. "Government as well as private schools are working hard to impart best education to the students. Better study material and registered books play a vital role in educating youth and ultimately building the nation strong," suggested Arun Gupta and reiterated demand for opening a law college in Udhampur to benefit hundreds of students of region, who are presently studying outside UT.

DC Poonch reviews progress under District Capex Plan 2021-22

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: District Development Commissioner, Inder Jeet on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the physical and financial status of the works taken up under District Capex Plan, 2021-22, here at conference Hall of the DC Office Complex Poonch.

Sector wise status of the physical targets achieved till date was presented in the meeting. The Deputy Commissioner stressed upon district and sectoral officers to take all possible measures to accelerate the pace of ongoing works for their time-bound completion. He cautioned against any kind of laxity in completing the works within the fixed timeline. He asked the Officers to take strict action against those officials, who create hurdles and delay the developmental works by not meeting the formalities

even after allotment of works and fail to complete the works despite issuing notices.

Regarding the health sector, the chair directed the CMO to resolve the issues/ bottlenecks, if any, regarding departmental works and submit the report at an earliest.

The CMO was also directed to verify all the health sector works physically, ensure required quality and quantity of works and ensure standard material used and submit the physical financial report on a weekly basis.

The Deputy Commissioner directed the BMOs to ensure the quality of works being executed under district Capex Budget.

Moreover, they were also directed to register the procured ambulances from the transport department immediately.

The ACD was asked to submit the status of completed works before 10th February without any fail.

The PWD department was asked to submit the status of completed works after duly verified by Additional District Development Commissioner (DDC). The ACD was asked to submit the compliance report regarding physical, financial bills of completed works to the concerned treasuries with proper receipts & under intimation and feedback from DTO Poonch. Meanwhile, the ACD & ACP were directed to verify the physical financial status/ quality of ground water works and release the payments only after proper verification from the concerned PRI, BDC/DDC.

Regarding PHE division, the Deputy Commissioner directed the ACP to review the status of tendered works/

allotments and the executed works and submit a detailed report within three days to the DC office. Regarding PDD, the DC asked the ADC to review the physical financial work of the department and shall incorporate the factual report. The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner; Poonch, Abdul Sattar; Chief Planning Officer; Madan Lal, Assistant Commissioner Development, Rajesh Lakhani, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Shaffiq Mir; Chief Horticulture Officer; Satvir Singh; Chief Medical Officer; G.A Malik, CEO Education, DYSSO, Mohd Qasim, AD Planning, M.A Khan, executive engineers of PWD(R&B), Jal Shakti, PDD & REW alongwith all AEEs, AEs, and JEIs, besides all BDOs of district Poonch.