Enforce lane discipline, check roadside parking: CS tells Transport Deptt

Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting of Transport Department.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday directed the Transport Department for improving operational efficiencies in J&K RTC to enable it to post operational profits in next three months.

He made this observation while reviewing the functioning of the Transport department in which Commissioner Secretary, Transport and other senior officers of the department were present.

Dr. Mehta said that the department has to move towards complete end to end digitalization of all services being rendered on line and ensure introduction of e-office in all the subordinate offices.

The Chief Secretary said that the department should ensure that the fleet of motor cycles purchased by the department is deployed on the National Highways for enforcing lane discipline amongst the commuters.

He further directed the department to take steps to ensure that the road side parking is not allowed anywhere on the National Highways.

The Chief Secretary said that there is a need to upgrade bus stands and each district headquarters should have a proper bus stand with all attendant public amenities for the welfare of people. Dr. Mehta advised the department to use FM channels etc. to inform the people in advance about the status of congestion/traffic flow on various roads in the capital cities of Jammu and Srinagar and on the National Highways so that they can plan their visits accordingly.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to ensure that compensation to the victims of the road accidents is paid within 24 hours of the accident.

Dr. Mehta laid emphasis on enhancing operational efficiencies in J&K RTC and asked the department to ensure that thekilometerage per day per vehicle is suitably increased for better return on investment.

He further said the department needs to institute a robust monitoring system to constantly track the performance of the corporation vehicles for improved results.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to update recruitment rules and finalize seniority lists of all departments, autonomous bodies and universities within one month.

Dr. Mehta directed the department that all the recruitment rules should be updated and uploaded on the respective websites of the department.

The Chief Secretary directed the department to ensure that administrative inspection of all the offices is conducted at least once in a year for improving efficiencies in the system.

People fed-up of BJP, joining Congress in huge numbers: Bhalla, Sawhney

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: District Congress Committee Jammu (Urban) conducted it's monthly meeting on Monday at Congress office in Shaheedi Chowk to discuss it's monthly operations in Jammu district.

The meeting was presided over by former Minister Raman Bhalla, Working President PCC and chaired by former Minister J&K Yogesh Sawhney, General Secretary PCC Incharge District President Jammu (U). The meeting discussed various current issues and party programmes that would be undertaken in this month. District Congress leaders hailed the Congress party's efforts in highlighting important issues of Jammu on the podium and reaching people on the grassroots level.

Speaking at the meeting, Working President JKPCC, Raman Bhalla said that people across Jammu are eager to join the Congress party fold through the membership drive.

The party is gaining new and excited members and it will help us expand our outreach to the grassroots level. Through our awareness programmes, protests and demonstrations, and other countless efforts we have been continuously trying to bring awareness to the failures of the BJP government that have handicapped the Indian society.

The injustice and deterioration has left no section of society untouched. They are rolling out destructive policies and laws one after the other that affect a lot of people, but specially the middle class and the poor. The membership campaign - Join Congress Save India - is to urge people to join the party in order to protect the country from forces that are trying to destroy constitutional values. Those infuriated by the government actions and those wishing to raise a strong voice against them are joining hands with the congress to do so.

Accusing the government of single handedly destroying India, Bhalla criticised the government for its crude policies and incompetence in running the nation which he said is quite visible. He asserted that the Congress is reaching out to every nook and corner, every ward and village across J&K and offer people in the remotest parts, a platform for their voice to be heard.

He said that the party is also strongly striving to counter the systematic attack unleashed by the BJP not only on the Congress ideology but on the core fundamentals of justice, equality and affirmative action enshrined in the Constitution. Former Minister, Yogesh Sawhney stated that due to Congress party's relentless efforts in bringing Jammu's issues to the forefront many people including young people have taken initiative to join the Congress party.

Congress Party has a membership drive for this purpose so any motivated person from any corner can become part of the Congress party.

The BJP government has abandoned Jammu and Kashmir and left it to fend for itself, therefore, it is for all the people to take up the mantle and save Jammu, he said.

He further added that BJP has also failed to address all major issues of J&K. It is not seriously concerned with the development of Jammu and Kashmir. In the face of extreme distress caused by their own policies, they stand ignorant and silent.

Working President PCC Raman Bhalla speaking at a meeting.

Administration fails to resolve people's problems: Bhardwaj

Senior Congress leader Mohinder Bhardwaj addressing a gathering.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Senior Congress leader Mohinder Bhardwaj has expressed shock at total administrative paralysis in dealing with the problems of the people particularly the farmers despite having been highlighted from time to time. Time has come for the Lt Governor's administration to wake up fast and address the problems which is their bounden duty. Addressing a meeting of the prominent persons and Congress workers of the area here today, Bhardwaj paid flowing tributes to those devotees who lost their lives in the stampede that took place outside the sanctum sanctorum of Shri Vaishno Devi shrine. He termed it as an outcome of the administrative laxity and demanded a thorough probe into the incident which has brought a bad name to the Union Territory. Never such an incident had been witnessed in living memory at the holy shrine which in itself is a matter of great concern. Referring to the problems being faced by the people he said that despite having been repeatedly highlighted by him through various means the ground situation is pathetic with prevalent poor civic amenities, broken roads and irrigation network, and dismal health and education facilities. In the absence of elected representatives and government, it is the duty of the officers concerned to have taken upon themselves the task of conducting tours to take stock of the situation and accordingly take remedial steps. Unfortunately, the official machinery has become totally inactive. Specifically pointing to the farmers' issue he said that the community has been repeatedly hit hard on account of damage to their crops due to vagaries of weather during the past few years. None of the promises made by the administration to provide relief to them in the form of ex-gratia and other forms of aid has been fulfilled till date, he said. While raising a pitch for holding of assembly elections at the earliest as the bureaucratic system is no alternative to the elected representatives, he said that in the absence of elected representatives and government people have no listening post and have been left to fend for themselves. Among others who addressed the meeting were Ashok Dubey, Kailash Saini, Kishan Saini, Rattan Lal, Vijay Kumar, Jaswant Singh, Rajesh Sharma, Dewan Chand, Gara Ram and Nanak Chand.

Couple attempts suicide over police harassment; wife dies

Critically injured husband accuses police for favouring land grabbers

Police in fact mentally tortured both of them, say family members

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Troubled by a land dispute with a local group of land grabbers and getting no respite from Police even after repeated complaints, a man and his wife set themselves on fire in Sidhra on December 30, 2021 in an attempt to commit suicide.

The couple was taken to hospital for treatment where the wife succumbed on Sunday while the husband is still struggling between life and death. Soon after the incident, when couple was taken to GMC Jammu for treatment, the husband and wife both were was not in a condition to give statement.

As per details revealed by deceased woman's brother, Dhyan Singh, the family members of victim, identified as Dilawar Singh and his wife Purnima Devi, was facing an issue over some land with land mafia.

He further alleged that despite making repeated complaints to Police for acting against the mafia, no action was initiated after which the couple took this extreme step. He said that the police in fact mentally tortured both of them.

He blamed connivance of the influential land mafia and police responsible for entire tragic incident which happened during night of December 30, 2021 as if the Police would have taken timely action to provide justice to the victim, the incident could have been averted.

The injured man Dilwar Singh, in his statement, alleged that it was the apathy, inaction and harassment by Police department, which forced him to take such an extreme step.

Alleging some corrupt practices going on in department, the victim said that he ran from pillar to post seeking redressal of his grievance, but none from Police administration came forward to help him. Soon after the demise of woman, the agitated family member staged a protest demanding fair investigation in the matter to book all those responsible for the gruesome incident. Today, Dilwar Singh alleged that Nagrota police is hand in glove with the land mafia.

DGP releases crime gazette; asks for special focus on terrorism, cyber & narcotics crimes

DGP J&K, Dilbag Singh and others releasing annual edition of the crime gazette of J&K Police.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director General of Police J&K, Dilbag Singh on Monday released the annual edition of the crime gazette of J&K Police for the year 2020 here in the conference hall of Police Headquarters.

The crime gazette for which the data has been collected, tabulated and maintained by the Crime Record Bureau was prepared and presented in the form of the book under the chairmanship of Spl DGP Crime, J&K A K Choudhary.

Spl DGs, R.R Swain, A.K Choudhary, ADGsP, Mukesh Singh, M. K. Sinha, Danesh Rana, IGP Alok Kumar, AIsG of PHQ, senior officers of Crime Branch, J&K were present on the occasion.

DGP J&K, while unveiling the gazette, said that the crimes in today's times are not only varied in but also more complicated in nature.

He said that special focus has to be on crimes of terrorism, cyber and narcotics.

He emphasized on organizing special training courses for the JK Police investigators so that conviction rate is improved.

DGP reiterated that the police personnel deputed in courts should submit the report of their working to the controlling officers/offices on daily basis.

DGP directed for organizing fortnightly meetings between PHQ officers and district officers and also between PHQ officers and Wing offices so that issues pertaining to various unit of police are discussed and subsequently addressed in a desired fashion in a result oriented manner.

He directed the officers to analyze the 2021 work and plan their strategies as to what they are going to achieve in the current year.

He also directed a series of measures to be taken for better policing and better results.

Earlier, the Spl DGP Crime, J&K in his welcome address briefed the DGP regarding the crime Gazette and how it would benefit the J&K Police investigating officers.

The ADGP, Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh and ADGP Headquarters, PHQ, M.K Sinha on the occasion also gave valuable suggestions for policing and extending police service to the people.

The crime gazette highlights increasing and decreasing trends in the crime scenario in the UT during the year 2020 and also depicts the comparison of crimes to previous year i.e 2019. It is distributed among the Police officers so that they could analyse the trend and plan their strategies accordingly.

As per the gazette, a total of 28936 cases were registered under various heads of crime under IPC/LSL in J&K UT during the year 2020 as against 25072 cases during the corresponding year 2019, which shows an overall increase of 15.41% in the total registration during the year 2020.

The Crime Rate for the year 2020 remained at 216.90 for per lakh population as against 189.41 for year 2019.

Director Agriculture visits vegetable farm Badyal Brahmana, encourages farmer

Director AP&FW Jammu, K.K Sharma and others during visit to vegetable farm at Badyal Brahmana.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Jammu, K.K Sharma on Monday visited vegetable farm at Badyal Brahmana to inspect the high tech interventions being implemented in the field of Agriculture.

During visit, Sharma encouraged farmer Sohn Lal, who has cultivated record production of broccoli first time in his village with the technical support from SKUAST-J. During the visit, Tarseem Pal BDC R S Pura put the demand of timely availability of agriculture machinery of irrigation schemes for borewell. Farmers of R S Pura especially demanded settlement of insurance claim of Kharief 2021. Director assured farmers to settle their all genuine demands.

Director Horticulture, Ram Sewak, Joint Director (Inputs), A. S. Reen and Arvind Baru Chief Agriculture Officer Jammu were also present on the occasion.

Helpline Numbers for Jammu Division in view of Weather Advisory from Jan 3-9 issued

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Administration Jammu has issued list of Important Helpline Numbers of Jammu Division in public interests following Weather Advisory from 03 to 09 January, 2022.

As per communiqué various divisional as well as district control rooms have been established by various key line departments for receiving calls for prompt actions.

As per communiqué the details of control rooms are Divisional Control Room JPDCL (PDD Department): 1912/ 0191-2479122/ 18001807183; Divisional Control Room PW (R&B) Department: 9419108480/ 9419174248; SDRF Control Room: 01912435285; Divisional Control Room Jal Shakti (PHE Department): 0191-2547586/ 18001807045/ 9419205732/ 7006982500; Divisional Control Room Irrigation & Flood Control Department: 0191-2582164/ 18001807169; Jammu Municipal Corporation Control Room: 0191-2520448/ 0191-2520428; Divisional Control Room Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department: 9419143700/ 7006997062; Divisional Control Room Mechanical Engineering Department: 9419187739/ 7889400931/ 9419232787; Centralized Health Helpline: 104; Civil Defence Control Room Jammu: 0191-2549100; District Control Rooms.

The helpline numbers of districts are as under Jammu 0191-2571912/ 9622011623/ 0191-2571616 /(DEOC), PCR 0191-2542000/ 0191-2560401; Samba 01923-246915/ 01923-241004/ (DEOC),PCR 01923-293777/ 9622071045; Udhampur 01992-272728/ 8717086503 (DEOC),PCR 01991-276915/ 9622205553; Kathua 9018725999(DEOC), 01922-234311/ 9858034100 PCR

Rajouri 01962-264544 DCEO 01962-262515 PCR: Reasi 9419839557/ 01991-245763 (DEOC), 01991-244956/ 01991-245076 PCR; Poonch 01965-222012(DEOC), 01965-220258/ 9086253188, PCR; Ramban 9419615662/ 700621489 (DEOC), 01998-266384/ 9906925595, PCR; Doda 01996-233337/ 18001807122 (DEOC), 01996-233530/ 7298923100 PCR; Kishtwar: 01995-259555 (DEOC), 01995-259193/ 9906154100 PCR.

People can contact concerned department in their respective districts in case of any exigency.

Glimpses of grand Nagar Kirtan taken out in Jammu on Monday.