

JPDCL launches campaign to promote electricity bill payment from home

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant move, Jammu Power Development Corporation Ltd on Saturday launched a campaign to promote Electricity Bill Payment from Home-Bijli Bill Bharna Hua Aasan, Ghar Baith Karo Buktan-Campaign."

To increase revenue collection, the new campaign is being launched to facilitate from-home electricity bill payment for the convenience of consumers.

The JPDCL strives to save the time of the consumers so that they don't have to stand in queues at Banks to pay their electricity bills. Also, to

avoid crowds during Covid-19, JPDCL is making efforts to educate consumers and facilitate payment of electricity bills sitting at home.

Methodology:

To achieve the above cited objectives, the meter readers of the concerned sub-divisions shall visit every JPDCL registered consumer to sensitize and install Bill Sahuliyat App in the mobile phone of at least one member of every household and map their consumer id so that most of the consumer switch to online bill payment mode and do not visit banks every month to pay their electricity bills.

A GPRS enabled POS

machine shall be handed over to the Sub-Divisions which shall subsequently operationalize existing revenue centre and hand over POS machine to meter readers so that consumers can instantly make payments using Debt and Credit cards. The POS machine shall be made available at Revenue Centre till late hours during the month of February and March since revenue collection increases drastically during these two months. This shall ensure that consumers shall have alternative arrangement to make their electricity Bill Payment. During the arrear recovery in the month of

February and March, a large number of disconnections are made and consumers usually have no resort to make instant payment, the POS terminals shall ensure on spot payment of electricity bills.

Vehicles having posters and banners of the campaign shall be hired at Divisional Level and shall be sent to every nook and corner to make this campaign a huge success.

Advantages:

This campaign will be of significant help for working and daily wage people who can't take out time to visit banks and pay their electricity bills.

This shall also help in boosting the revenue of the JPDCL as revenue collection will be made convenient and revenue collection can be done from consumer households.

Tentative Schedule:

The campaign for downloading of Bill Sahuliyat App shall start on 10th of January after the bills for the month of December are issued by the sub-divisional offices.

The process of collecting bills through POS shall start from 20th of January after the terms and conditions are negotiated with the JK Bank and POS machines are received in the Sub-divisional offices.

Religious heads reiterate demand of full-fledged Statehood with Sixth Schedule for Ladakh



NCM Member, Rinchen Lhamo interacting with delegation members.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Heads of religious organisations of Leh urged the newly appointed Member of the National Commission for Minorities, Government of India, Rinchen Lhamo to take up the issue of constitutional safeguard under 6th Schedule of the Indian Constitution to protect land, job, business, and cultural identity of Ladakh with the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Rinchen Lhamo held a meeting with religious heads on Friday wherein she was congratulated on being nominated

as Member of the National Commission for Minorities.

"The leaders without raising small issues expressed our dissatisfaction over delay in fulfilling the demands for constitutional safeguard under 6th Schedule of the Indian Constitution to protect land, job, business, and cultural identity of Ladakh. We strongly demand that people of Ladakh will accept nothing short of statehood with 6th schedule of the Indian Constitution for full proof response to the ever-growing apprehensions among the local

residents after Ladakh becoming a UT," said a joint press statement signed by presidents of Ladakh Buddhist Association, Ajuman Moin-Ul Islam, Anjuman Immamia, and Christian Association.

It added that the religious leaders apprised Member NCM to take up this matter urgently with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Leaders also reportedly expressed dismay over delays in starting the recruitment process for filling up the vacancies in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Bhalla criticized use and throw policy of govt say-

ing that these paramedics deserve regularization of their services as govt had engaged them in 2019 to work as frontline workers in the health sector and now govt is playing with their careers which is highly uncalled for especially when Covid-19 wave is approaching.

He said at a time when new COVID variants were

creating havoc across the country and the threat was looming large in J&K, their services should be regularized henceforth.

Bhalla said that even LG Manoj Sinha also cheated them.

He said that all 1600 employees should be adjusted and their services continued under the present NHM policy.

JKPCC Chief Spokesman Ravinder

Sharma urged Centre and J&K governments to launch special recruitment drive in Jammu and Kashmir to fill up existing large number of vacancies in various government departments.

He demanded a special employment package for the unemployed youth to protect them from the cobweb of drug menace due to mental depression.

He said due alarming level of unemployment, youth of Jammu and Kashmir see their future bleak and fall easy prey to drug mafia and other social crimes.

He urged the Centre and Union Territory government in Jammu and Kashmir to rise to the occasion to save the creamy layer of educated youth from getting ruined on the hands of drug mafia.

B R Sharma elected Chairman IIPA J&K Branch



Dignitaries at 43rd Annual General Meeting at IIPA.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: B.R Sharma, IAS (Retd) was re-elected as Chairman of the IIPA, JK Regional Branch for the period 2022-2024 during the 43rd Annual General Meeting of the Branch which was held on Saturday through online mode.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd), former DGP, J&K Police shall be mentoring the branch as Patron.

During the AGM, the new office bearers for the period 2022-2024 were also elected and the Executive Committee was also nominated.

The office bearers elected for the period 2022-2024 include Er. J.B.S Johar-Vice Chairman (Jammu); Dr G.N Qasba-Vice Chairman (Kashmir); Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS Vice Chairman (Central); Prof Alka Sharma- Hony Secretary; Vikrant Kuthiala-Hony Treasurer; Dr Anil Gupta-Joint Secretary (Jammu); G.M Andrahi-Joint Secretary

(Kashmir); K.B.Jandial, IAS (Retd)-Director Seminars; Lt Col (Retd) Karan Singh-Joint Director Seminar (Jammu) and Prof S.M Afzal Qadri-Joint Director Seminars (Kashmir).

The 15 member Executive Committee nominated include Kuldeep Khoda, IPS (Retd), A.M Watali IPS (Retd); Manej Dwivedi, IAS; Dr. C.M Seth IFS (Retd), Prof. Rekha Choudhary, Prof. Mehraj-ud-din, Er. M.M Gupta, Prem Gupta, IPS (Retd), Manej Panditha, JKPS, Dr Naseer Iqbal Bhat; Hitesh Gupta, JKAS, Dr Sudershan Kumar,

Highway remained closed.

Earlier, administration had

assured people that there is no possibility of national highway getting closed this year but soon after the statement, the road got closed for traffic as a huge boulder hit a car in Ramban sector, causing death of a valley resident.

People are alleging that whatever is left with retailers is being sold at very high rates. "At this time, we mostly get our vegetables from outside because there is no local production here in winters. During winters, people use dry vegetables and dry-fishes but even their prices are also getting higher with every passing minute and middle-class families are unable to purchase them," said Sarwar Ahmed, a resident of Srinagar City.

Earlier, Kashmir Trade Alliance had also demanded that food items be kept available in addition to fuel, gas and medicines on emergency basis, so that there is no shortage of essential commodities and medicines in Valley due to closure of Srinagar-Jammu Highway.

Stocks of essential commodities and food items in Kashmir, particularly in Srinagar, depleted pushing prices of vegetables and fruits quite up as the Srinagar-Jammu National

Absence of essential commodities also increases raise in prices. He advised Divisional administration to take steps to reduce shortage of food-items and medicines in Valley.

Meanwhile, an advisory issued by Traffic Police Headquarters Srinagar, reads, "In view of inclement weather, vehicular movement on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway shall remain suspended because of heavy rains, shooting stones, landslides and slippery road conditions along NH-44." It has further advised the commuters to first confirm highway status from Traffic control units from Jammu (0191-2459048, 9419147732) Srinagar (0194-2450022, 2485396) Ramban (9419993745) and Udhampur (8491928625), before proceeding on their journeys.

Inclement weather affected normal life in Valley

■ SHAKEELA ANDRAI

SRINAGAR: Normal life got affected to a great extent due to continuous bad weather conditions in Kashmir Valley with National Highway closed since January 4 and several flights cancelled during past five days due to poor visibility and bad weather conditions, thereby leaving thousands of visitors stranded in the valley.

Meteorological Department has already predicted continuous snowfall till Saturday with administration issuing 'Red alert' for the valley. Moreover, moderate spell of snowfall on Friday evening and Saturday led to traffic snarls at many places in summer capital Srinagar. "Expect main intensity of heavy to very heavy rain/snow till January 8," read Met statement, adding, "Gradual improvement (in weather) will be there from January 9 morning onwards.

In reply, APP for UT of J&K, Yogesh Bamba argued that offence committed by the accused is serious and heinous in nature and custody of accused is further required to work out all those. He further said that accused is involved in the commission of offences punishable under sections 304-II, 109, 297 IPC read with section 8,21,27 of NDPS Act under a case registered at Police Station Bahu Fort Jammu. Offences committed by accused are anti-social and non-bailable in nature as such accused cannot claim bail as a matter of right, he added. He further said that FSL report is yet to be obtained as such grant of bail to the accused at this preliminary stage will cause great prejudice to the investigating agency and offences committed are against society at large. The accused by indulging in illicit trade of drug trafficking is spreading evil of drug addiction in the society which is spoiling the lives of young boys and girls, as such do not deserve any leniency from the court and is required to be dealt firmly.

After hearing both the sides, the Special Excise Mobile Magistrate said that strong prima facia has been made out against accused and offences allegedly to have been committed by the accused are very serious in nature. Moreover, judgements/orders placed on record by Counsel for applicant/accused in support of his case are clearly distinguishable from facts of the instant case. In view of all what has been discussed, the Special Excise Mobile Magistrate rejected bail application of accused.

Jammu and Kashmir administration cuts SSG cover of 4 ex-CMs, kin



Congress won't allow use of COVID-19 Warriors like tissue paper: Bhalla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPCC Working President, Raman Bhalla on Saturday expressed serious resentment over callous attitude of both Union Govt and LG Administration for forcing scores of NHM paramedics who were engaged under the Emergency COVID Response Package (ECRP) to protest amidst third Covid-19 wave by not regularizing their services.

This was stated by Bhalla after meeting these Covid-19 warriors NHM-ECRP employees at their protest venue alongwith JKPCC Chief Spokesman Ravinder Sharma, Youth Congress President J&K, Uday Bhanu Chib, Latish Sharma and Sahil Langeh.

Bhalla criticized use and throw policy of govt say-



Senior Congress leaders extending support to protesting NHM employees.

SDRF issues promotions orders of 33 officials

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The SDRF Headquarters has issued promotion orders in respect of thirty three officers/officials to the next rank vide an order issued on Saturday.

As recommended by the Departmental Promotion Committee under the chairmanship of Danesh Rana, Commandant General Homeguards, Civil Defence & SDRF J&K and after thorough scrutiny of the service records, promotion in respect of seven ASIs, 10 Head Constables and 16 SG Constable has been ordered.

Danesh Rana, in his message, congratulated the promoted personnel and their family members.

He expressed hope that the promotion will serve as an inspiration for the personnel to perform their duties with enhanced dedication and zeal.

written order was passed in this connection," he said, adding they are 1600 in number but the J&K administration has advertised only 92 posts.

He said that all 1600 employees should be adjusted and their services continued under the present NHM policy.

JKPCC Chief Spokesman Ravinder

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He demanded a special employment package for the unemployed youth to protect them from the cobweb of drug menace due to mental depression.

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■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To further intensify the drive against illegal/un-authorized constructions, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on Saturday demolished six illegal shop structures constructed at Channi Rama.

Demolition was done in the presence of officers of Jammu Municipal Corporation with the assistance of police authorities and executive magistrate

deputed for the purpose.

The Commissioner JMC

stated that JMC shall continue such drives against such constructions which have been raised illegally/unauthorisedly without obtaining proper permission from JMC and added that JMC shall not tolerate any kind of violation in Master Plan-2032 and violator shall be dealt with under the relevant provisions of the law.

The Commissioner JMC

further appealed to the genera-

al public to refrain from raising illegal constructions and get building plans approved for commercial and residential purpose and raise building according to approved building plan, failing which action as warranted under Jammu and Kashmir Control of Building Operation Act, 1988 and Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 will be taken against the violators

including sealing and demolition of the illegal structures.

She added that JMC has introduced Online Building Permission Systems (OBPS) which is very user friendly through which the residents can get their building plans approved within the shortest possible time at their door steps.

Even they don't require to come to office everything is available online.



JMC demolishing an illegal construction at Channi Rama.

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Applicants who have qualified for the draw are requested to be present in person with a photo identity card issued by any Government Department at the specified date, venue and time given against each location.

SR. NO.	OIL MARKETING COMPANY	LOCATION NAME	BLOCK	DISTRICT	CATEGORY OF DISTRIBUTORSHIP	TIME OF DRAW	VENUE
1	HPC	Khawas	Kalakote	Rajouri	OPEN	10:30	
2	HPC	Sogam	Sogam	Kupwara	OB(W)	11:00	
3	HPC	Reasi	Reasi	Reasi	OPEN	11:30	
4	IOC	Kotranka/Jaglanoo/hubbli	Budhal Old	Rajouri	OPEN	12:00	
5	IOC	Charote/Korara	Gundra	Doda	OPEN	12:20	
6	IOC	Lamoo	Lamoo	Anantnag	OPEN	12:45	
7	IOC	Nowgam	Banthal	Ramban	OPEN</td		