

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! AC adopts recommendations...

Government of India vide its communication No. L-19018/1/2017-Jus-I dated August 8, 2023 has also conveyed the approval of the competent authority regarding implementation of the recommendations of Second National Judicial Pay Commission (SNJPC).

The Administrative Council also approved revamping of ICT Setup & Video Conferencing Project of High Court of J&K at an estimated cost of Rs.61.78 Crores.

The project shall be executed after considering the observation of Technical Appraisal Committee (TAC) and in Principle agreed by the High Court. The High Court may consider reimbursement of amount under e-Court Mission Mode Project-II as per procedure provided therein.

This project has been necessitated by the fact that recent times have noticed a paradigm shift for legal proceedings. The physical presence has been getting replaced by virtual presence through the use of newer technologies. Digital transformation is helping to improve the justice system and it is expected that virtual collaboration should remain a permanent part of it.

The instant project includes various interventions like Hybrid Courtrooms, Connected Courts, Next Generation Network, Connectivity, Audio Setup etc. that incorporates both in-person and online aspects of Court communications. The aim and objective of project is to provide speedy justice to the litigants of the UT at lower cost.

Authorises JKPTCL to...

Network from upcoming 400 /220 kV Grid Sub-station Siot, Rajouri (ISTS) with an estimated cost of Rs. 790 Crores and construction of Grid Sub-Station at Wahipora and Sallar, Kashmir and allied transmission system within estimate cost of Rs. 300 Crores. Union Power Ministry officials in various review meetings have advised the UT Government to execute transmission projects through TBCB/ JV mode.

Moreover, in the draft of new Electricity Policy, it has been mentioned that all future intra-state transmission projects shall be developed through competitive bidding process except for the projects having an estimated capital expenditure below a threshold limit, and projects of strategic importance as decided by the State Government.

Finance Department has also advised PDD to utilize PMC for 2 of the 3 projects and execute 1 project using the model TBCB document on its own. This will help in building internal expertise.

AC also authorized JKPTCL to engage Power Finance Corporation Consulting Limited (PFCCL) or any other CPSU authorized by Ministry of Power as Bid Process Coordinator (BPC) on nomination basis for undertaking the above said transmission projects through TBCB route.

Professional charges payable to the CPSU engaged as BPC may be decided by JKPTCL through limited tender enquiry amongst eligible CPSUs while adhering to the guidelines of TBCB issued by Ministry of Power.

SIA files charge...

was later transferred to the SIA Kashmir for specialised investigation," an official said.

The charge-sheet has been filed before the Special Designated Court under the NIA (National Investigation Agency) Act at Pulwama.

The accused include Pakistan-resident Khalid Kamran; Shopian-residents Jazim Farooq Wani alias Abrar, Shameem Ahmad Bhat alias Uncle, Danish Ahmad Thokar, and Ubaid Ahmad Paddar; Anantnag-residents Zaffar Hussain Bhat alias Khurshed Kashmiri, Nassir Farooq Shah, Aamir Hussain Wani, Towseef Ahmad Pandith, Sajjad Ahmad Bhat alias Afnan Bhat and Sahil Bashir Dar; and Kulgam-resident Sarjeel Ahmad Bhat.

While investigation continues into the role of Yasir Shabir Wani, eight out of the 13 accused, including three juveniles, are currently under judicial custody, the officials said.

Jazim Farooq Wani, Thokar, and Paddar have been killed in encounters with security forces.

Zaffar Hussain Bhat alias Khurshed Kashmiri and Khalid Kamran are absconding, they added.

"The aim of the accused aim was to disrupt the revival of peace and communal harmony in the valley, using the murder of an innocent person from the minority community to fuel communal disharmony and sustain terrorism," said the official quote above.

The SIA Kashmir conducted extensive searches across South Kashmir, unearthing vital physical and technical evidence.

"This evidence exposed the accused persons' involvement in the crime, including providing logistical support, harbouring the accused, and concealing evidence. During investigation, the SIA conducted five rounds of extensive searches at 32 locations across the valley, during which evidence in the shape of mobile devices, incriminating documents viz Bank Documents and a Pistol magazine and live cartridges were seized," he said.

The investigation revealed that the accused were acting on instructions from terror handlers across the border and maintaining communication via encrypted online messaging platforms, the officials said.

They said Jazim Farooq Wani, who pulled the trigger, received weapon handling training from Nassir Farooq Shah on the directives of Pakistani handler Khalid Kamran.

The investigation will continue and the SIA is committed to ensure all the accused who have been a part of the crime in any way are brought to justice, the officials said.

AAP brought Punjab...

entrepreneurs. Chugh said the Bhagwant Mann government has been creating a false facade in the form of "rangla Punjab" knowing very well that the new enterprise is running away from Punjab and there has been a steep rise in unemployment among the youth.

The AAP government in Punjab has been following deceptively populist policies to hoodwink the masses and the bubble would be bursting soon in the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections, Chugh added.

Arms seizure case...

Act, was filed in the Court of NIA, Srinagar, on Friday, a police spokesman said.

While Khan, is a resident of Pethgam Rajpora, Bhat belonged to Kalampora Pulwama, he said.

The case is related to the seizure of arms and ammunition by the Batamaloo police from the accused, the spokesman said. He said during the course of investigation, a link was established between Khan and Bhat on the basis of call detail records and Internet Protocol Detail Record (IPDR).

Bhat was killed in the encounter at Shah Mohalla Yadipora Palhallan in Baramulla district on September 30, 2022.

The date of hearing in the case has been fixed on February 19, the spokesman said.

Special Lok Adalat for Criminal Compoundable Cases held across J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As a part of calendar of activities for the year 2024 prepared by J&K Legal Services Authority, a Special Lok Adalat was organized throughout the U.T of J&K, on Saturday, under the leadership of Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh & Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority and under the guidance of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority as well as Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee.

The focus for today's Special Lok Adalat was on amicable settlement of Criminal Compoundable cases. As per the information received from various districts of U.T of J&K, a total of 20648 Criminal Compoundable cases were taken up in the Special Lok Adalat organized by various courts across the UT of J&K, out of which 19857 cases were settled amicably and finally disposed of with settlement amount of Rs. 1, 66,51, 816/-.

Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority while talking to media persons informed that this is the first Special Lok Adalat of the current calendar year and as per the schedule of activities prepared for the current calendar year, the next special lok Adalat shall be conducted on Saturday, February 17, 2024, focusing on quick settlement of Cheque Bounce Cases. He further added that another Special Lok Adalat shall be held on Friday,

February 23, 2024, which will focus on the quick settlement of Consumer cases pending disposal in different consumer forums within the U.T of J&K. He urged the Advocates in general and the litigants in particular to take maximum benefit of such Special Lok Adalats which are being organized by the J&K Legal Services Authority.

Gupta appreciated the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their whole hearted participation in the Special Lok Adalat and facilitating settlement of cases in such a large number. He also acknowledged the role of Para Legal Volunteers and the media, both print and electronic in creating and spreading awareness amongst the masses about such initiatives of Legal Services Authority.

Meanwhile, in pursuance to the J&K Legal Service Authority calendar for the year 2024, a Special Lok Adalat was held across all the districts of Kashmir, by the respective District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs), for amicable settlement of cases of Criminal Compoundable nature.

The Lok Adalat was held under the directions of Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh (Patron in Chief), J&K Legal Services Authority and Justice Tashi Rabstan, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority and Amit Kumar Gupta,

Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority.

Lok Adalat for criminal compoundable cases serves as a transformative mechanism for resolving disputes and promoting social harmony. By providing a platform for parties to settle their differences amicably, Lok Adalats contribute to a more just, peaceful, and equitable society. Lok Adalats continue to be an integral part of the justice delivery system, by virtue of their commitment to resolve disputes promptly and affordably and also alleviating the burden on the formal court system.

In Srinagar, the District Legal Services Authority Srinagar organized a Lok Adalat for the amicable settlement of criminal compoundable cases at the District Court Complex Mominabad Srinagar.

The Lok Adalat was held under the direction and supervision of Jawad Ahmed, Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority (Pr. District & Sessions Judge) Srinagar.

Three benches were constituted for the said Lok-Adalat for the amicable settlement of criminal compoundable cases.

Overall 63 number of cases were taken up for settlement out of which 54 cases were amicably settled and Rs. 88300 was awarded as settlement amount in Criminal Compoundable Cases.

At Budgam, the District Legal Services Authority Budgam organized a Lok Adalat for the amicable settlement of criminal compoundable cases at the District Court

Complex Budgam.

Under the insightful directions of Hon'ble Chairman Khalil Ahmad Chowdhary, Special Lok Adalat on Criminal Compoundable cases was organized in District Court Complex Budgam and Taluka Courts of District Budgam.

Each Court had identified cases for the said Lok Adalat beforehand and same were placed before Four (04) different benches constituted by DLSA Budgam for their settlement in Special Lok Adalat.

On the occasion, a total number of 60 matters were taken up for their amicable settlement, out of which 47 matters were settled. Besides, an amount of Rs. 674300 was realized in total in the settlement.

At Ganderbal, in a mammoth exercise to settle cases, the District Legal Services Authority Ganderbal in collaboration with Tehsil Legal Services Committee Ganderbal and Kangan conducted Lok-Adalat in District Ganderbal.

The Lok-Adalat was held under the supervision and chairmanship of Ritesh Kumar Dubey, Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Pr. District & Sessions Judge) Ganderbal, and under the guidance of Nusrat Ali Hakak, Secretary District Legal Services Authority Ganderbal.

Two Lok-Adalat was constituted of two benches for the amicable settlement of cases.

Overall 33 cases were taken up for settlement out of which 28 cases were amicably settled/compromised on spot. Rs. 9,500 was awarded as settlement amount.

At Pulwama, A General Lok-Adalat for Criminal Compoundable cases was organized in District Court and other subordinate courts of District Pulwama.

The Lok Adalat was held under the Chairmanship of Naseer Ahmad Dar, Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Pr.District & Sessions Judge), Pulwama and under the supervision of Susheel Singh Secretary DLSA Pulwama.

A total of 75 cases were taken up by 04 benches in the district, out of which 34 cases were amicably settled in the said Lok-Adalat. An amount of Rs 15,200 was realized as settlement amount in all cases.

At Kupwara, the District Legal Services Authority Kupwara today organized a Lok Adalat under the supervision of Chairman District Legal Services Authority, (Pr. District & Session Judge) Kupwara Shazia Tabasum, here.

A total of 04 Benches were constituted for the said Lok Adalat comprising of Presiding Officers and Other Members for amicable settlement/ compromise of the referred cases.

Out of the total cases taken up (25 cases) before all the benches in the National Lok Adalat, 08 cases were settled on spot by intervention of the benches and by participation of the lawyers and litigants. The settled cases included cases from Criminal Compoundable, NI Act and Traffic Challans etc., which led to a total settlement of the amount to the tune of Rs 134750.

PWD Secy reviews preparedness for snow clearance operations DG SBM-G inspects functional status of sanitation assets

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department, Bhupinder Kumar, on Saturday chaired a high level meeting to review preparedness for snow clearance operations to be executed during current winter season here.

Secretary was informed that control rooms have been set up at district level for coordinating snow clearance operations in Kashmir valley and snow affected areas of Chenab valley besides Pir Panjal parts of Jammu division. Besides, requisite men and machinery has been mobilized to ensure that the snow clearance process is not hindered or affected on this account.

Bhupinder Kumar directed the snow clearance agencies to ensure that minimum response time is taken in clearing the snow from affected areas. He was apprised that 158 new machinery units have been procured during last 3 years which have significantly enhanced snow clearance

capability of PWD. He was also informed that PWD has expanded usage of fixed plough attachments with plastic edges made from Ultra High Molecular Weight Polyethylene (UHMWPE), replacing steel cutting edges (EN-8), for deployment on JCBs and tractors thus reducing damage to BT surfaces during snow clearance. Besides, about 250 cost effective and road friendly snow attachments with UHMWPE edge, developed by MED Kashmir, are being used this winter resulting less damage to the BT roads.

The Secretary asked the snow clearance agencies to keep open the main roadways connecting district and tehsil headquarters, hospitals and other vital installations all the time. He also directed them to make efforts to keep open the Jammu-Srinagar NH, Mughal Road, roads leading to Sonamarg, Gurez, Karnah, Machil, Keran and other important roads in Pir Panchal and Chenab Valley to the maximum possible extent. He asked for priori-

tizing snow clearance from Srinagar Airport, railway stations and tourist destinations.

During the meeting, the concerned Chief Engineers and senior officers from BEACON, SAMPARK, NHAI and NHIDCL gave details about their action plans for dealing with snowfall.

The Secretary emphasized inter-agency coordination and cooperation among district administrations and others for minimum hassle to the public due to snowfall. He asked the Chief Engineer Mechanical and GM NHIDCL to make necessary arrangements of snow clearance at Gulmarg for ensuring smooth conduct of Khelo India Winter Games scheduled in first week of February there.

Regional Officer NHAI, Chief Engineer SAMPARK, Director Roads BEACON, GM NHIDCL, Chief Engineers MED, R&B, PMGSY, Director Finance and Director Planning PWD attended the meeting.

NCC Cadet JUO Dechen Chuskit of JK&L Directorate awarded Raksha Mantri Padak

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A momentous occasion unfolded for the Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh (JK&L) Directorate as an exceptional and outstanding NCC Cadet, JUO Dechen Chuskit of 1 Ladakh Bn NCC was awarded the prestigious Raksha Mantri Padak, with this she became the first Cadet from the newly carved UT of Ladakh to receive such a high award.

This achievement is even more commendable since only two Cadets in the Country have been awarded the Raksha Mantri Padak.

This prestigious recognition underscores the



cadet's outstanding commitment to service, leadership, and exemplary contributions to the National Cadet Corps. The award not only signifies individual excellence but also highlights the crucial role played by the NCC in nurturing dedicated and responsible citi-

zens. JUO Dechen Chuskit's unwavering dedication to the principles of duty and discipline has made her a beacon of inspiration, epitomizing the spirit of the NCC. Her achievement stands as a testament to the potential within our youth for national service and commitment.

JUO Dechen Chuskit even though belonging to a remote village of Kargil worked hard to secure a place in the RDC contingent of the JK&L Dte in 2023 as part of the Group Song, Group Dance, Ballet and NIAP team thereby showcasing the rich culture and traditions of Ladakh. Her perform-

ance in all NCC related activities has been exemplary. Despite facing economic, social and cultural challenges she volunteered to participate in various NCC Camps, Social Service and Community Development Programs. Her melodious voice has earned her many laurels and she was selected for re-recording the NCC Song with Shankar Mahadevan in Mumbai representing the JK&L Dte. JUO Dechen Chuskit has set an example for others to follow and continues to motivate youth of her village and adjoining areas to join NCC and contribute towards nation building.

India to be free from Naxalism in 3 years: Amit Shah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

TEZPUR/GUWAHATI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday asserted that the country will be free from the menace of Naxalism in the next three years.

Shah, while addressing the Sashastra Seema Bal's 60th Raising Day at Salonibari near here, also said among all the central armed police forces, SSB plays "a unique role in minutely integrating culture, history, topography and language" of the border villages, and bringing people in those areas closer to rest of the country.

Besides guarding the borders, the

SSB along with other CAPFs have performed their duties effectively against the Naxals in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar, he said.

"In the next three years, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country will be 100 per cent free from the Naxal problem," asserted Shah.

At another event in Guwahati, he said the government will stop free movement of people at the Myanmar border.

Addressing the passing out parade of the first batch of the five newly constituted Assam Police Commando battalions, Shah said the Centre is rethinking

the free-movement facility with Myanmar. "The India-Myanmar border will be protected like the Bangladesh border... The Government of India will stop the free movement with Myanmar," the home minister said. The central government had said it plans to fence a 300-km stretch of unfenced boundary with Myanmar and end the Free Movement Regime, which allows people living on both sides of the international border to travel within 16 km into each other's territory without visa. He also said the prime minister's mission of bringing peace and development in the northeast has been successful.

'Hardcore anti-national' booked under PSA in Baramulla

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A man allegedly involved in law and order disturbances was booked under the stringent Public Safety Act (PSA) in Baramulla district, police said on Saturday.

Acting tough against the anti-national elements (ANEs), police in Baramulla booked a hard-core instigator under the PSA after obtaining formal detention orders from the authority, a police spokesman said. The accused was identified as Nasir Ahmad Ganie, a resident of Raipora Palhallan Pattan area of the north Kashmir district. Ganie has been lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu, the spokesman added. Ganie is a hardcore instigator and many cases are registered against him, the spokesman said. Despite his involvement in many FIRs, he did not stop his anti-national activities and kept instigating people, the spokesman said.

Power shutdown

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution), JPDCL Jammu has informed that the power supply to Jourian, Troati, Muthi, Maria, Bakore and adjoining areas will remain affected on January 23 from 11 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Chand Nagar, Ware House, Krishna Nagar, Jewel, Tanda, Miran Sahib, Simbal, Kotli, Darsopur, Trishul Bottle and adjoining areas will remain affected on January 23 from 9 am to 12 noon.

Likewise, the power supply to Abdullian, Kang, Korotona and adjoining areas will remain affected on January 23 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Abdullian, BSF, Kadyal Badyal Brahmana and adjoining areas will remain affected on January 24 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Simbal, Kullian and adjoining areas will remain affected on January 25 from 10 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Ramban, Sangaldaan, Maitra, Assar, Trungle and adjoining areas will remain affected on January 21, 23, 24, 25, 27 and 28 from 9 am to 5.30 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution), JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathna has informed that the power supply to Kanhal-I, Kanhal-II, Industry-I and its adjoining areas will remain affected on January 21 from 10.30 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Raipur, Basanter feeder and its adjoining areas will remain affected on January 21 from 10 am to 2 pm.