

Excise Commissioner J&K pins ranks to newly promoted Inspectors



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Excise Commissioner, J&K, Kishore Singh Chib on Tuesday pinned the ranks to newly promoted Inspectors of Excise Department in a rank pinning ceremony held at Excise and Taxation Complex, here on.

The newly promoted inspectors included Sandeep Sharma, Sanjeev Kumar, Rohit Singh, Ravinder Pal, Amit Sharma, Sumit Choudhary, Naveen Sharma, Sunil Sharma, Rattan Slathia, Khalid Amin Malik and Rishab Seth.

In the pipping ceremony, Kusum Sharma, Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive) Jammu, Amarjeet Singh, Deputy Excise Commissioner (Accounts) J&K, Ranjit Singh, Deputy Excise Commissioner (Distilleries) Jammu, Ankur Mahajan Principal Training Institute Nagrota, Atul Dutt Sharma TPA to Excise Commissioner, Rafi Naik ETO City South Jammu and other officers of Excise Department were present.

Excise Commissioner congratulated all the newly promoted officers and advised them to work with enthusiasm and highest degree of dedication. He emphasized that the promotion not only upgrades the working status but also adds more responsibilities and challenges in their new working field. He wished them good luck for a bright future career.

Excise Commissioner J&K, Kishore Singh Chib pinning ranks to newly promoted Inspectors.

Skill Dev Deptt orders promotion of 54 officers

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JAMMU: Skill Development Department on Tuesday ordered promotion of 54 officers after a gap of 12 years.

The officers which have been promoted include Head of Departments in different streams, Lecturers and Training and Placement Officers in three separate orders issued vide No 95-(JK) DSD of 2021, 96-(JK) DSD of 2021 and 97-(JK) DSD of 2021, dated 14-12-2021. The order also reads that this shall however be outcome of any writ petition pending before any court of law. The Officers and Officials of Skill Development Department hailed the efforts of Principal Secretary Dr Samoon for his tireless efforts to streamline the functioning of the department. They said that the stagnation in the department was marred the prospects of the employees. The employees also thanked the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary, Dr. A K Mehta.

Rajya Sabha passes crucial CBI Bill moved by Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Rajya Sabha on Tuesday passed the crucial CBI Bill moved by Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space. The Bill under the nomenclature "The Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Bill, 2021" seeks to incorporate provision to extend the tenure of CBI Director to a maximum of five years beyond the minimum term of two years. The tenure however will have to be extended only by one year at a time and through the same process by the Selection Committee comprising of the Prime Minister; Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and Chief Justice of India. The Congress and TMC MPs opposed and walked out, in response to which, Dr Jitendra Singh expressed regret and said "History may not forgive those of us who have chosen to abstain from this discussion and history may also accuse us of having something to hide and therefore shying away from this discussion." The Minister said, it gives me pain to notice that in their misguided enthusiasm to oppose Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, they have gone to the extent of showing irreverence to

an institution which enjoys the reverence of each and every citizen of India across the country. He reminded the House that soon after taking over as Prime Minister on 26 May 2014, in the very first cabinet meeting Prime Minister Modi had constituted an SIT to investigate against the black money and today's Bill is a reiteration of the relentless crusade against corruption with the spirit of zero tolerance against the corruption. Hitting out hard at certain State governments who have withdrawn the general consent to CBI from investigating cases in their respective States, Dr Jitendra Singh said, they owe to the nation whether they trust or do not trust the CBI because they continue to give selective consent in cases which are directed against their adversaries.

Citing the example of Narendra Modi when he was Chief Minister of Gujarat, the Minister recalled that the then UPA government had registered a series of cases against the Gujarat government and its ministers but the Modi Government in the State did not withdraw consent to CBI and instead preferred to cooperate with the investigation at every step.

Dr Jitendra moved the bill in the Upper House, saying it was necessary to curb corruption-based cases which have drastically gone down in the last seven years since

Prime Minister Modi led government came to power at the Centre.

The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha with a voice vote as the entire Opposition had walked out of the House earlier seeking revocation of suspension of 12 suspended MPs. Lok Sabha had also passed the bill on December 9.

The Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Bill, 2021' seeks amendment in the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946. The Bill also replaces the Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 which was promulgated on November 14. The ordinance inserts the provision in the DSPE Act, "Provided that the period for which the Director holds the office on his initial appointment may, in the public interest, on the recommendation of the Committee under sub-section (1) of section 4A and for the reasons to be recorded in writing, be extended up to one year at a time."

"Provided further that no such extension shall be granted after the completion of a period of five years in total including the period mentioned in the initial appointment," it stated. In simple words, the ordinance seeks to extend the tenure of the CBI chief to a maximum of five years from the present two years.



Divisional Commissioner lays foundation of auditorium at Chamber House



Div Com Jammu, Raghav Langar along with CCI members during laying of foundation stone of Auditorium at Chamber House.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Raghav Langar laid the foundation stone of Auditorium at Chamber House in presence of office bearers of the Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCI) along with the senior members during a simple yet impressive function here today.

It is pertinent to mention here that the unfinished task of construction of the auditorium had remained pending for decades due to certain reasons.

While addressing the Chamber members present on the occasion, the Divisional eulogized the role of institutions like the Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a strong partner in endeavours towards the progress and prosperity of the society and nation building.

Emphasizing that as a leading body of industries and commerce at the Union Territory, it is a key driver of policies at UT level with its membership base of entrepreneurs, he appreciated the CCI President Arun Gupta and his team for having taken the CCI to new heights.

He specially lauded Arun Gupta for taking the initiative of accomplishing the unfinished infrastructure assignment of Auditorium that had remained pending for decades.

The Divisional Commissioner made a special mention of the CCI endeavours during the toughest time of Covid-19 pandemic by providing the much needed succour to the needy people across the region.

He said that he is sure that the Chamber will continue such endeavours with much more vigour in the near future also.

CCI President Arun Gupta in his address on the occasion thanked the Divisional Commissioner on behalf of the Chamber members for sparing valuable time to lay the foundation stone of the auditorium despite his busy schedule.

He said that the present team has planned complete transformation of the body in the better interest of the entrepreneurs of the UT and ultimately that the nation.

He assured the Divisional Commissioner that in the coming time the CCI will become more proactive by working at the grass-root level with stronger national and international linkages.

He said that as a catalyst for the promotion of industry, trade and entrepreneurship it will focus more on research-based policies so that its role positively impacts the economic growth and development.

He added that this would help tremendously socio-

economic development of this Union Territory besides capacity building in multiple fields.

He thanked the Divisional Commissioner and his administration for always being there to address the issues of the business community.

Chanden Kohli, SSP Jammu and Rohit Basotra SSP also graced the occasion and lauded the role of Chamber and said that Chamber is not lagging behind in performing social and other responsibilities as and when need arise.

Meanwhile, Arun Gupta informed that this auditorium for which the foundation was laid today will be used for organizing multiple programmes including seminars, conferences and other business related objectives. Moreover, the CCI members will also be entitled to avail benefits of this multi-utility facility, he informed.

The other prominent members present on the occasion include Romesh Chander Gupta Ex-President, Y.V. Sharma, Ex-President, Prithvi Raj Gupta, Ex-Secretary General Yash Pal Gupta, President Retails Association Parveen Gupta, Ex-Sr. Vice President, Rajendra Motial, Ex-Secretary General, Attar Singh, Shiv Partap Gupta and Ravinder Sawhney.

Bhalla led JKPCC leaders meet Sonia Gandhi in New Delhi

Apprise Congress President of socio-political developments obtaining in JKUT



Senior Congress leaders during meeting with Congress President Sonia Gandhi in New Delhi.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) senior leaders led by JKPCC Vice President Raman Bhalla met Congress President Sonia Gandhi in New Delhi and briefed her about the current situation in J&K.

Those who accompanied Bhalla include Chief Spokesman JKPCC Ravinder Sharma, former Minister Shabir Khan, JKPCC General Secretary Manmohan Singh.

JKPCC leaders had a detailed discussion with them over the wide range of issues concerning people of J&K.

They briefed about the current situation in J&K, besides apprising the Party high command on organizational affairs and activities in Kashmir as well as in Jammu.

They also briefed Madam Sonia Gandhi about the socio-political developments obtaining in JK, besides having a detailed discussion on different issues confronting people especially rising unemployment, economic losses in the backdrop of lockdown, lack of development and other issues of public importance.

They also briefed the leadership about the fall-out of disconnect between

the present dispensation and people in absence of the popular Govt leading to restlessness amongst the people, besides briefing them about the recent visit of Delimitation Commission in J&K.

They also discussed the feedback from the workers and people about the functioning of present BJP government and the role being played by the Congress to represent and highlight the issues of people of all three regions of the state, they said.

The party leaders also discussed various measures for further strengthening the party in the state, they said.

Jammu Smart City Ltd approves several new projects

Div Com, ADGP Jammu inspect R-Day arrangements at MA Stadium

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Dr Raghav Langer, along with Additional Director General of Police, (Director JSCL) Mukesh Singh on Tuesday chaired the 11th Board of Directors meeting of Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL).

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Anshul Garg; Commissioner JMC, (Chief Executive Officer, Jammu Smart City) Avny Lawasa; Addition CEO, JSCL, Hitesh Gupta, VC JDA, Pankaj Malhotra, besides Chief Engineers of PWD, Jal Shakti, Irrigation & Flood Control, Director Mines & Geology; Deputy Directors of Tourism, senior functionaries of Project Management Consultancy (PMC) and other board members.

The BoD meeting approved several projects including Vertical Garden Phase-2, Library cum Cafeteria at Mubarak Mandi, Light & Sound Show at Bahu Fort, Kala Kendra, Oceanarium at Bage-e Bahu, Parking at Panjirthi Estate Qts. Premises and Improvement/UP gradation of drainage nullahs flowing into Tawi River and construction of STP etc. Project for development of oceanarium with walk through tunnel at Bagh-e Bahu was kept on hold by the Chairman till further details are provided by the Administrative department.

Approval was accorded for publishing of e-NIT for various improvements, including Upgradation of Road and Drainage, wide walking area with table-top crossings, Pick-up/ drop-off locations, Priced parking, Decorative lighting, New water points, Tree line & Signage, Tactile path - for differently-



Div Com Jammu Dr Raghav Langer along with ADGP Mukesh Singh inspecting R-Day arrangements at MA Stadium.

abled, Benches and dustbins, Underground public utilities etc. along the Apasara Road, Residency Road, Raghunath bazaar areas. These new projects were approved for funding under JSCL.

The meeting decided to drop proposal for Complete Street Development of Janipur Road and Heritage Railway Stations as one is coming under alignment of proposed metrolite project and second due to non issuance of NOC by the Transport Department. The Trikuta Nagar Canal Project was also dropped as it is also coming in the alignment of metrolite project.

The Hari Singh Parking Cum Commercial Development Project was retained by the Board. However instead of JSCL equity, the same shall now be executed under PPP model (Design, Fund, Build, Operate & Transfer). The proposed funding pattern of Development of Tawi River Front project for giving major boost to the city & tourism promotion, was agreed by the Board.

The meeting had threadbare discussions on various important issues pertaining to the project including construction of embankment/ retaining wall, pier protection work of existing bridges, raising of Barrage and other components of the project.

The 3.5 KM (both side) long river front is proposed to be completed in 2 phases. The first phase starts from 4th bridge to Tawi Bridge and phase 2 from Tawi Bridge to Gujjar Nagar Bridge. It was informed that pathways would be constructed on both the sides (banks) of the river to provide easy access to the public.

The board members also discussed in detail the physical progress and status of execution of flagship projects like Integrated Command and Control Centre, Intelligent Traffic Management System, E-bill & pay for civic services etc. various administrative issues were also discussed in the meeting including filling up of vacancies, recruitments for Jammu Smart City Limited. The Divisional Commissioner issued instructions to the executing agencies to expedite the works for

their early completion. It was reiterated that the Rajbhawan is directly monitoring the pace of the projects, which ought to be of high visibility and high impact, with utmost quality.

The Div Com directed concerned officers to keep ambit of projects for a longer horizon and complete the works in a time bound manner so that tangible results are achieved on the ground. Meanwhile, Divisional Commissioner Jammu along with ADGP Jammu visited M A Stadium to review the arrangements for the Republic Day 2022 celebrations.

During the visit others officer present were IGR, Armed Jammu; ADC, Jammu; AGR Jammu; Director School Education, Jammu; Director Floriculture, Jammu; Director, Health Service Jammu; Secretary, J&K Sports Council Jammu; SSP Security Jammu; SSP Traffic, Jammu; Joint Director, Information Jammu; Joint Director, Hospitality & Protocol Jammu; Joint Director, Fire & Emergency Services, Jammu; Manager, MA Stadium, Jammu; representatives of PWD; Jal Shakti Department; JPDCIL; Army Forces and other concern departments.

The Divisional Commissioner enquired about the flood lights of the stadium and directed the Secretary Sports council to complete all the pending works of substation of power before 10th of January. He also directed that the circular road of the stadium should be black topped and repaired.

Dr Raghav instructed to remove two cover towers from the stadium ground which is in damaged condition and complete the leveling of ground and start beautification of the Stadium.