

# Budget progressive document, but ignored trade, business sector: Neeraj



CTF Jammu President Neeraj Anand chairing a meeting in Jammu.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chamber of Traders Federation (CTF-Jammu), while hailing the Budget presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, as 'comprehensive and progressive economic document', has expressed disappointment that nothing concrete has been announced for the hotel, transport and tourism sector which suffered immensely during covid-19 pandemic.

In a meeting held on Tuesday in the CTF office Jammu, the federation president Neeraj Anand discussed the budget document with the office bearers which included, Raman Gupta, Shiv Kumar Gupta, Dinesh Gupta, Tushar Mahajan, Ajay Gupta and Parag Abrol.

Anand said that the business sector suffered huge losses during the pandemic and hotel, transport and tourism sectors were the most affected.

"These areas are still facing the brunt of the pandemic. In such a situation, there should have been a special announcement in the budget for these areas, which did not happen.

This has disappointed the business sector. However if we look at the long term development of the country, then the government has taken all the necessary steps", Anand said.

The CTF president said that when it comes to strengthening the education sector,

health sector and infrastructural development, there is something for every sector in the budget.

The federation regrets that no concrete announcement has been made regarding simplification and rationalization of GST tax structure which is far away from "one market-one tax" principle and no announcement for traders to place them at par with corporate sector in terms of Income Tax tax, has highly disappointed the business community.

However, the budget is a visionary budget as it has taken Digital rupee and crypto currency on the priority of the Government, realizing their greater need among the younger generation.

Federation appreciated the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for setting out the future agenda of defined growth of the Indian economy as envisaged by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a most impressive way.

In totality, the Government has come out with the best possible budget under the backdrop of COVID pandemic. "Federation congratulates Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for providing the Country a definite roadmap for a robust and well defined growth of India in future," Anand said.

## Rigual Club wins Shaheed Mohd Farooq Memorial T-10 Cricket Tournament

## STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Rigual Club defeated Farooq Club and won the maiden title of first Shaheed Mohd Farooq Memorial T-10 Cricket Tournament, which concluded at Cricket Ground Kanian, here on Tuesday.

J&K Vice President Youth Wing of Jammu and Kashmir People's Conference, Er. Rydham Singh was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Other guests present were Inspector Sunil, ASI Gulsharaz Chouhan, Parvez Malik Afridi President Ehsaas Foundation and Dr Sarfraz Mir Chairman Sir Syed Education Mission.

A total of sixteen teams took part in the tournament.



Chief Guest, Er. Rydham Singh, J&amp;K Vice President Youth Wing of JKPC presenting trophy to winner team.

the chief guest gave away cash prize of Rs 10000 along with trophy to winner team and cash prize of Rs 6000 along with trophy to runner-up team.

The organizers of the tournament including Shabir Ahmed, Mukhtar Ahmed,

Lovely Singh and Maqsood Ahmed urged chief guest to put their demands of stadium to concern authorities.

Meanwhile in his speech, Er. Rydham Singh assured that he will raise this genuine demand of youth to concern authorities at earliest.

Prof. Manoj. K. Dhar, Vice-Chancellor, and Prof.

## PIL highlighting damage caused by flash floods in Nikki Tawi area

## JDA directed to apprise Court regarding construction of Tawi river-front

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) highlighted havoc created by flash floods in Nikki Tawi area and maximum discharge of flood water in Nikki Tawi area instead of Badi Tawi, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Sindhu Sharma after hearing Adv Sheik Shafeel Ahmed, directed Jammu Development Authority to apprise the Court regarding construction of river front alongside river Tawi.

When PIL came up for hearing, the Bench observed that in the matter, a foreign agency was hired to study morphology of river Tawi at Jammu. A report of the agency was to be brought on record after study is completed. DB further observed that Executive Engineer, Flood Control, Division Jammu, has filed a status report dated February 26, 2020 which revealed that study has not been completed and as such, the report could not be submitted. Adv K D S Kotwal, appearing for Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA), submitted that on account of COVID-19 restrictions on international travel, probably the team could not visit to study morphology of river and further said that he will update the Court with the time-period, within which the report shall be filed. DB allowed the plea and granted a month's time to update the Court on the matter. DB further directed Adv Adarsh Sharma, appearing for JDA, shall update the Court regarding construction of river front alongside the river Tawi.

## Poonch gets advance pitch-roller



DYSS officials levelling grounds of Sports Stadium Poonch.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taking lead in providing modern sports equipments and infrastructure at the district level, Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) has provided district Poonch with Hydraulic Pitch Roller.

To begin with the DYSS has levelled the grounds of Sports Stadium Poonch as first such work thus fulfilled the long pending demand of the sports fraternity of the border district.

The roller was put to use in the presence of District (DYSS) officer, Choudhary Qasim, who supervised the work along with technical staff of the department.

Meanwhile, Coach and

Cricket Academy at Poonch, Parvez Malik Afridi, on behalf of the cricket fraternity, expressed gratitude to the Director DYSS and district officer for the modern facility.

"We were facing many difficulties in rainy seasons and sometimes in dry seasons as well. Cricketers used to level pitch on their own after spending days and many hours in the ground. Now, it becomes easy because of Hydraulic Roller," said Parvez.

He added that the youth is expecting more in future to secure their futures in sports. Government should install other needed equipments as well to help youth to represent their areas on national level, he said.

A large gathering came to witness the competition and encourage their respective teams. The event provided an opportunity to the youth of the area to showcase their sport-

ing talent and strengthen bonds of friendship and competitiveness amongst them.

During the closing ceremony,

the winners and runners up were awarded with prizes including the players adjudged as the highest scorer, best player and best goal keeper.

SSK celebrates Guru Teg Bahadur's 400th Prakash Parv

## All religious texts teach service to humanity: Mokha Guru Teg Bahadur's martyrdom linked with protection of KPs: Khaibri

Guru, Mokha said that Guru Teg Bahadur Singh was not the Guru of Sikhs only but the entire humanity.

Mokha, who was the chief guest on the occasion, further said that Guru Teg Bahadur taught the people all over the world to never do things with a bruised psyche and keep the same away from fear.

Shiban Khaibri, a well known columnist and social activist, who was a special guest said that Guru Teg Bahadur's Martyrdom was directly proportional to the protection of Kashmiri Pandits, adding that KPs owe their lives to Guru Teg Bahadur.

Advocate Amreec Singh, President All POJK Shernarth Intellectual Forum, another special guest said that Guru Teg Bahadur Ji was an example of courage and Charisma.

Dr MK Bharat, eminent Hindi writer and social activist, who presided over the function, said that Sanjeevani Sharda Kendra is leaving no stone unturned in exploring history about the atrocities faced by Kashmiri Pandits from time to time.

He said that Guru Teg Bahadur led by example in inculcating the traits like morality and renunciation. On the occasion, Sidha recited a beautiful poem on the lifestyle of Guru Ji. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by social activist, M.K Bhat.

While throwing light on life and history of

## Ministry of Education, GoI confers Jammu University with District Green Champion Award

Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar congratulated the entire university staff and the members of GCTF-JU for this important achievement.

It is pertinent to mention here that the ranking parameters included green initiatives taken by the varsity in the fields of water management, use of alternative energy sources (Solar Energy), greenery management, waste management (solid and liquid), and land-use management within the campus.

In addition, the environmental consciousness and awareness activities conducted by the University

for the members of civil society like the "Save Tawi Campaign" by the Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Jammu, and extension activities organized in the villages adopted by the University under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Members of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, University of Jammu and submitted to MGNCRE for evaluation.

It is noteworthy to mention here that the University of Jammu has constituted Green Campus Task Force (GCTF-JU) comprising one teacher-in-charge and two student volunteers from each department with an aim to develop an ecologically sustainable campus and stimulate environmental consciousness and stewardship among the students by encouraging them to take environment-related initiatives in the university. Several extension and awareness activities are

organized by GCTF-JU every year. This award is a testimony to the hard work put in by the members of GCTF-JU to make Jammu University clean and green.

The University of Jammu has recently taken certain green initiatives like the installation of Solar streetlights on the campus and is in process of installing the grid-connected rooftop solar power plant of 1525kW capacity under the Jammu Smart City Mission.

The university has also initiated the process of conducting Green Auditing of the University for ISO 14001-2015 certification.

## COVID awareness imparted by NSS volunteers of GGM Science College

JAMMU: NSS unit of Government Gandhi Memorial Science College under the patronage of Principal Dr. Ravender Tickoo and guidance of NSS PO Dr. Deepali Mahajan as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav organized a mass awareness campaign and made people aware of appropriate behaviour to be followed to combat COVID-19 in Gagore village.

The door to door campaigning for following the Covid Appropriate Behaviour, the importance of being vaccinated, wearing masks properly and sanitizing hands, not touching face without washing hands, to stop the unnecessary movements and gatherings and move out only when necessary.

The NSS volunteers Neeru, Nancy, Deepak and Harish went around in the market, localities of Gagore village Vijaypur to spread awareness amid the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining social distance among the masses.

The purpose was to spread awareness about the Omicron virus, NSS PO stated.

The lockdown is no solution, people have to learn to live in healthy way amid pandemic. The Principal, said youngsters of any nation are important pillars of bringing about a positive change.

## Over 40 unemployed youth detained during protest in Jammu



Health workers staging protest in PPE kits while police personnel detaining protesters.

officials said.

Hundreds of aspirants have been regularly holding protests in different parts of the city over the past one year after they failed to get jobs during a recruitment drive by BSF and CISF, the result of which was declared in February last year.

Separately, a group of health workers also staged a protest in the heart of the city in support of their demand for regularization and Minimum Wages Act, they said.

Police detained over 40 BSF and CISF aspirants after they took to the streets at Dogra Chowk and tried to block the main Tawi bridge on Jammu-Airport road, the

protesters.

In the nearby Press Club, health workers wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) staged a peaceful demonstration on the main road, demanding their regularization and their coverage under the Minimum Wages Act.

"We have been working in different hospitals for the last 20 years, getting a meagre salary of Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000 under hospital development fund (HDF), one of the protesters said.

He said they have come on the road to highlight their demand for regularization of their services and implementation of the Minimum Wages Act.

## DB's directives in PIL seeking rehabilitation of Saddal villagers

JAMMU: The University of Jammu has been conferred with District Green Champion Award 2021-2022 by Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE), Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India for its exemplary work and contribution to Swachhta extension and awareness that has made difference to its campus and neighbourhood.

The awards, given to only one institution per district, were announced recently.

Prof. Manoj. K. Dhar, Vice-Chancellor, and Prof.

Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar congratulated the entire university staff and the members of GCTF-JU for this important achievement.

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organized by GCTF-JU every year. This award is a testimony to the hard work put in by the members of GCTF-JU to make Jammu University clean and green.

## Mir asks partymen to launch vigorous membership drive

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president Ghulam Ahmed Mir on Tuesday asked the party workers to vigorously hold membership drives in their respective areas.

He said it will be followed by elections within the party. Addressing a meeting of senior functionaries, district presidents, frontal organisations heads, corporators and other important leaders of the party from many districts of the Jammu region here, Mir urged them to enroll the maximum number of people in the party.

Congress party does not believe in miss call memberships and it enrolls people by making personal contact with each and every one of them, he said. He asked the senior functionaries to strengthen the party by vigorously launching membership drives in their respective areas. The meeting was attended and addressed by several senior leaders including Raman Bhalla, Mula Ram Kanta Bhan, Ravinder Sharma, Yogesh Sawhney, Th. Mamnoon Singh, Rajnish Sharma, Th. Balbir Singh, T.S. Bajwa, Gurbachan Kumari Rana, Shahnaz Choudhary, Indu Pawar, Ved Mahajan, G.L. Chalotra, Hari Singh Chib, Krishan Bhagat, Ch. Abdul Gani and others.

Now, only 62 families remained back to whom rehabilitation package has to be granted. They could not be allotted land as the Committee was in a fix whether to include or not to include families who have left in allotment procedure. The DB further directed that as it is clarified that after 60 families have migrated to their original place, the land be first allotted to the remaining 62 families latest by March 31, 2022 and project work of leveling land, construction of approach road, drains, water supply, electrical fittings etc may also be completed at the earliest.

When PIL came up for hearing, the Bench observed that in the matter, a foreign agency was hired to study morphology of river Tawi at Jammu. A report of the agency was to be brought on record after study is completed. DB further observed that Executive Engineer, Flood Control, Division Jammu, has filed a status report dated February 26, 2020 which revealed that study has not been completed and as such, the report could not be submitted. Adv K D S Kotwal, appearing for Economic Reconstruction Agency (ERA), submitted that on account of COVID-19 restrictions on international travel, probably the team could not visit to study morphology of river and further said that he will update the Court with the time-period, within which the report shall be filed. DB allowed the plea and granted a month's time to update the Court on the matter. DB further directed Adv Adarsh Sharma, appearing for JDA, shall update the Court regarding construction of river front alongside the river Tawi.

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