

Striving for good governance, accountability, better services to citizens: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Aiming at reducing redressal time of a grievance and response to every genuine complaint within a reasonable timeframe, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday observed: "It has been our endeavor to ensure the principles of good governance to bring accountability, transparency and better services to citizens".

Interacting with applicants of J&K Integrated Grievance Redress and Monitoring System during "LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public Grievance Hearing" through virtual mode, and taking first hand appraisal of people's issues and grievances, the Lt Governor lauded the efforts of five best performing Administrative Departments, five best performing HoDs and DCs of best performing Districts in terms of resolving the grievances received on the JK-IGRAMS.

During the latest edition of the programme, several grievances of the applicants were redressed on the spot by the Lt Governor.

Quality of resolution of a grievance is crucial to promote social justice, faster development and people's participation. We must ensure the disposal of every genuine public grievance to make the system more accountable, responsive and efficient, Lt Governor said.

Till now, 1,89,369 applications were taken up for disposal in mission mode approach. Of these, 1,85,123 have been resolved, it was informed.

The Lt Governor directed the Deputy Commissioners to resume



Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha interacting with officials during 'LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public Grievance Hearing' through virtual mode.

public outreach activity for better coverage of government schemes, enhanced interaction with common man and effective monitoring of big-ticket projects.

Mohd Amin Dar of Kulgam would get a Pacca House under PMAY-Grameen, which is closely being taken up by the DC office Shopian, the Lt Governor was informed by the Deputy Commissioner.

Dilawar Ahmad Sheikh of Shopian appreciated the LG led administration for resolving the issue of water scarcity in orchards of his area.

Shiv Kumar expressed his gratitude towards the chair for sanctioning of old age pension in favour of his grandmother Shanti Devi.

On the issue brought forth by the applicant Annayat Fayaz from Pulwama regarding repair work on the steel bridge (Bod-Kadal) over Laar Nallah, the Lt Governor sought details from the concerned officer of the PWD (R&B) department. The Engineer informed the chair that the work has been already tendered and

shall be completed by March end.

Anil Kumar from Pounthal, Jammu raised the issue of dilapidated conditions of rooms at Middle School Chunana, on which Deputy Commissioner Jammu apprised the Lt Governor that funds have been sanctioned for renovation work at the said school, and the work would be completed this year with the construction of an additional class room for students.

Najeeb-ur-Rehman from Doda drew the attention of authorities towards augmenting the health facilities at Urban Health Training Centre, Ghat, upon which he was informed that due attention would be given to his request.

On the application of Naseeb Singh represented by his son regarding compensation in lieu of the damages caused to houses during road cutting by NHAI, Deputy Commissioner Udhampur informed the chair that the issue would be resolved within days after due process. The Lt Governor directed the DC to follow

the matter personally and ensure that due compensation is provided to the affected families.

Similarly, DC Reasi also briefed the Chair on the issue of providing electricity poles and transformers for better power supply to village Bagankot of Tehsil Chasaana. It was informed that work of augmenting power infrastructure has been started.

Responding to the grievance of Nazir Ahmad Shah of Ramban pertaining to Water Supply Scheme Peerpora, Tethar, Deputy Commissioner Ramban briefed the chair on the measures taken to permanently redress the issue, and immediate measures are being put in place.

Rehana Batul Commissioner/Secretary, Public Grievances moderated the monthly program of LG's Mulaqaat while informing the chair about the progress and status of grievances received on JK-IGRAMS.

The Lt Governor also sought feedback from the people on the grievance redressal mechanism.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary Finance; Vivek Bhardwaj, Additional Chief Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police, Heads of the Departments, and other senior officers were present during the interaction, in person and through virtual mode.



JK Congress hits out at BJP over daily-wager issue, seeks full package to refugees of 1947, 1965 & 1971



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla addressing a press conference.

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JAMMU: Congress on Tuesday strongly flayed the UT administration and BJP for the indifferent attitude towards the daily wagers, need based and other casual workers and demanded immediate framing and implementation of regularization policy for them.

The party also opposed water tax on rural population besides seeing full package to refugees of 1947, 1965 & 1971.

Addressing press conference here at Party HQ, Congress lashed out at the Govt. for the brutal Lathicharge on the peacefully protesting daily wagers, yesterday and blamed the BJP leadership of betraying these daily wagers and other categories of workers.

They were given false promises of regularization by the BJP before assembly elections but after coming power with massive mandate, they betrayed them and taunted them by saying that they were sins of previous Govts, Congress said.

JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla & Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma along with General Secretaries Yogesh Sawhney and Th. Manmohan Singh, flayed the BJP leadership, especially former Ministers/Legislators and sitting MPs for their failure

to side with the people in difficult times after seeking huge mandate from them.

The senior party leaders said that these people were engaged from time to time by the concerned officers and officials to run various water, power supply schemes and to run emergency services but after decades of services, they are not even regularly paid their wages and not regularized.

Even those who donated their valuable lands for Govt institutions, PHE & Irrigation Schemes are not paid their wages, they added. The Congress demanded their immediate framing and implementation of regularization policy and clearing of their arrears of wages besides regularization policy for NRHM, Contractual, academic and other temporary employees working for decades.

The Congress leadership also raised the issue of imposition of water tax on rural areas and termed it as a cruel act, when people are already economically distressed due to unprecedented price hike, lack of earnings during Covid-19 and other factors, especially lack of regular water supply.

The Govt. has failed to provide regular water supply in most rural areas and in several areas, there is totally irregular, erratic and unrel-

able water supply but Govt. has imposed tax per water tap and demanded roll back of the anti people decisions.

They also criticized the order mandating permission for constructing/ repair of houses/cattle sheds in villages where there is hardly any proper Govt. service or development.

The farmers are being punished by this Govt. and rural population shall face undue harassment. They demanded re call of decisions.

The party also strongly raised the issue of POJK refugees who feel cheated and betrayed. It was Congress party which had framed a package of POJK and Chhamb refugees and forwarded to the Centre Govt. but instead of Rs.30 lakh per family, only Rs 5.5 lakh per family was sanctioned by BJP Govt. but that too has been stopped.

It is totally arbitrary and anti refugees approach of Modi Govt., as large number of eligible families are still deprived of Rs 5.5 lakh installment while people were assured further installments.

There is total betrayal with the displaced community and demanded that full package be immediately sanctioned for them while the existing relief scheme should be continued till last eligible family gets the claim amount.

Pakistan deceitfully changing demography of Gilgit-Baltistan: VC CUJ

► Bhatnagar repeats reiterates to liberate PoJK ◄

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vice Chancellor of Central University of Jammu, Prof Sanjeev Jain on Tuesday emphasized on the need of educating the younger generation about history of the areas of the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, which are illegally occupied by Pakistan and China since 1947.

Speaking on concluding lecture of the lecture of series organized by the Centre for Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir Studies in connection with 'Sankalp Divas', Prof Jain announced the Central University of Jammu is going to set-up a centre for studies of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir to conduct academic activities.

Prof Jain, who was chairing the function organized on the occasion of 28th anniversary of the Parliament resolution to liberate Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), said that topics related to PoJK must be incorporated in curriculum at the Universities and colleges level.



Participants presenting a memento to Vice Chancellor of Central University of Jammu, Prof Sanjeev Jain.

He said that students should be encouraged to conduct research and seminar on PoJK and other areas of erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir which are under illegal occupation of China.

He sought to draw attention of the audience towards nefarious designs of Pakistan to change demography of northern areas Gilgit-Baltistan which has recorded 600 percent increase in population during the last couple of years.

Ashtutosh Bhatnagar, Director Centre for Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir Studies, in his key note address, predicted that dur-

ing the 100th year celebrations of India's Independence the national tricolor will be unfurled not only in Jammu but also in Muzaffarabad and other cities of PoJK.

"The slogan of "Kashmir to Kanyakumari" India is One" to reiterate our resolve to liberate areas illegally occupied by Pakistan and China", he said.

"It is our resolve to liberate Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan and China occupied Kashmir Mansaurawar-Aksai Chin to restoring glory of erstwhile State of J&K which merged with Indian

Union in 1947", he said.

"One more battle for freedom is pending and it is that we have to get the people of PoJK liberated from illegal occupation of Pakistan so that they are reunited with India," he said.

Cautioning people against expansionist approach of China and deceitful tactics of Pakistan, Ashtutosh Bhatnagar liberating PoJK and Mansaurawar-Aksai Chin are only unresolved issues of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

He reminded that on February 22, 1994, both Houses of the Indian Parliament had unanimously adopted a resolution in which it was made it clear that whole Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India, and that Pakistan must vacate parts of the State under its occupation.

"Gilgit Baltistan is an integral part of India. Recently

India carried out amendments in its constitution to declare Gilgit Baltistan a part of the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh", he said.

Patron of Centre for Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir Studies, Dr Gautam Mengi, in his address said that incumbent leadership in the country is capable enough to liberate PoJK and areas under illegal occupation of China.

O P Gupta, president and Advocate Harshwardhan Gupta, secretary CLJKS were also on the stage.

Prof Varinder Kundal, vice president CLJKS present vote of thanks in the programme which was conducted by Dr Chahukeshi Jamwal.

Centre for Ladakh & Jammu Kashmir Studies (Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh Chapter) organized a series of lectures on the eve of the Sankalp Divas. Today was the last lecture of the series.

Several towns of Jammu Div declared ODF+

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JAMMU: Municipal Council Ramban, Kathua and Jourian have been declared ODF+ Town after seeking public feedback as per guidelines issued by Swachh Bharat Mission, Ministry of Urban affairs. Feedback and objections received during the mandatory period of 15 days were taken under consideration and all necessary improvements were made on the ground and subsequently the Municipal bodies have declared the respective towns as ODF+. Henceforth, Open defecation, open urination, and unauthorized dumping of sewage in open areas, drain and water bodies is a punishable offence. The civic bodies are authorized to recover a penalty of Rs 200 for open defecation, Rs 100 for open urination and Rs 500 for unauthorized dumping of sewage in open areas, drains and water bodies.

BJYM reiterates resolve to get PoJK liberated from Pak clutches very soon

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the 27th anniversary of the Parliament's resolution to liberate Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) from Pak clutches, Bharatiya Jana Yuva Morcha (BJYM) organized a virtual Sankalp Rally to reiterate the nation's commitment to the aforesaid Parliament resolution. The rally was presided over by the President Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) J&K, Ravinder Raina and President Bharatiya Jana Yuva Morcha (BJYM), Arun Prabhat. It is pertinent to mention here that on February 22, 1994, both Houses of Parliament had unanimously adopted a resolution in which it was made clear that whole of Jammu and Kashmir including PoJK is an integral part of India and that Pakistan must vacate all the parts of J&K under its occupation.

Addressing the virtual rally, Raina said that after having restored the honour and rights of lakhs of people who were victimized for the past many decades due to displacement from PoJK, India stands committed to retrieve Pakistan occupied Jammu & Kashmir. Referring to the resolution of Parliament passed on 22 February 1994 wherein it was unanimously accepted by all the parties that Pakistan has to vacate the areas of the



President BJP J&K, Ravinder Raina speaking at a programme.

Indian erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir under its occupation, Raina said that Prime Minister, Narendra Modi took historic decisions like abrogation of Article 370 and holding of DDC elections which were earlier considered impossible. Similarly, the task of retrieving PoJK will also be accomplished by the Modi Government at appropriate time. He said that the BJP Govt at the Centre has solved the 73-year-old human rights issue of persons displaced from Pakistan while the successive regimes of Congress Government in the past did nothing except betraying these displaced people denying them even the basic human rights, he added. He asserted that it is this performance of BJP that will lead to achievement of the target of 50-Plus seats for BJP in the upcoming J&K Assembly elections. Undoubtedly it will form the next Govt in J&K UT, he ex-

pressed with full confidence.

Arun Prabhat said that the Central Government deserves full appreciation for extending domicile certificates to PoJK displaced persons settled in various parts of the country thus solving the human rights issue of displaced persons from Pakistan. He said this is a small step forward in strengthening a big movement of liberating PoJK from the clutches of Pakistan. He said that the day is not far when the BJP Govt will retrieve PoJK from the rogue neighbour and the displaced persons will be relocated to their original places. Arun assured the BJP President that BJYM will leave no stone unturned in augmenting the campaign to achieve 50-Plus target in the coming Assembly elections. State General Secretary Dr Devinder Manyal, Prabhari Yuva Morcha Ajay Pargal, Seh Prabhari Ajay Vaid were also present.

■ SANJAY SHARMA

JAMMU: Illegal parking in Jammu has become a headache for people living in different localities and also for the concerned authorities as despite all measures and strictness, the problem is getting worse with each passing day. With people having no place to park their vehicles, the roads in and around the city are turning into parking hubs as police and other civic authorities have become mute spectators as the number of defaulters is so high that Challans cannot be issued against each and every citizen.

The people of Jullaka Mohalla, Ward No 2 of Jammu city, are confronting a difficult situation with vehicles parked haphazardly on both sides of road connecting the locality with Circular Road as finding a thorough way on this stretch is next to impossible. Despite steps taken by Administration to decongest the city, illegal parking remains a challenge here and lack of enforcement by police has only made matters worse.

Ramesh Kumar, a resident of Jullaka Mohalla, irked over people for



parking their vehicles in a random manner for days together thus creating unpteen problems for people of the area, said that issue has been raised number of times but to no avail as administration is unmoved and has adopted indifferent attitude in the matter.

Girdhari Lal Sharma, a senior citizen, said that another issue which the hapless people of Jullaka Mohalla face is entry of ambulances in the

locality because the bottlenecks created by wrongly parked vehicles make it virtually impossible to reach houses to shift patients to a medical facility. "This is a serious issue and demands urgent panacea as every single second matters while shifting the critical patients to hospitals", he said, adding that people can't become so insensitive towards the issue as this can happen with anyone and everyone at some point of time.

While talking to STATE TIMES, Councilor Ward-2, Jagdish Kumar Sharma also expressed his helplessness as despite his intervention no step has been taken by the concerned quarters to eradicate this problem which has turned intolerable with people facing ordeal on almost daily basis. He said that this problem has led to disruption in many services because illegal parking on the aforesaid stretch creates hindrance thus blocking traffic, especially those vehicles which are meant for public services like sky-lift crane for repairing street lights, water tanker supply and many others.

The Councilor said that even SSP Jammu was approached for resolution of this issue but nothing positive came out as problem still persists with no remedy in sight. The Corporator said that JMC Commissioner has assured to construct a multi-storey parking in vicinity to resolve the issue but till date work on aforesaid facility has not been started and there is no hope for same to become a reality in near future as well.