

Advisor, CS discuss functioning of SED with Union Secretary

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, the Union Secretary, School Education & Literacy Department, Anita Karwal and the Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Thursday discussed the functioning of the School Education Department (SED) to resolve the operational issues being faced in the efficient implementation of National Education Policy-2020 and various other schemes being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir.

Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Medical Education Department, Vivek Bhardwaj, Senior IAS Officer, Raj Kumar Goyal, Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, School Education

Congress condemns drone intrusion by Pakistan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee has strongly condemned Pakistan for the drone intrusion today morning in R.S. Pura Sector and termed it very serious issue relating to security of the country.

Strongly condemning the repeated drone attacks and intrusions by Pakistan in recent times, JKPPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma has termed it as a matter of serious concern with regard to security of the Country. The drone intrusions and attacks by Pakistan are the acts of grave provocations and need to be strongly condemned and curbed. He said such drone attacks are the recent introduction to the proxy war by Pakistan and Govt. of India should strongly convey its concern and message to the hostile neighbor to desist from such provocative actions and nefarious designs.

DGP sanctions Special Welfare Relief for NoKs of deceased cops

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director General of Police (DGP), J&K, Dilbag Singh has sanctioned Rs 69 lakh as Special Welfare Relief for NoKs of such deceased Police personnel/SPOs.

The relief of Rs 22 lakh each has been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of deceased Police personnel HC Surinder Kumar and SgCt Bilal Ahmad. While Rs 20 lakh has been sanctioned in favour of dependents/legal heirs of deceased Ct Raj Kumar. The deceased personnel have passed away due to illness/natural death while in service. Rupees one lakh each was already paid to NoKs of these deceased police personnel for performing last rites through their concerned units.

Rs 5 lakh as Special Welfare Relief has been sanctioned in favour of NoKs of deceased SPO Madan Lal.

Release postal stamp in honour of Rajouri martyrs: Kuldeep

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Release postal stamp in honour of Rajouri martyrs, stated Kuldeep Raj Gupta, senior BJP leader & former MoS Pahari Speaking Board. BJP Spokesperson Balbir Ram Rattan and BJP Media Secretary Dr. Pardeep Mahotra also accompanied Kuldeep Raj Gupta, while he addressed media persons at BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here.

Kuldeep Raj Gupta batted for the release of postal stamp in honour of Rajouri martyrs. He said that while the whole nation was freed from the clutches of the British on 15th August 1947, this area witnessed the dawn of independent sun only on 13th April 1948 when the Indian Army saved them from the holocaust. But by that time nearly 15 thousand Pahari people had already lost their precious lives while about 3 thousand women committed mass suicides to save their honour and dignity from the predators, he said. Gupta added that the



Advisor, RR Bhatnagar and Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting.

Department, B.K Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda, Chairman and Secretary, BOSE along with the concerned officers participated in the meeting.

It was informed that the School Education Department will be shortly receiving Rs. 259 crore from the Finance Department for Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan besides Rs. 28.1 crore as UT share enabling the department to submit utilization certificate of entire funds of Rs. 464 crore to the Government of India within one week. The Department

was asked to prioritize early resolution of other financial issues towards effective implementation of the scheme in J&K.

Further, under the National Education Policy, the School Education Department was asked to ensure 100% participation in the Integrated Teacher Training Program NISHTHA 2.0 by the NCERT (National Council of Education Research and Training). The Department was also asked to activate all its block and cluster resource centres.

It was further informed that to promote cognitive development in children of

National Education Policy is being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir from 1st April 2022.

To suitably train the teachers in imparting quality education, the Department was asked to ensure 100% participation in the Integrated Teacher Training Program NISHTHA 2.0 by the NCERT (National Council of Education Research and Training). The Department was also asked to activate all its block and cluster resource centres.

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Verma discusses convergence of forest activities with MGNREGS, Forests Right Act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Forest, Ecology & Environment, Sanjeev Verma underscored the need of activating men and machinery for converging forest related activities with MGNREGS so that 5 Cr. Mandays are generated.

The Commissioner Secretary made these comments while chairing a meeting of officers of Forest and Rural Development Department here today to review convergence of Forest Activities with MGNREGS. During the meeting the Commissioner Secretary

also reviewed the progress on "Har Gaon Haryali" scheme and stressed on making the scheme a success by planting area specific plants.

The meeting was attended by the PCCF & HoFF J&K, Mohit Gera; Director, Social Forestry, Roshan Jaggi; Director, Soil and Conservation Department, Dr. T.S. Ashok; Secretary in FE&ED, Narinder Singh Bali; Deputy Commissioners, both Directors of Rural Development Department, all ACDs and DFOs of J&K.

It was revealed that,

under JK Green Drive, 79.79 lakh no. of plants have been planted so far, against the set target of planting 1.30 Cr plants during current financial year 2021-22.

Speaking during the meeting, the Commissioner Secretary stressed on the need of creation and treatment of water recharging structures. He instructed all DCs and Director Soil & Water Conservation Department to take up 3700 number of ponds for its restoration within a stipulated period of next six months.

He directed the officers of Soil & Water Conservation Department to provide technical support to the Department of Rural Development & PR for achieving the target. Further, he sought complete cooperation and coordination from RDD to make convergence and "Har Gaon Haryali" a grand success.

While speaking on the claims regarding Forests Right Act, the Commissioner Secretary impressed upon all the DCs/DFOs to clear all the pending claims under rule with due verification of all the claims at an earliest.

He appreciated the coordination and harmony displayed by DFOs and ACDs due to which the convergence is gaining traction in executing forest related works.

Prpl Secy to LG reviews restoration of power, roads, water supply in Kashmir



Principal Secretary to LG, Nitishwar Kumar chairing a virtual meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Principal Secretary to Lt Governor, Nitishwar Kumar on Thursday reviewed the overall situation arisen in the aftermath of recent snowfall in the Valley, and efforts being put in for restoration of Power & Water Supply, Road connectivity, and other essential services.

The meeting was attended by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K. Pole, Deputy Commissioners of Kashmir Division, Chief Engineers of KPDCL, KPTCL, MED, PHE, besides other concerned officers.

While assessing the post snowfall scenario in the Valley through virtual mode, the

snow from 75% of roads by 11 AM, while rest will be cleared by evening.

Similarly, the meeting was also briefed that to monitor prices of essential items, various market checking teams have been constituted to inspect markets and take appropriate action against the profiteers.

Principal Secretary to Lt Governor directed all DCs to conduct field inspections of hospitals and other important institutions to put a check on their functioning.

He also asked the Div Com to ensure that tourists don't face any difficulty in the back drop of snow and cancellation of flights, besides keeping roads open to all major tourist destinations.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir informed that roads leading to famous tourist destinations including Gulmarg have been already cleared of snow while matter related to flights has also been addressed.

Regarding snow clearance, the Div Com informed that MED has cleared 100% roads under Priority Phase-I, while under Phase-II, all the roads will be cleared by today evening. Besides, PWD had cleared the

Principal Secretary took stock of the measures undertaken for restoration of Power supply and transmission lines in each district of the Valley.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir informed the chair regarding the progress in restoration of Power Supply in the Valley. He said that power supply will be restored by evening in most of the areas barring some parts of Kulgam for which alternative from Anantnag is being explored.

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Former MoS Pahari Speaking Board, Kuldeep Raj Gupta talking to reporters.

Pahari people fought bravely with the locally made crude guns to save their motherland and the Nation's frontier with all their might and the Nation is indebted to them for their heroic deed. Releasing postal stamp in honour of the Martyrs, the long pending and very genuine demand of the large population of Rajouri will be fulfilled, which would also be a tribute to the great patriots, he said. Gupta also demanded that Jammu & Kashmir government should declare 11 November as holiday, adding

that it was the unfortunate day which witnessed killings of thousands of innocent people of Rajouri by the Khalis backed by Pakistan Army. Kuldeep said that the Pahari community people have till now remained socially, economically and politically backward due to continued apathy of the previous governments. He thanked the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union government for the grant of 4% reservation to STs and strongly supported the inclusion of Paharis in the ST category.

At Govt. Girls HS Gole Gujral, Principal Secretary discussed with the Head Master about the unsafe building of the school and assured to prepare DPR of new 16 Rooms after dismantling of unsafe building.



Regional Passport Officer Jammu calls on Div Com

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Regional Passport Officer, Jammu, Nishith Kumar Shil on Thursday called on Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Dr. Raghav Langer at the Div Com Office.

Regional Passport Officer briefed the Div Com on various important matters pertaining to the functioning of Passport Seva Kendra (PSK) at Jammu and various Sub offices in Rajouri, Udhampur & Kathua districts of Jammu Division.

Discussing the automated services for issuance of passports, Sh Nishith said that Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) firm is handling the backend operations of the office. He further apprised Dr Langer that 450 slots are available per day for booking for passport services, adding that, due to Covid pandemic, the passport office is functioning at 75 percent booking capacity.



Div Com Jammu, Dr. Raghav Langer interacting with RPO Jammu, Nishith Kumar Shil.

A detailed discussion was also held regarding forthcoming flagship projects of Ministry of External Affairs, namely, E-passports.

Nishith updated the Div Com regarding the functioning of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Jammu as he is also holding additional charge of Regional Director, IICR, Jammu.

He apprised Dr Raghav Langer that ICCR strives to establish and strengthen inter-cultural bond, enhance mutual understanding and promote harmonious relationships among the diverse section of the society within India and abroad.

ICCR also promotes local art and culture and provides opportunity to budding artists to showcase their talent in the field of art, music, dance, drama.

Dr Raghav Langer lauded the good work being done by the Regional Passport Officer in providing quality passport services to the people of Jammu division in a hassle free manner.

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