

PHE employees hold protest, project demands

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Employees under the banner of PHE Employees United Front assembled in the office premises of Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu and held aggressive protest against the present Jammu Kashmir UT Govt and Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu which has miserably failed to solve the long pending demands both of Daily Wagers and permanent employees of the department.

The employees raised slogans against Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary and the Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (THE) department Jammu who are creating hurdles and has adopted delaying tactics in connection to the regularization of daily wagers which is the main demand of the poor workers. While addressing gathering at protest venue the senior leaders of the United Front namely Ajay Sharma, Bal Badhar Vaid, Kartar Chand Duby, Ajay Sharma,



PHE employees raising slogans during a protest.

Rajesh Jarnwal, Davinder Singh, Ravi, Rajinder Taj, Hoshier Singh, Navdeep Singh, Mohan Lal has alleged that Chief Secretary, Commissioner Secretary, Chief Engineer Jai Shakti (PHE) Department hits no sympathy with the innocent workers who have been crying for their regularizations since 1994. They warned the UT Govt. if its attitude remained unchanged towards our workers and the demands of the employees are not solved by

20-02-2022 days the employees will be forced to intensify the agitation and the UT Government will be held responsible for the consequences.

They further announced that next course of action will be held at the office of Jatinder Singh MOS at Gandhi Nagar Jammu on February 21, 2022.

The similar demonstrations have been held at all the PHE divisions and sub divisions throughout the Jammu Division.

LIC offers opportunity for policy-holders to revive lapsed policies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has launched a campaign for revival of individual lapsed policies.

Policies, which are in a lapsed condition during the premium paying term and not completed policy term, are eligible to be revived in this campaign, which will begin from February 7 and on March 25, 2022, a press release said on Saturday.

"While the current Covid-19 pandemic scenario has emphasised the need for mortality protection, this campaign is a good oppor-

tunity for LIC's policy-holders to revive their policies, restore life cover and ensure financial security for their family," the state-run insurer said in the release.

It said that concessions are being offered in late fee for other than term assurance and high risk plans, depending on the total premiums paid.

There are no concessions on medical requirements. Eligible health and micro insurance plans also qualify for the concession in late fee, the release said.

For conventional and health policies with a total

receivable premium of up to Rs one lakh, the insurer is offering a 20 per cent concession in late fee, with a maximum limit of Rs 2,000. Similarly, for a premium amount of above Rs 3 lakh, concession offered is 30 per cent, with a cap of Rs 3,000.

The insurer is offering a full concession in late fee for micro-insurance plans.

Under the campaign, policies of specific eligible plans can be revived within five years from the date of the first unpaid premium, subject to certain terms and conditions, the release said.

Yudhvir, Nidhi start development works at Ward 17

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP Vice President, Yudhvir Sethi along with Corporator Ward 17, Nidhi Magotra on Monday started the development work of a Nallah with an estimated cost of Rs 20 lakh. On the occasion, Priya Sethi, senior BJP leader & Former Minister; Mandal President Raveesh Mengi; Ex. Councillor Balwan Singh, Mandal Vice-President Onkar Singh,

Narendra Modi is committed to overall development of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir by giving equal stress on both rural as well as urban areas.

Yudhvir Sethi assured the people of Jammu and Kashmir that the pace of development will continue in the Union Territory under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.



J&K BJP Vice President, Yudhvir Sethi along with Corporator, Nidhi Magotra starting development works.

Mandal General Secretary Sanjay Bhat, Vijay Sharma and Booth President Mohammad Farooq were also present.

While addressing the gathering, Yudhvir Sethi said that the central dispensation led by Prime Minister

Priya Sethi appreciated the efforts of Corporator Nidhi for taking keen interest in addressing issues of general public. She hoped that the Corporator will continue the spree of development for the welfare of common masses.

Week-long vocational course on 'Application of Computers & IT Tools' culminates at SKUAST-J

Vet Sciences final year student Milan Sharma lauds VC for enhancing students' learning & research efficacy

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To strengthen institutional capacities for delivering competent skilled professionals, a weeklong vocational course on 'Application of Computers & IT Tools in Improving Learning & Research Efficacy of Students', organised by NAHEP-Institutional Development Plan (IDP) SKUAST-J, which started on February 1, 2022 culminated on Monday.

In this vocational programme, on behalf of student participants, Milan Sharma (Student / Class Representative), pursuing degree in B.V.Sc & AH (final year) from SKUAST Jammu, lauded efforts of Vice Chancellor Prof J P Sharma (IDP leader and Chief Patron of Organising Committee SKUAST Jammu) in organizing such



VC SKUAST-J Prof J P Sharma presenting certificate to Vet Sciences final year student Milan Sharma.

programmes in university, thereby enabling students to improve their learning and research efficacy. He further said that under guidance, unflinching co-operation and encouragement of Vice Chancellor, such programmes were conducted successfully. "Prof J P Sharma has always been ancillary in tying compromising chords of deepest warmth and enlightening path of students and scholars, thereby benefitting them

immensely. Milan also expressed gratitude towards Vice Chancellor, under whose canopy of guidelines a holistic model can be developed to raise standards of current agricultural education system, aiming to provide more jobs and is entrepreneurship-oriented at par with global agricultural education standards. Through National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP), with final assis-

Delimitation panel did impeccable job, Farooq's criticism customary: Abhinav

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Abhinav Sharma Spokesperson BJP J&K on Sunday welcomed the Delimitation Commission's draft report saying that the panel has arduously accomplished the difficult job to ensure fair play in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued to media, the senior BJP leader said that Delimitation Commission has consummately done an impeccable job to remove the ambiguity and bring in total justice by redrawing the boundaries of constituencies and making other changes for the upcoming political contests going to be held in the Union Territory.

While giving no weight to NC Patron, Dr. Farooq Abdullah's criticism towards the aforesaid report, the BJP leader said

that former Chief Minister's uttering is on expected lines and there is nothing new in the tantrums by the octogenarian leader.

He said that if Dr. Farooq has failed to find logic and rationality in the delimitation draft report then the problem is not in the report rather the rationale of the aged politician seems to be gone haywire which is his problem and not anybody else's.

Abhinav made it clear that the Delimitation Commission comprised of seasoned people having more than adequate experience and speaking against them is Dr. Farooq's compulsion and not his wisdom because the years old castle which the Kashmir centric parties have erected to ensure political mileage unfairly has been broken in one go and the delimitation

panel has created an even turf for all the political parties which is pinching the NC leader.

J&K BJP Spokesperson commended the Delimitation Commission for doing the work arduously and in a failsafe manner to ensure fair game to all.

He said that this was necessary to fulfill aspirations of all the people of the UT as earlier the things have been manipulated to give edge to certain people and parties in the erstwhile state of J&K as was evident in many of the elections held earlier in the region.

He said that BJP welcomes the draft report prepared by the delimitation panel in its present form and appealed to the aforesaid to give its nod for putting a final stamp on the same to ensure welfare of the people of J&K and also the country as well.

BJP Sanskriti, Art & Culture Cell releases new Dogri song 'Dil Lai Leya'



J&K BJP Sanskriti Art & Culture Cell leaders releasing Dogri song 'Dil Lai Leya'.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir BJP Sanskriti Art & Culture Cell released a new Dogri song under the title "Dil Lai Leya" at BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, here.

The song was released by Guest of Honour Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, J&K BJP Media Secretary and Bharat

Bhushan Sharma BJP Sanskriti Art & Culture Cell Convenor. Programme was organized by BJP District Jammu Convenor Sanskriti, Art & Culture Cell Sahil Mahajan.

The song "Dil Lai Leya" has been sung by singer Sahil Pandit, lyrics written by Anish Thakur, Lead role

played by Anish Thakur, Tamanna Dhiman, Co-actor Sourav Dayal, Shilpa, Music given by Vipan Sharma, Video editing by K. K. Malhotra, Asstt Director Danish Mir with special thanks to Rajveer Manni, Sahil Mahajan, Pareen Sharma for direction under the Label of "YouTube channel JK Hills Records".

Fire & Fury Corps organises medical camp at Chumur village



Doctor examining a patient at Medical Camp at Chumur.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: A medical camp was organised by Fire and Fury Corps in Eastern Ladakh for local residents of Chumar village on Sunday. The medical camp was aimed at providing requisite medical assistance and comfort to the villagers who are otherwise deprived of basic medical facilities due to the remoteness of the area and the harsh winters.

The medical camp saw an overwhelming response from locals. The villagers and local govern-

ment officials present during the camp expressed their gratitude to the Armed Forces for reaching out to the people and addressing basic health and hygiene issues. The army doctors also conducted a short training capsule for children on basic first aid and procedures to prevent cold injuries.

The event was a success with locals turning out in large numbers to receive the benefits of medical relief. The entire community acknowledged the sincerity of efforts of Armed Forces to assist the locals selflessly.

Power shutdown

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Patoli Brahmana, Domana, Barnai, Purkhoo, Mishriwala, Baba Talab, ShamachakGurhaSinghu, Batera, Dabbin, Chorpur, Manyal, Dhramkhu, Tirth Talab, GREF, Gumpul, Sua No.1, Garkhal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on February 08 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Raghunath Bazar, Residency Road, Wazarat Road, Kanak Mandi, Rajinder Bazar and adjoining areas shall remain affected on February 08 from 10 am to 2 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Part of Talab Tillo, Kabir Colony, Basant, Vihar, ManormaVihar, HazuriBagh, Col. Colony, Poonch House, PriyaDarshani Lane, Top Paloura, Part of Barnai, Patoli, Shiv Nagar, Subash Nagar, Subash Nagar; Govt. Quarter Sarwal, Shanti Nagar and adjoining areas shall remain affected on February 08 from 10 am to 3 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Ramban Town and adjoining areas shall remain affected on February 09 from 12 noon to 3 pm.

Meanwhile, Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Saidpur, Khukhiyal and Mirpur Ram shall remain affected on February 08 and 09 from 11 am to 4 pm.

Death in police lockup: Protesters block railway track in Samba

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA / JAMMU : Hundreds of protesters on Monday blocked a railway track for over two hours in Hiranagar, demanding registration of an FIR into the mysterious death of a 35-year-old man in a police lockup in nearby Kathua district.

Authorities in Kathua district have already ordered a magisterial probe into the death of Sunil Verma, who was found hanging by his muffler inside the washroom at Hiranagar Police Station of Kathua early Sunday. Three policemen were placed under suspension and the Station House Officer (SHO) of the police station concerned was attached to the district police lines as the police also ordered a separate departmental inquiry following massive protest by relatives of the deceased.



Protesters staging protest on railway track at Kathua.

As the body of Verma was handed over to his family at Tapyal village of Samba for last rites after completion of legal formalities on Monday, a protest broke out against his "custodial death" and the villagers also blocked the railway track demanding an impartial probe and registration of a murder case.

"The body bore visible third degree torture marks indicating that he had not committed suicide but was murdered in custody,"

Dharamveer, an uncle of the deceased, said, demanding registration of a murder case against the police officers concerned.

However, the protesters later dispersed and performed the last rites of the deceased on the assurance of Deputy Commissioner Samba, Anuradha Gupta, Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rahul Yadav and Senior Superintendent of Police Samba who rushed to the scene to maintain law and order.

Special session of JMC General House held, various issues discussed



Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta chairing JMC General House meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Special Session of General House of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) was organized in Council Hall on Monday, which was chaired by Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta. Besides Deputy Mayor Purnima Sharma, Commissioner JMC Avny Lavasa, Chairpersons of Standing Committee(s), Councillors and senior officers of JMC also attended the session.

During the session, threadbare discussion was held on various suggestion put forth by Mayor and other members of the house during previous Special

Session held on December 20, 2021. Further, during last session, a Committee, comprising Deputy Mayor Adv Purnima Sharma as Chairperson and Councillors Rajinder Sharma, Pawan Singh, Suneet Kumar Raina along with officers of JMC and other line Departments i.e. Chief Town Planner, JMC, DLR, JMC, Chief Architect, J&K (UT), Architect (Technical Officer to Director, Local Bodies), was also constituted for submission of suggestions and observations/ recommendations for amendments in Unified Building Bye-Laws- 2021.

Major suggestions shared by Councillors regarding amendments to be made in Unified Building Bye-Law- 2021 included deferring of Value Capture Fund, building permission of constructions where ground floor is existing at site in violation, providing relaxation in lane width for built-up constructions, approval of Colonies with relaxation if existing approach road width is less than required, allowing stilt floors to be utilised for parking, exempting Building fee charges for religious buildings and orphanages, etc.

In Special Session, a number of decisions were taken including extension of period of the Committee constituted for suggestions/amendments in the Unified Building Bye-Laws- 2021 for another three months.

Mayor JMC assured all Councillors and Jammuites that all necessary steps shall be taken for the smooth functioning of Corporation and speedy redressal of grievances of general public.