

Secretary Mining reviews functioning of deptt, exhorts officers to achieve set financial targets

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary, Mining, Amit Sharma, on Saturday convened a comprehensive review meeting regarding functioning of the department.

Secretary had a detailed discussion on multiple issues concerning working of the department. He issued explicit directions to the officers to achieve the set financial targets in full.

The meeting was attended by O.P Bhagat, Director Geology & Mining, Vikram K.Gupta, Managing Director, J&K Minerals Limited, Joint Directors Geology & Mining, Nisar Ahmed and Harbans Langeh, Arun Kotwal, Additional Secretary, Geology & Mining Department, Aamir Rather,



Secretary Mining, Amit Sharma chairing a meeting.

Deputy Secretary, Geology & Mining and District Mineral Officers.

Secretary exhorted upon the officers to leave no stone unturned for achieving the set targets. He appreciated the proactive approach adopted by the District Mineral Officers who have

taken stringent measures against the habitual offenders through constant seizure of illegal vehicles and imposing fines/penalties in almost all the districts during the last quarter of this financial year. He asked for continuing such efforts in order to curb tendencies towards ille-

gal mining in our already e-auctioned mining blocks.

Amit Sharma was apprised by the Director G&M that a healthy e-auction amount has been realized during the ongoing e-auction of mining blocks in Kishtwar and Jammu districts. It is expected that more e-bid amounts shall come from remaining blocks soon, he added.

Secretary also had a detailed discussion about upcoming visit of Union Mines Secretary next week in which two important issues shall be discussed regarding proposed exploration works on precious Sapphire Mines in Padder area of Kishtwar and e-auction of major mineral blocks in the UT in the coming months.

Sanjay Baru meets Dr Jatindra, submits memorandum for Ropeway at Shivkhori Shrine

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JAMMU: Representing the genuine demand of local inhabitants of villages adjoining Shivkhori Shrine in district Reasi, BJP senior leader Sanjay Kumar Baru met Union Minister in Prime Minister's Office and Member Parliament Udhampur-Doda Parliamentary Constituency Dr. Jatinder Singh at his office North Block, New Delhi to submit a memorandum regarding shifting of Ropeway Project from approved original alignment from Kotla to Sangar of Shivkhori Shrine Ransoo, District Reasi.

Sanjay Baru in detail apprised the Union Minister that the people of various villages of district Reasi and district Rajouri are going to suffer their livelihood directly because of change of alignment and the start of Ropeway from New Bus Stand Ransoo instead of

Indian Railways achieves significant milestone with electrification of entire BG in J&K UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Railways has achieved a significant milestone in Railway electrification with the completion of electrification of Broad Gauge (BG) route in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir of Ferozpur Division.

"Indian Railways has completed the electrification in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. This will improve rail connectivity and the speed of trains in the region. With 85 per cent of Route Kilometres electrified, Indian Railways is rapidly progressing to accomplish Mission 100 per cent Electrification and become the largest green railway network in the world," according to an official statement on Saturday.

Under Indian Railways mission of 100 per cent electrification, total electrification of 298 RKM of Broad Gauge (BG) route in Jammu & Kashmir UT



has been completed.

As per the statement, "By achieving 100 per cent electrification in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir of Ferozpur Division, the eco-friendly mode of railway transportation has been ensured, thus reducing dependence on imported crude oil which in turn has resulted in saving of precious foreign exchange for the Nation."

"Switching to electric traction has provided benefits like environmental-friendly mode of

transport, reduced dependence on imported diesel fuel, thereby saving precious foreign currency and reduced carbon footprints, reduced operating cost, haulage of heavier freight trains and longer passenger trains with high haulage capacity of Electric Locomotives leading to increased throughput, increased sectional capacity by eliminating detention on account of traction change, and saving of Specific Energy Consumption," the statement added.

Raina releases Dogri film 'Mouj Masti'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP J&K President, Ravinder Raina on Saturday released Dogri film Mouj Masti (War on drugs) at BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar; here in a programme organized by BJP OBC Moreha State President Sunil Prajapati and his team. Raina felicitated the whole production team and star cast of the film and congratulated the whole team.

"We should promote our Dogri culture at every platform and this has done a wonderful job by making Dogri film on social cause," he said. He said teenagers must understand that the habit of drug abuse not only greatly affects their body and mind, but also finishes their bright future.

"So we should strictly say 'No' to drugs and save our lives as well as the lives of our loved ones by spreading awareness in our surroundings," he said.

Nehru Yuva Kendra Jammu hosts cultural competition for tribal youth



MP Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Ali Khatana with others at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of the ongoing 14th Tribal Youth Exchange Program, Nehru Yuva Kendra Jammu on Saturday held a cultural competition for tribal youth.

The programme is organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports) in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. 220 tribal youth from nine Naxal-affected districts in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are currently on

a seven-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir. The chief guest at the event was Member of Parliament in the Rajya Sabha, Ghulam Ali Khatana. He welcomed the tribal youth to Jammu and Kashmir and spoke about the government's efforts to improve conditions in Naxal-affected areas. He also praised the work of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan in organising programmes for the development of rural youth. State Director NYKS Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Nisar Ahmed Bhut thanked Khatana for

attending the event and spoke about the government's focus on providing opportunities for rural youth. NYKS is holding various awareness, cultural, vocational and sports programmes across the country to involve youth in nation-building activities. The cultural event was judged by Vice Principal Government Girls Higher Secondary School Rehari, Sushma Rani; retired lecturer, Akram Khan and retired APS, Ravi Kant Sumbria.

The event was conducted by Samriti Slathia of NYV Samba under the supervision of DYO Rajouri, Nitin Hangloo. In the evening, the participants were taken on a tour to Bagh-e-Bahu to see the aquarium and laser show.

The seven-day program has included educational and awareness sessions, cultural events and visits to Suchetgarh Border Post and Patnitop. The program will formally conclude on March 26.

Jammu Smart City Ltd organises workshop on food fortification



Deputy Commissioner, Avny Lavasa speaking during a workshop.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Smart City Ltd organised a workshop on food fortification in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to reduce malnutrition at Convention Centre on Saturday which was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner, Avny Lavasa.

The workshop aimed to highlight the importance of food fortification and how to raise awareness among the general public. Pertinently, Jammu Smart City Ltd is among the top 11 smart cities in India in

the Eat Right Smart City Challenge, a nationwide campaign by FSSAI.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC emphasised the importance of sensitising the public to this issue.

CEO Jammu Smart City and Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation, Rahul Yadav highlighted the steps taken by Jammu Smart City Ltd for this purpose.

Mission Director of Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation, Minga Sherpa shared facts about the impact of malnutrition

on health. Project Director Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan Jammu and Kashmir, Deep Raj Kanethia, ensured the implementation of food fortification in schools and promised to raise awareness about it.

The workshop was attended by stakeholders from various departments, teachers, food manufacturers, NGOs and students from Bharat Public High School in Satwari. The students shared their thoughts on food fortification and explained the activities they are doing in school to implement it.

Chuni led delegation of PoJK DPs calls on LG, highlights demands

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of Pak-occupied Jammu & Kashmir Displaced Persons, led by Chairman of SoS International, Rajiv Chuni, comprising Prof N N Sharma, Vinod Kumar Datta, Amarjit Singh, Ashok Sharma, Subash Sharma and Ved Raj Bali, called on LG Manoj Sinha and apprised him of burning issues and demands of displaced community. The delegation also submitted a memorandum to the LG seeking redressal of several long-pending issues of community and reservation of seats for PoJK DPs in J&K Assembly as recommended by Parliamentary committee.

Lauding contribution of LG for his initiatives to address grievances of displaced communities of PoJK, the SOS International Chief also listed some suggestions so that UT administration can do better for displaced community.

Chuni demanded that a



Chairman SoS International, Rajiv Chuni led delegation calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

separate authority be constituted under the name and style of Rehabilitation Commissioner PoJK to deal with issues of PoJK DPs. He also demanded that adequate number of employees should also be appointed in this office, who can meet needs of PoJK displaced persons. Expressing concern over failure of Police to trace and eliminate those behind Dangri incident in Rajouri, the SOS International Chief suggested few measures to better secure Line of Control. He further

added that Mirpur, Muzaffarabad and Poonch scouts should be formed by recruiting unemployed youth among PoK DPs. He also demanded that the Rehabilitation package passed by the J&K Government Cabinet in October, 2014 and later on endorsed by Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in its 183rd Report in respect of PoJK DPs, be implemented without any further delay. He also demanded extension of the PM Central Assistant Scheme for PoJK DPs,

which has been stopped unilaterally without covering all the targeted families.

Maintaining that all displaced persons from PoJK belongs to Pahari Tribe, Pahari Clan and their Mother Tongue is also Pahari, Rajiv Chuni demanded that 'Pahari Speaking People' Certificate should be issued to one and all PoJK DPs irrespective of their present residence as these people are bonafide residents of Mirpur, Muzaffarabad and Poonch

Districts, he added.

"SOS International staunchly believes that filling Assembly seats for PoJK is the only way-out for securing confidence, and putting an end to the plights of the displaced community. It is utmost important to conduct elections for the 24 Assembly Seats reserved for PoJK areas in J&K Assembly, which is undoubtedly an integral part of India, and come what may be shall ever remain the integral part of India till last ounce of blood in our body," said Rajiv Chuni. Other demands highlighted in memorandum included return of cash deposits with interest to PoJK DPs lying with J&K Bank Mirpur and uploading Revenue records of District Mirpur, Muzaffarabad and areas of Poonch illegally occupied by Pakistan in J&K Government Online Portal, etc. The LG gave a patient hearing to the delegation and assured a positive action on all the demands and issues put forth by the delegation.

BNI Jammu to hold business networking expo 'Milap 2023' from April 1

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To create professional networking opportunities for Business owners and Professionals across Jammu, the BNI Jammu is presenting Milap 2023, Jammu's largest business networking expo, wherein BNI members from North India will be showcasing their products, services and businesses through 38+ exhibition stalls. While talking to reporters on Saturday, Vaneet Aggarwal, Chairman, Milap said, "Time slots have been assigned to Networking Area for various business categories like Property Sales and Development. Business Technology, Health and Wellness Professional and Business support, Financial and Investment, Construction

and Renovation. Marketing and Branding, Beauty and Personal Services, PR and Events and open to all entrepreneurs and all the people of J&K at Jammu's Largest Business Networking expo."

Anubhav Aggarwal, Spokesperson, Milap said that BNI Jammu is coming up with Expo 2023 for 2 days, i.e., on April 1, 2023 (10 AM to 7 PM) and April 2, 2023 (10 AM to 4 PM) at Utsav Banquet, Bypass road, Jammu. Appreciating efforts of BNI Jammu Directors and Members, Raghav Gupta, said, "BNI is the world's largest and most successful business networking organization in the world and offers members the opportunity to network, share contacts, and, most important-

ly, business referrals." Navshesh Mahajan leading PR Team, Milap along with Jaskaran Singh Madaan and Dr Mitali Gupta expressed said that BNI provides a structured and supportive system of giving and receiving business referrals. Others present on the occasion included Dimpi, Executive Director, BNI Jammu BNI Directors Chetan Kohli and Vivek Bhardwaj along with BNI Jammu Ambassadors Ankush Jain, Sagar Mehta, Pooja Jain, Shivani Gupta, Shivan, Vikas Gupta and Gold Club Members Sukul Jain, Vishal Sagar Jain, Anirudh Dev Sharma, Sanjay Gupta Jay Aditya Kotwal, Kannav Padha, Amit Jain, Aditya and Members Rohit Jain and Manpreet Singh.

Magotra Biradari congregation on March 30

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The annual congregation of Magotra Biradari will be held on March 30 at Devsthan Baba Gan Gandharv, village Rayore in district Samba. "The programme will start with Hawan and Kanjak Poojan, followed by Langar," informed the Priest of the Devsthan, Kewal Krishan Magotra on Saturday. He requested the community members to participate in the congregation in large numbers for seeking blessings of Kuldev.



EPFO to hold Nidhi Aapke Nikat at various places on March 27

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh will hold Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0-an awareness and outreach programmes on March 27 simultaneously at DC Office, Kishtwar and Executive Training Hall/Conference Hall Dulhasti Power Station, Kishtwar, Community Hall Doda, DC Office Rajouri, DC Office Baramulla, DC Office and NHPC Bandipora and Muthahary Public School, Kargil.



Accounts, Know Your UAN, UAN Activation, E-nomination & member profile - KYC, and UAN related issues. The aim of the programme is to ensure broad based participation, awareness, grievance redressal and information exchange network closer to the stakeholders of EPFO.

PF Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin informed that subscribers, pensioners, establishments, employees' representatives and industrial chambers are advised to actively participate in Nidhi Aapke Nikat program as per the schedule. The programme will be held in Kishtwar onwards at DC Office, Executive Training Hall, Dulhasti PS Kishtwar,

Doda Community Hall, DC Office Rajouri, DC office Baramulla, DC office Bandipora, NHPC Bandipora and Muthahary Public School, Kargil.

During the programme, EPFO Jammu will provide handholding support to stakeholders at the respective venues, besides hearing them (their suggestions, inputs and grievances). Issues and problems faced by the Organizations in implementing the EPF & MP Act. 1952 will be heard and necessary actions would be taken accordingly. Enrollment of the members, UAN Activation, Bank & Aadhaar Seeding, online claim filing, filing of e-nominations, e-sign, filing ECR would be covered in the program. In addition to above any other

relevant issue related to EPFO, which officers or stakeholders desire, would be also discussed.

EPFO, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh has taken some unique initiatives to help and facilitate stakeholders of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, despite the constraints of resources, which included personal hearing by Regional P F Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin, WhatsApp and e-mails circulation to stakeholders, flexi-hours working etc.

EPFO J&K and Ladakh, with its limited staff strength, has settled nearly 1 lakh 57 thousand claims from Regional Office Jammu and depositing total amount of Rs. 899.27 Cr in the members' bank accounts for the financial year 2022-2023.

160 Bn CRPF organises medical camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: 160 Battalion Central Reserve Police Force Headquarters, Chatta, Jammu on Saturday organized free medical camp as per the guidelines of Inspector General Jammu Sector under the guidance of Angom Naresh Singh, Second Commanding Officer, 160 Bn at Government Girls Primary School, Patoli.

Dr. Mamohan Meena (Medical Officer, 160 Battalion), Dr. Surbhi Sharma (Medical Officer CH Bantalab), Dr. Jogesh Kumar (Medical Officer SDH Kotwal), Dr. Devendra Singh (Medical Officer STTH, Kotwal), Dr. Archana Kotwal (Medical Officer NTHP Patoli), Dr. Anjana Sharma



160 Bn CRPF officials along with doctors during a medical camp.

(Medical Officer, NTHPC, Patoli) conducted medical checkup of the local citizens and informed them about prevention of serious diseases as well as diseases caused due to changing life style which include heart disease, diabetes, migraine, fatty liver.

Causes, symptoms, prevention and measures for their

prevention were made aware and about 250 citizens were also distributed medicines for different types of diseases by the medical officers.

Banshi Lal Regar, (Assistant Commandant) of 160 Bn, Harish Kumar Salhan, Assistant Commandant and Shubham Sharma, Corporator, Patoli Brahmana

were also present on the occasion. Angom Naresh Singh informed all the citizens present that such medical camps have been organized by 160 Battalion CRPF from time to time.

Our aim is that the local citizens living in our jurisdiction should be physically and mentally healthy and safe.