

# PHE daily-wagers move towards LG's house, face lathi-charge

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Monday resorted to lathi-charge against hundreds of agitating daily-wager employees of Jal Shakti Department and detained them when they sought to reach Lieutenant Governor's house here as part of protest for regularisation of their jobs.

The workers who assembled under the banner of Public Health Engineering (PHE) Employee's United Front moved towards Lieutenant Governor's house, raising slogans against the Lt Governor-led administration and the BJP for their alleged failure to regularise their services.

A strong police personnel prevented the agitating workers to reach near the LG's house, using baton charge, resulting in injuries to many. Police also detained many protesting daily wagers.



PHE daily-wagers being intercepted by police personnel during their march towards LG's House.

Over 30,000 daily wagers, casual labourers and other workers who are working in department for over the past two decades have been regularly holding protests in both Jammu and Srinagar in support of their

long-pending demands including regularisation and release of pending wages.

"We are fed up with the rigid and anti-employee attitude of this government. The BJP leaders only befooled us and did nothing to resolve our long pending demands," protesting daily wagers said.

"We have been working in the department for the last two decades with a hope that our services will be regularised one day. We are being paid meagre wages and that too are not being paid on a monthly basis as a result of which we are forced to live a pathetic life," protesters said.

They urged LG government to redress their demands as promised within ten day otherwise daily wagers will intensify their agitation in a big way and responsibility will lie on the government for any consequence.



## Demolition of religious structure of radicalisation built on forest/state land, restore Sidhra temple: IkkJutt Jammu

**Desecration of Baba Kaliveer Ji's idols an attack on spiritual identity of Jammu: Ankur**

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: IkkJutt Jammu team led by it's President Ankur Sharma on Monday visited Sidhra Temple which was vandalised and desecrated few days back and termed the act as an attack on the spiritual and religious identity of Jammu.

Jihadists after unleashing more nuanced genocidal acts like Demographic Invasion have now graduated to execute physical attacks against symbols of our Sanatana Indie Civilisation, said Ankur Sharma and warned the Govt of serious consequences if action is not taken against the Jihadist ecosystem operating with impunity within Jammu province.

Ankur, while speaking to media, said that the team is shocked to see nothing left of the idols of different deities which were representing the faith of few Hindus left in the area.

More shocking was the fact



IkkJutt Jammu team led by its President Ankur Sharma visiting temple in Sidhra, Jammu.

that whatever remains of idols were left, those have been allegedly taken away in the dark by the authorities without informing the caretakers of Sidhra Temple and God knows where they have been disposed off, he said.

Advocate Ankur warned government of bigger agitation in coming days if temple is not restored and demanded Rs 1 crore for it's restoration along with identification

of culprits as well the illegal encroachers around the Sidhra Temple premises.

He was accompanied by social worker Amandeep Singh Boparai and by Executive Members of IkkJutt Jammu including Ashwani Sharma, Sanjeev Singh, Ajay Singh Saini, Daksheesh Maharaj, Sarveshwar, Amzi Arthur, Tilak Raina and Manik Jamwal.

## BRO compensates casual labour with Rs 7.67 lakh

LEH: After STATE TIMES published an article last month titled 'BRO fails to provide timely compensation to injured casual labour', Border Road Organisation (BRO) released an amount of Rs 7,67,040 as compensation in favour of T. Norboo, a casual paid labourer, who lost 60 percent of his right hand, including three fingers, in a stone crusher machine on 13th November 2020 near North Pullu while on duty with the 54 RCC of the BRO.

Over the last 16 months, Norboo had been running from pillar to post for compensation against the loss he suffered while on work.

The BRO claimed that the time taken to compensate was on account of a minor spelling mistake with Norboo's first name, which was indeed an insignificant justification.

With the help of STATE TIMES Bureau Chief Leh, Tsewang Rigzin, Norbu approached the Assistant Labour Commissioner's office in Leh to seek labour court's intervention to get his due compensation.



sation. In September last year, Rigzin brought the issue to the notice of the Lt. Governor of Ladakh, R.K. Mathur also.

Finally, after STATE TIMES published the article on the 14 March, 54 RCC submitted a cheque of Rs 7,67,040 to the Assistant Labour Commissioner under 'Payment of Compensation under WCA-1923' as compensation to Norboo which was credited into his bank account by the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Leh, after completing all formalities.

"I am grateful to the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Labour Officer and Tsewang Rigzin for helping me get my compensation," Norbu thanked, after the compensation money was credited into his bank account last week.

In 2020 on the day of the accident Norboo was shifted to Army GH Hospital in Nubra after initial treatment at North Pullu. His son, who had just got selected in the Army, managed to admit his father, Norboo, in an Army hospital in Chandigarh on 11th December of 2020 where was treated till the 12th of January 2021.

## Dr Abrol elected as Vice President NZAROI

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A renowned oncologist from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Deepak Abrol has been elected as Vice President of the North Zone Association of Radiation Oncologists of India (NZAROI).

An official communiqué issued here said that Dr Abrol, a Cancer Specialist from Jammu and Kashmir, has been elected unopposed as Vice President of Association of Radiation Oncologists of India North Zone Chapter for 2022 to 2024.

Prior to this assignment he was General Secretary NZAROI for two terms from 2018 to 2022 and has served as vice President previously also from 2016 to 2018. He is member of various National and International Associations of Oncologists and has been in Executive of NZAROI for last 12 years.

The Election process was started in January and ended in February and the results were declared by Election Commissioner appointed for the purpose Dr Harpreet Singh HOD Oswal Hospital Ludhiana at the Annual General Body Meeting of NZAROI in NZAROICON 2022 held recently at Jammu.

Pertinent to Mention that North Zone Chapter is the largest chapter of AROI with J and K, Laddakh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, New Delhi and NCR and Uttarakhand included in it.



## Release payments of vendors under MGNREGA: Sukhnandan

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Addressing media persons at party headquarter, BJP senior leader & former Minister, Sukhnandan Kumar, said that MGNREGA provides the guarantee of at least 100 days of wage employment against the demand made by the rural household. Government of India is very much sincere in releasing the funds for wage and material payment for proper implementation of the scheme. It has been witnessed that Government of India remains kind enough to continuously release the funds for both components under this scheme.



BJP senior leader & former Minister, Sukhnandan Kumar addressing a press conference.

BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra and

Sarpanch Balbir Kumar were also present in the press conference.

Sukhnandan Kumar former Minister expressed gratitude to the Central Government for untiring efforts while providing employment Guarantee and development of the rural India, but on the other hand, he said that it is matter of grave concern that the vendor, who supplied material in 2016 and 2017 for the development are running from pillar to post for the release of payments. The vendors supplied the material as per the requirement put in place by the concerned authorities. He made an appeal to the Lieutenant Governor, J&K, UT and the Rural Development Department authorities to pay heed to the matter and release the payment to the vendors, for the material supplied by them. It

is duty bound of the RDD officers to check the supply of material utilized for the work as per ratio set and estimates passed and sanctioned by the authorities. These vendors are facing grave financial losses for the non release of their payment. The goal of our Prime Minister 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas' is a broad vision to make rural India self sufficient and self reliant and it is only possible when efforts of each and every officers/officials, who are at the helm of affairs, are put them in streamlining the system. Sukhnandan Kumar clarified that the material was supplied by the vendors on the direction of respective Secretary Panchayats and the officers/officials of RDD posted at Block Level. He said that the Government is committed to implement the scheme at the gross root level for which the elections were held throughout the UT for implementation of 73rd Amendment.

As creation of assets was required in all Panchayats that is why MGNREGA stipulated the 60:40 wage-material ratio for all Panchayats, he said.

The Ex-Minister said that the non-payment of material supplied by vendors leads to protest and pose threat to further development of rural areas and has impact on the development which is dream come true of the rural population of Jammu and Kashmir under the present Government.

## GMC Jammu conducts training on Point Prevalence Survey



Principal & Dean GMC, Jammu, Dr Shashi Sudan Sharma and others at a workshop.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Pharmacology, Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu on Monday conducted training of 2nd Prof. MBBS students about National Point Prevalence Survey (PPS) under National Programme on anti-microbial resistance containment in collaboration with National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), New Delhi at GMC Jammu.

Dr Shashi Sudan Sharma, Principal & Dean GMC, Jammu who was the chief guest on the occasion, said that antimicrobial resistance is a growing public health problem due to rapid spread of multi-drug resistant bacteria and due to the limited antibiotics available. Very few newer antibiotics in the pipeline to treat infections caused by these organisms, she added.

She urged the Medical students to learn the art of rational use of anti-microbials

as well asked the organisers to spread awareness about this as much as possible amongst the general public to prevent the self medication and hence development of anti-microbial resistance in the society.

The faculty from NCDC New Delhi, Dr Arti Bahl, Addl Director and Head Epidemiology Division, and her team provided online technical support for the aforesaid training.

They congratulated the organising team of GMC, Jammu for successful conduct of the training and wished for the success of survey.

Dr Seema Gupta Professor & HoD Pharmacology said that anti-microbial resistance occurs naturally, but misuse of antibiotics in humans and animals is accelerating the process. She further said her Department is committed to contribute immensely in the said programme and hands on training like these to students will go a long way in

their learning of rational use of medicines especially anti-microbials to curb menace of AMR.

Dr Vivek Mahajan, Nodal Officer for said programme at GMC, Jammu presented a vote of thanks and said that in recent times growing number of infections such as pneumonia, tuberculosis, gonorrhoea are becoming harder to treat as the anti-microbial used to treat them have become less effective thereby leading to longer hospital stay, higher medical costs and increased mortality. He further informed that the participants of the aforesaid training will conduct the survey in various Departments of the GMC Jammu & Associated Hospital from April 19 to 21, 2022 to collect data on anti-microbial consumption in GMC & AH.

More than 200 students were trained for the conduct of PPS that was attended by doctors from GMC Jammu including Dr Vijay Kundal HoD Medicine, Dr GS Saini HoD Paediatrics, Dr Sanjeev Gupta HoD Orthopaedics, Dr Shabnam Choudhary & Dr Vishal R Tandon besides other faculty members from different Departments.

The trainers for this Hands on Training were Dr Kanika Khajuria, Dr Anna & Dr Himani Gupta, Senior Residents of the Department of Pharmacology, GMC Jammu.

## Criminal proceedings should not be permitted to become weapon of harassment for settlement of disputes: CJM

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Judicial Magistrate Jammu Amarjeet Singh Langhe on Monday, in a significant judgment, held that criminal proceedings should not be permitted to become a weapon of harassment for imminent settlement of a dispute. This significant order was passed in an application filed by one Goutam Singh seeking invocation of Section 156(3) of CrPC in order to get an FIR registered against non-applicant by SHO Police Station Kana Chak - Jammu under relevant provisions of Penal Code for passing life threats to him. Allegations which are alluded to non-applicant as tailored in application are that applicant sold a vehicle bearing registration No. JK02AQ-7911 to non-applicant against consideration of Rs. 12,50,000 (rupees twelve lakh fifty thousand only) in connection with which non-applicant allegedly issued 17 cheques to him (applicant) which, according to applicant, were dishonoured by the bank. Applicant further asserted that he requested non-applicant many times to pay the whole amount as aforesaid but he refused to pay the same and instead is giving life-threats to him. Thereafter, applicant goes on narrating that he approached concerned Police Station for registration of FIR but of no avail. Similarly, according to applicant even SSP Jammu did not come to his rescue when approached. Chief Judicial Magistrate Jammu Amarjeet Singh Langhe after going through the application observed that grievance projected by applicant, indeed - is pre-dominantly rooted in issuance of 17 cheques allegedly by non-applicant to applicant in connection with sale transaction of vehicle and those cheques subsequently, as per applicant, getting bounced/ dishonoured when presented in the bank concerned. In face of this admitted position, by all accounts, remedy available to him (applicant) is under relevant provision of Negotiable Instruments Act and by filing instant application, applicant only displays a penchant desire to apply pressure on non-applicant through criminal prosecution for an imminent settlement of his grievance, a course which is not permissible in law. Vague and bald allegations of passing of threats on facts are simply a camouflage by applicant to give criminal colour and complexion to the application and allegations therein. Criminal proceedings should not be permitted to become weapon of harassment for imminent settlement of a dispute, the Court observed. While dismissing application, the Court observed that instant application does not disclose commission of any cognizable offence by non-applicant and same has been filed just to abuse process of law by giving colour and complexion of criminal case to a dispute which squarely falls within ambit of Negotiable Instruments Act.

## Fire Services Week: Srinagar lost Rs 2.5 billion property in 146 fire incidents

## ■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: National Fire Services week is observed from April 14, every year across the country and this year's the theme of celebration is 'Learn Fire Safety Increase Positivity'. During the week-long programs, the department is trying to educate people regarding fire safety measures, but the first three months of 2022 proved quite tough for the people of Srinagar and Fire & Emergency Department. The drastic rise in fire incidents across Srinagar district has put firefighters on tenterhooks round the clock. The losses in recent fire incidents in Nigeen Lake and Batamaloo area could have been easily minimised, if firefighting infrastructure across Srinagar could have been improved.

During first three months of 2022, 146 fire incidents were reported in city. In January, 43 fire incidents occurred in which 21 houses, 9 shops, 1 shopping complex, 2 ordinary sheds, a vehicle and 6 electric transformers gutted. In February, 49 incidents were reported in

which 14 houses, 2 buildings, 2 shops, 3 shopping complexes, 6 electric transformers got damaged while in March, 54 incidents were with 58 houses, 1 building, 2 shops, 6 shopping complexes, 2 vehicles, 4 electric transformers and 18 other structures getting damaged. While speaking over fire safety measures, Deputy Director, Fire & Emergency Department Bashir Ahmad Shah said, "We can't relate fire incident to some specific season. We are in summers now and people have minimised usage of electronic gadgets, so it is surprising to see rising fire mishaps. There is no hard and fast reason in such incidents. However, people should take preventive measures and there should be no compromise or negligence in it." According to officer, the fault lies with concerned agencies who issue permissions without inspecting safety measures. A commercial establishment should not be allowed to operate unless it gets necessary NoC from all departments including Fire & Emergency Department.

occurred in hospital could have controlled at a right time however due to no safety measures in place, it spread fast and engulfed entire structure. However, there are many hospitals in city where fire-fighting system is in place and many are working on it. If a hospital puts such mechanism in place, it costs only Rs 40 to 50 lakhs. There have been no formal deliberations so far. But we are acting in our personal capacity and intimidating others to ensure fire safety measures," he said, adding, "People are constructing modified three-story houses and spending millions. What is wrong if they spend few thousands more on installation of fire extinguishers? This will provide them security as well. In unplanned colonies people should at least take utmost care to give no chance to fire," he added. "Department have identified 92 locations across J&K which have already been submitted to Government for establishing fire stations. The department has done his job and now it needs sanctions from Government," he added.

