

# Hotel KC City Centre brings Taj Hotels to Jammu

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) announced the signing of a Vivanta in Jammu with Hotel KC City Centre.

Located in Jammu-the base camp for the holy pilgrimage of Vaishno Devi, the hotel is located 5 kilometres from the Jammu airport and is beautifully located overlooking River Tawi, Bahu Fort and all the highlights of Jammu city in the heart of Jammu.

Speaking on the signing, Puneet Chhatwal, CEO and MD of Taj Hotels, Resorts and Palaces at The Indian Hotels Company Limited said, "We are pleased to partner with Hotel KC City Centre in bringing the Vivanta brand to Jammu. The KC Group is an 80 year old group and is the oldest group of Jammu with foot-prints in Education, Automobile dealerships, Malls, Multiplexes, Industrial Units and just as IHCL which is a part of the Tata conglomerate and is the best and the strongest hotel brand in the world, KC led by Raju Chowdhary is the most reputed group in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. This announcement is aligned with our strategy of expanding our footprint and driving growth across popular pilgrimage and tourist



Puneet Chhatwal, CEO and MD of Taj Hotels, Resorts and Palaces and Raju Chowdhary, Chairman KC Group after signing MoU.

destinations."

The signing ceremony was held at the IHCL Office at Express Towers, Nariman Point in Mumbai.

Chhatwal was accompanied by his team comprising of Suma Venkatesh, Executive Vice President, Real Estate and Development, IHCL, Archana Ram, Vice President at Taj Group of Hotels and IHCL.

Raju Chowdhary, Chairman KC Group was accompanied by Managing Director Siddhant Chowdhary along with Arjun Chowdhary and Arti Chowdhary, Directors of Hotel KC City Centre.

Chhatwal especially lauded the efforts of Siddhant Chowdhary,

Managing Director KC City Centre and his IHCL team member Archana Ram in negotiating and concluding the agreement.

Vivanta Jammu, an 88-room hotel is strategically located in the heart of the city, a comfortable driving distance from the airport, railway station as well as important business complexes.

The hotel's dining options will include an all-day dining restaurant, a rooftop restaurant, a bar and a specialty restaurant.

The recreational facilities will be an All weather heated rooftop swimming pool, fitness center, spa and 4 Banquet halls and meeting rooms for social and business gatherings.

Hotel KC City Centre previously a Ramada is slated to complete renovations in 2022.

Commenting on the partnership, Raju Chowdhary, Chairman at KC Group said, "We are delighted to partner with The Indian Hotels Company Limited. We look forward to working with them to bring their unique Vivanta brand and legendary experience to visitors to the city of temples Jammu."

He added that due to tireless efforts of the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, for the past one year to attract investment, national and international players have developed the confidence of investing in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The present tie up with world renowned Tata group and sons of the soil KC group is a step in that direction," he added.

Hotel KC City Centre which was earlier a Ramada will further be refurbished to bring the hotel to Vivanta brand standards.

Taj Vivanta Jammu will be the first IHCL branded hotel in Jammu, strengthening the company's presence in the Union Territory.

# Billawaria starts development works at Gangyal

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) senior leader Baldev Singh Billawaria on Wednesday started various development works at Sector-2, Gangyal in Jammu South-RS Pura constituency.

The development work of repair of lanes, construction of culverts and iron grating on drains will be done under the supervision of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC).

Speaking on the occasion, Billawaria said that the pending demands of the residents have been fulfilled and after the completion of these development work the residents of the area will get a lot of relief.

He welcomed the Delimitation Commission report of J&K UT and appreciated the support of the people of Jammu South-RS Pura constituency.

He claimed that the way people of Jammu South-RS Pura constituency have accepted the report of delimitation, it is quite clear that BJP will



BJP senior leader Baldev Singh Billawaria starting development works.

become an MLA from this assembly constituency and will achieve the target of 50 plus in the upcoming assembly elections.

Billawaria, while appraising people about the welfare schemes of the Central Government, said that the Bharatiya Janata Party is working on the agenda of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas" and for the upliftment of every section of the society. Earlier, he listened to the

problems and various demands raised by the people of the area and assured them their redressal.

The local people also appreciated the efforts of Billawaria and expressed their gratitude for taking up their pending demands from time to time on priority basis.

Harbans Choudhary, Ranjit Singh, Mulkh Raj, Jugal Kishore, Balwan Singh, Anoop Singh, Jatinder Singh, Hardeep Singh and Tajinder Singh were also present.

## People of J&K have to unite to fight attack on dignity: Mehbooba

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday said people of Jammu and Kashmir will have to unite to fight back the attack on their dignity and identity.

"There is no way out because of the circumstances Jammu and Kashmir is going through after August 2019, these circumstances demand that we unite. People from all walks of life, be it Gujjar, Pahari, Kashmiri, youth, women," Mehbooba said at a party function here. "We have many challenges. Post abrogation of Article 370, the situation is such that laws are being brought here with the aim of ending the land (holding of locals). What is the purpose of removing stamp duty on land deals? We have to understand

these things," she said.

Mehbooba said many government employees were being on the allegations of having terror links. "This is done without any proof. The affected employees are scared to approach the court as they fear they will be booked and jailed on terror charges if they do so. Vacancies are not being filled as they (administration) are waiting for people from outside to apply for these jobs. We are being disempowered and weakened. They are attacking our dignity," she said. Mehbooba claimed that the condition of Muslims in rest of the country was worse than Kashmiris. "They are talking about Qutb Minar, Red Fort. What all will they target? Mughals have left an indelible mark on the landscape of the country," she said.

## PHDCCI J&K denounces proposed hike in power tariff, demands immediate rollback

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The PHDCCI J&K, in a joint statement has demanded immediate rollback of proposal for average 12.46 per cent & 17.74 per cent power tariff hike in domestic, industrial, Commercial, agriculture categories. Rahul Sahai said the power tariff hike will be an unbearable burden on common people. He further added that even after enhancing tariff, the department would neither be able to meet revenue deficit nor net revenue requirement of FY 2022-23.

Rahul Sahai Chairman PHDCCI Jammu and Baldev Singh Raina Chairman PHDCCI Kashmir, stated that the proposed power tariff hike would

impact domestic, industrial as well as commercial consumers. "We therefore request Electricity Regulatory Commission, to thoroughly examine proposals of JPDCL and KPDCL and spare poor and middle-class domestic and existing Industrial and service sector consumers from this unnecessary power hike as all economic sectors are already saddled with uncertainty. We request UT administration not to increase the electricity tariff for financial year 2022-23. The tariff applicable for all categories of consumers should be kept same level as the previous year. The elec-



tricity commission and KPDCL & JPDCL should consider it prudent not to hike the power rate because of problems faced by people of J&K due to COVID-19, lockdowns and other issues," the members added. Baldev Singh Raina urged UT administration to earmark budget and additional funds as subsidy for electricity consumption by domestic and agricultural consumers to neutralize effect of increase in tariff. Moreover, there should be announcement for free electricity for domestic consumers having monthly consumption upto 150 units, he added.

## No convincing argument with CEC to justify delimitation: JKPCC

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma has rebutted the claim of Chief Election Commissioner that everything is fine with the delimitation report and said his assertions lack any convincing arguments, in view of unreasonable dissections of several constituencies, large variations in Inter population and totally against the geographical situations etc.

Reacting to the interview of CEC justifying the final report, JKPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said that it amounts to adding insult to the injury.

The vast majority of people irrespective of political affiliations, caste, creed, colour, religion and region were raising voice against several anomalies, hoping some modifications to rectify the blunders but the one sided draft report was finalized.

The CEC should know how the existing segments were unreasonably split and readjusted in such a manner that no settled norms appear to have been kept in mind, be it contiguity, connectivity, population, geographical situation and



public convenience, in most cases.

There are class examples of large variations and deviations from norms within district, district to districts, regions and there is no uniformity in population, area, topography.

Congress has always impressed upon adhering to the delimitation norms, in letter and spirit and justice to all areas, however same was not done in this case. The Rajouri Poonch is neither having proper connectivity or topographical/geographical contiguity rather kishtwar, Banihal had better parameters of contiguity, geographical, topographical situation and connected with highway or other routes but why Rajouri Poonch was clubbed with Anantnag, he wanted to know.

The earlier delimitation report was put before state legislature in 1987 and following objections by representatives, it was referred to review commission.

This is the right approach in a democracy and party shall continue to raise its voice individually and collectively, against the injustice with most areas, putting public to inconvenience and disadvantage, he added.

## 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, Shamachak, Gurha Singhu, Batera, Dabbin, Chorpur, Manyal, Dhramkhu, Tirth Talab, GREF, Gumpul, Sua No.1, Garkhal, Tawa, Kot, Kalri, Bishnah, Seora, Kunjwani, ApnaVihar, Biaspur, Kotli, Kalyana, Purana Pind, Raya, Smailpur, Gurah, Mandal, Gho Manhasa, Marh, Gajansoo, Kullian, Badyal, Kadyal Simbal, Akalpur, Udheywala, Sangrampur, Lale-De-Bagh, Nagbani, DPS School, Manorma Vihar, Anand Nagar, Domana, Lower Machelian, Nagbani, Kot, Bhalwal, Karwanda, Ghaink, Sehri, Barn Patta, Marjali, Central Jail and adjoining areas shall remain affected on May 12 from 7 am to 11 am.

## Kazmi urges Govt not to increase electricity charges in J&K

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Apni Party Trade Union President, Ajaz Kazmi on Tuesday appealed to the Govt not to hike the electricity rates in Jammu and Kashmir as it would put the people in general to unnecessary financial crises.

In a statement in reaction to the electricity increase, he said that the Govt should not increase the price of the electricity. "The PDD has not been able to provide adequate power supply in Jammu amid the soaring heat yet the decision to increase the electricity charges will create an unbearable situation for the people of Jammu as well as Kashmir," he said.

He said that the auto drivers, rehri walas, small shopkeepers, daily wagers, house boat own-

ers, shikara owners, hoteliers, restaurant/dhaba owners and others whose income is very less would be forced to face situation which can be averted with mature decision of no increasing it in J&K.

He said that PDD should have enhanced its capability of supplying electricity to each and every household across Jammu and Kashmir even in remote areas round the clock but it has failed and now the decision to increase the tariff will add further problems.

Prominent among those who were present in the meeting include provincial president, Raj Sharma, provincial vice president, Sheikh Abdul Latief, district president urban, Anirudh Vasist, provincial secretary, Mohd Ashraf and District Secretary Mudassir Shah.



### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu with a motto to provide cross-cultural exposure and a global perspective to the students has developed an extensive International Students Exchange Programme.

The Exchange Programme has become increasingly

popular with the students. The Institute is to offer 20 scholarships of Rs. 1.5 lakh each for meritorious students from Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) to participate in the Students Exchange Programme (SEP) and Academic International Events every year.

Speaking on the occasion,

## Sangram Sena flays deteriorating traffic scenario in Jammu city

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting of J&K Sangram Sena was held at Jammu on Wednesday under the President of Sangram Sena J&K R.K Raina in which the senior citizens, Sena workers and youths were present.

The main objective of meeting was the deteriorated condition of traffic police in maintaining the law and order and smooth functioning of the traffic in Jammu City.

While addressing R.K Raina stated that the traffic police is spread over all routes of Jammu city in order to maintain smooth traffic movement in the city but it is unfortunate that the traffic police seems as dead legs stand-

ing on the road side in Jammu city and Chowks of Jammu city. Traffic police never bothers to check the mini buses who often are over loaded due to which accidents takes place.

He appealed to LG Manoj Sinha to make traffic police machinery in proper working in the interest of public.

Others who participated in Meeting includes: Sh. R.K Raina President Sangram Sena, Capt.

RS Langleh Gen. Secy Sangram Sena, Sh Sudhir Padha Chairman Divine touch and member Sewa Samiti, Sh Brij Mehra President Jammu Pragati manch Jammu, Sh Rajesh Banathia C.O Sangram Sena and many other was also present.

## Press Club Jammu pays tributes to Ashok Sodhi on his 14th Martyrdom Day



Vice-President PCJ, Zorawar Singh Jamwal paying tributes to photojournalist Ashok Sodhi.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The journalist fraternity today remembered Ashok Sodhi - a photojournalist on his 14th death anniversary, who sacrificed his life while performing professional duties during an encounter at Samba on May 11, 2008.

The Press Club of Jammu this afternoon organized a simple function to pay homage and tributes to late photojournalist. Media men from both electronic and print assembled at the venue

and lightened candles besides paid floral tributes to the martyr.

Daughter of late Ashok Sodhi Inna Sodhi was also present at the function. Vice-president of the Press Club of Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, advised the working journalists to be careful and alert while performing their professional duties.

"The budding journalists especially those who are not equipped with safety gadgets must remain cautious while covering the incidents of

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Orthopedic Department of Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu was prominently represented in the recently held North Zone Orthopedic Conference at Chandigarh. Dr Sanjeev Gupta, who

was current President of North Zone Orthopedic Association, has led the delegates.

Dr Sanjeev Gupta, Dr Abdul Ghani and Dr Bias Dev, Dr Manish Singh and Dr Tahir were the invited faculty in the conference

from GMC Jammu and delivered their talks on different orthopedic issues.

Dr Sanjeev Gupta handed over the Baton of Presidency to president elect Dr Shobha Arora for the next year.

Secretary-General of Press Club of Jammu, Dinesh Manhotra recalled his association with late Ashok Sodhi. He exhorted budding journalists to follow safety measures while covering encounters and other events.

The journalists also observed two minutes of silence in the memory of late Ashok Sodhi. Others present on the occasion included former President Press Club of Jammu and a Senior Journalist, Manu Shrivatsa, Times Now Editor Pardeep Dutta, Pawan Sharma, Nishikant Khajuria, Channi Anand, Vishal Bharati, Dinesh Mahajan, Deepak Khajuria, Rajinder Kitchloo, Kunal Shrivatsa, Deepak Khajuria, Govind Chouhan, Raman Raina, Pradeep Bakshi, Ajay Menia and Ashwani Sharma.

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## Drivers & Cleaners Union accords farewell to outgoing JMC Commissioner



JMC Drivers and Cleaners Union members according farewell to outgoing Commissioner JMC Anv Lavasa.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Municipal Corporation Drivers and Cleaners Union organised a farewell function in honour of Commissioner JMC Anv Lavasa (IAS) on her transfer as Deputy Commissioner Jammu.

President of the Union Narinder Pal Singh, all members, besides Joint Commissioner JMC Pankaj Gupta, Secretary Atul

Kumar and Health Officer Vinod Sharma were also present.

While wishing all the very best to the officer for her new posting, speakers recalled the versatile service profile of the officer and termed her contribution during his service period in JMC as of immense importance. The officer was also praised for his great integrity and professional bent of mind.