

LG stresses on increasing visibility of IRCS, connecting maximum volunteers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: Stressing on connecting maximum volunteers with Indian Red Cross Society by organizing outreach programs on priority, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday directed the UT-level committee for submitting the future action plan of the organization within 15 days.

Chairing the 177th Managing Committee meeting of J&K Chapter of Indian Red Cross Society, the Lieutenant Governor also issued directions for instituting functional units of IRCS across all Districts of the UT, besides revamping the functioning of regional and UT level headquarters.

The high level meeting of the office bearers and members of IRCS was convened at Raj Bhavan.

During the meeting, the Lt Governor, who is the President of the organization reviewed the activities and



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha chairing 177th Managing Committee meeting of J&K Chapter of Indian Red Cross Society.

programs conducted by IRCS-JK across the UT in last two years and the tasks performed by the volunteers and the staff of the organization.

The meeting decided to incorporate new social welfare activities and training programs in the yearly calendar of Red Cross Society.

The Lt Governor directed for constituting a committee under the chairmanship of Vivek Bharadwaj, Financial Commissioner, (Additional

Chief Secretary), Finance Department for examining various issues presented during the meeting as agenda items.

The Lt Governor directed General Secretary, IRCS to bring out an Annual Calendar for the training of UT and District level Disaster Response Teams and stock sufficient quantity of relief material such as tents, blankets, first aid kits at appropriate locations where these could be used

immediately and managed efficiently, during any emergency situation.

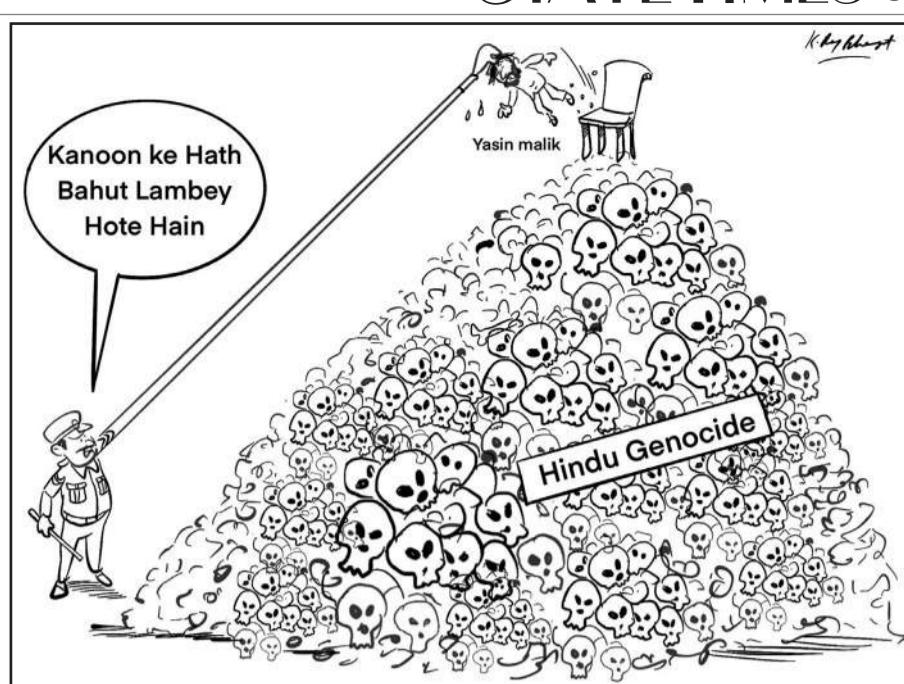
He further urged Red Cross to collaborate with other government agencies for implementation of various schemes at grass root levels. Deputy Commissioners were directed for actively organizing and supporting the activities of Red Cross Society in their respective districts.

Earlier, Kifayat Hussain Rizvi, General Secretary, IRCS-JK gave a brief on the

achievements, activities and programs of IRCS-JK including Covid-19 response, Immunization programmes, Blood Donation camps, Ambulance services, First Aid training and Awareness camps.

Dinesh Gupta, Member Managing Committee IRCS-JK apprised the meeting on various core issues and need for revitalizing the organization at the District level.

Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; B.K. Singh, Principal Secretary School Education; Sheetal Nanda, Commissioner/Secretary, Social Welfare Department, besides Deputy Commissioners, senior officers of UT administration, BSF, CRPF, Army, office-bearers of IRCS-JK attended the meeting in person and through virtual mode.



Sadhotra urges Govt to regularise PHE daily-wagers; release salaries, arrears

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: Senior National Conference leader and former Minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra on Friday urged the government to look into the issues pertaining to regularization and release of wages to daily rated, casual and need based workers, saying drift-like situation has impacted utility services from time to time leading to drinking water crisis in most of the areas.

"Despite a policy decision taken and the regularization approved by the successive governments, the issue is unnecessarily being lingered, leading to chaotic situation and frequent strikes by these categories of workers",

According to ANTF SSP Vinay Sharma, on receiving a specific input that a White Colour Swift Desire car bearing registration no. HR55AA-6251 carrying huge quantity of drugs is coming from Amritsar to Jammu, the sleuths of ANTF laid nakas at various places in and around Jammu and intercepted a car at NHW-44 near Purmandal Morh Kaluchak Jammu.

"On thorough checking of the car, 272 grams of Heroin concealed inside the front right side of window frame of the car was recovered and driver was arrested and car was seized,"

SSP said, adding that arrested driver has been identified as Harpreet Singh, son of Satnam Singh, resident of H No-332, Chahal Road, Guru Nanak Nagar Bhatiwal Amritsar.

"A case FIR 06/2022 under Section 8/21/22 NDPS Act was registered at Police Station ANTF Jammu and ANTF is investigating further links and more arrests are expected,"

He said. SSP ANTF appealed general public to share information regarding such drug dealers so that appropriate legal actions are taken against them and this menace is uprooted from our society.

In a statement issued here, the BJP stalwart leader said that like many other issues which the present government is confronting because of mistakes of successive governments in J&K, the issue of the aforesaid employees has also become critical and needs to be solved considering the plight of protesting staff which is suffering due to the direction-



Senior NC Leader & Former Minister Ajay Kumar Sadhotra interacting with people at Gurha Brahmana (Patoli) Jammu

about 60,000 daily wagers/casual workers/need base workers as per laid down norms in a phased manner, Sadhotra said that the basic exercise had been carried out after thorough deliberations at various levels. The decision could not however be implemented due to 2014 floods, he added.

He blamed the government for taking sadistic pleasure in the sufferings of the daily wagers and expressed regrets over the

continuous delay in sorting out their issues, saying due to rigid approach of the government families of all these categories of workers have virtually come on roads due to delay in salaries and arrears pending for years.

Taking note of the issues raised by the PHE daily wagers, Sadhotra supported

their demands for regularization, release of salaries pending for 70 months, absorption of the next of kin of those expired in harness, special assistance of Rs 10 lakhs for those retired besides enhancement of daily wages to Rs 618.

Prominent locals who spoke on the occasion were Ram, Bishan Dass, Raj Kumar who put forward their day to day problems of water, electricity, lanes and drains.

Sadhotra assured them that their problems shall be taken at appropriate quarter for early redressal.

Others who spoke on the occasion include Ghar Singh Chib Corporator, Raghbir Singh Manhas District President, Charan Dass Bhagat and Capt. Joginder Lal.

Dr Jitendra addresses orientation workshop for Kashmir Municipal Councillors



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh posing for a group photograph during Orientation Workshop for Mayors, Municipal Councillors of Kashmir division at IIPA, New Delhi.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday addressed the Orientation Workshop/Programme on Urban Governance for the Mayors, Municipal Chairpersons, Municipal Councillors and Executives Officers of Urban Local Bodies from the Kashmir division of Jammu & Kashmir.

A similar programme for the Mayors, Municipal Chairpersons, Municipal Councillors and Executives Officers of the Jammu division was conducted some time back.

Interacting with the participants, the Minister said, in the last three years Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of J&K have made significant progress in the implementation of central missions on urban development which specially include PMSVANIDHI, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and National Urban Livelihood Mission.

Dr Jitendra said, elected leaders and officers from ULBs will work as a team to address local concerns for the betterment of state as they are backbone of our democratic system.

He also suggested them to work for more effective communication with the community to adapt modern technology on solid waste management, solar energy, sewage treatment and conservation of natural environment in their towns.

The Minister added that Jammu and Kashmir is undergoing a process of rapid economic growth wherein ULBs play an important role to enable

growth of manufacturing and services with suitable development of municipal infrastructure.

Irshad Ahmad Wani, President MC Hajin, Abdul Karim Dar, President MC Kunzar, Masroor Ahmad Banday, President MC Handwara, Musarat Nissar, President MC Sopora, Mehrajud Din Dar, President MC Budgam, Muneeb Ahmad, President MC Kulgam, Shri Manzoor Ahmad Khan, President MC Tral, Shri Wali Mohammad Wani, I/C Chief Ex. Officer MC Bandipora, Intiyazu ul Haq, Executive Officer MC Baramulla, Ajaz Ahmad Khan, Executive Officer MC Wattergam, Suhail Ahmad Malik, Executive Officer MC Bijbehara, Mohammad Irfan Wani, Executive Officer MC Devsar, Mir Tafveer Mahmood, Executive Officer MC Pahalgam, Tareeq Hassan Lone, I/C Executive Officer MC Mattan, Nazeer Ahmad Dar, I/C Executive Officer MC Budgam, Farooq Ahmad Rather, I/C Executive Officer MC Handwara took part in today's deliberations.

Dr Jitendra pointed out that this orientation programme has components and issues under the Government of India Urban Missions and initiatives taken by other cities in the country.

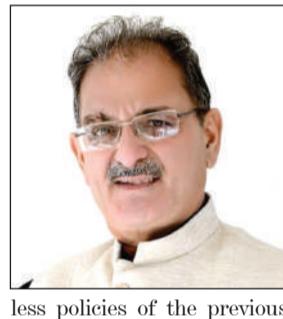
These include innovations and adaptation technology under respective mission like SBM 2.0 and Smart Cities Mission and AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation

Resolve issue of ReK, Zirat & Janglat employees, end logjam: Kavinder urges LG's Admn

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: Favouring the plight of Rehbar-e-Khel (ReK), Zirat and Janglat employees, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Friday urged LG Manoj Sinha's administration to end the stalemate by resolving their issue once and for all.

In a statement issued here, the BJP stalwart leader said that like many other issues which the present government is confronting because of mistakes of successive governments in J&K, the issue of the aforesaid employees has also become critical and needs to be solved considering the plight of protesting staff which is suffering due to the direction-



less policies of the previous regimes in J&K.

The senior BJP leader urged LG Manoj Singh to amicably find the solution to end the logjam as the stand taken by the protesting employees is also genuine because the problem was created by the imprudent decisions of the successive governments which continued to linger on the issue without taking pain to resolve it.

He however said that Rehbar scheme employees need not to worry as LG's administration will take care of their genuine demands and the issue will be resolved amicably.

"The persistent irrationality in the decisions taken by the successive governments has led to such situations which the present dispensations both at the centre and in the UT are finding hard to resolve and this is one among them", he said.

He however said that

Rehbar scheme employees need not to worry as LG's administration will take care of their genuine demands and the issue will be resolved amicably.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: The Anti Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) of Jammu and Kashmir police, specialized unit to check rising menace of drugs, achieved another success on Friday after it foiled a bid to smuggle huge quantity of Heroin worth lakhs of rupees.

According to ANTF SSP Vinay Sharma, on receiving a specific input that a White Colour Swift Desire car bearing registration no. HR55AA-6251 carrying huge quantity of drugs is coming from Amritsar to Jammu, the sleuths of ANTF laid nakas at various places in and around Jammu and intercepted a car at NHW-44 near Purmandal Morh Kaluchak Jammu.

"On thorough checking of the car, 272 grams of Heroin concealed inside the front right side of window frame of the car was recovered and driver was arrested and car was seized,"

SSP said, adding that arrested driver has been identified as Harpreet Singh, son of Satnam Singh, resident of H No-332, Chahal Road, Guru Nanak Nagar Bhatiwal Amritsar.

"A case FIR 06/2022 under Section 8/21/22 NDPS Act was registered at Police Station ANTF Jammu and ANTF is investigating further links and more arrests are expected,"

He said. SSP ANTF appealed general public to share information regarding such drug dealers so that appropriate legal actions are taken against them and this menace is uprooted from our society.

Amarnath Yatra: DGP chairs high-level meeting, reviews security, deployment arrangements

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Srinagar: Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh on Friday chaired a high level meeting of senior officers from Police, Army & CAPFs to review the security arrangements and deployment of personnel for the Shri Amarnath Yatra- 2022 at Police Headquarters here.

The meeting was attended in person by ADG CRPF J&K Daljit Singh Choudhary, Spl. DG CID J&K R R Swain, Commandant General HG/CD J&K H K Lohia, ADGP Armed J&K SJM Gillani, ADGP Traffic J&K T Namgyal, IGP CRPF (KOS) M S Bhatia, IGP BSF Kashmir Rajababu Singh, IGP CRPF (SOS) Charu Sinha, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, DIG SKR Abdul Jabbar, DIG SSB H B K Singh, DPT J&K Shridhar Patil, Col. BGS 15 Corps Priyank Dahiya, SSP Shri Mukesh Kumar, AIG CIV PHQ Rajesh Bali, and other gazetted officers of different forces.

ADGP Jammu Mukesh Singh, IGP BSF Jammu Shri



DGP J&K Dilbag Singh chairing a high-level meeting.

Danesh Kumar Boora, IG CRPF Jammu P S Ranje, DIG JSK range Vivek Gupta, DIG DKR Sunil Gupta, DIG URR M Suleiman Choudhary, BGS 16 Corps Arvind Chouhan, rep of 26 Div, district SSPs of Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Udhampur, Ramtan, Kulgam, Anantnag, Avantipora, Ganderbal attended the meeting through video conferencing.

The meeting deliberated on different issues of security of camps, communication network, regulation of traffic management for smooth and peaceful conduct of the yatra. He emphasised upon officers for special focus on sensitive locations and base camps while putting in place the security

arrangements. The DGP said that the coordination mechanisms and communication systems must be established among the counterparts of all the stakeholders of army, CAPFs, Police and Civil administration. He said that adequate and effective deployments should be made on ground to address any vulnerability and to gaps if any. He directed the officers to revisit security plans and fine tune these at sectoral level to augment an adequate response to any exigency. He emphasized for focus on ROPs, lateral deployment, law & order deployment to neutralize threats and meet the challenges. He said that

the officers representing different forces gave their suggestions for smooth conduct of SANJY. The officers apprised the DGP regarding their requirements and also briefed about the measures formulated for the peaceful conduct of the yatra.

A adequate manpower will be available to the jurisdictional officers. The DGP directed that the identified routes of travel and movement, Do's and Don'ts for the yatra, helpline numbers should be made public and be circulated through every possible medium so that yatra could take note and ask for any assistance effortlessly. The DGP said that adequate logistics with regard to mobility, CCTVs and other security gadgets will be made available along with sufficient manpower. He said that adequate arrangements with regard to disaster management should be made to tackle any natural calamity. He also highlighted the need to put in place SOPs for any eventuality of fire or flash floods.

The officers representing different forces gave their suggestions for smooth conduct of SANJY. The officers apprised the DGP regarding their requirements and also briefed about the measures formulated for the peaceful conduct of the yatra.

A similar programme for the Mayors, Municipal Chairpersons, Municipal Councillors and Executives Officers of the Jammu division was conducted some time back.

Interacting with the participants, the Minister said, in the last three years Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of J&K have made significant progress in the implementation of central missions on urban development which specially include PMSVANIDHI, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 and National Urban Livelihood Mission.

Dr Jitendra said, elected leaders and officers from ULBs will work as a team to address local concerns for the betterment of state as they are backbone of our democratic system.

He also suggested them to work for more effective communication with the community to adapt modern technology on solid waste management, solar energy, sewage treatment and conservation of natural environment in their towns.

The Minister added that

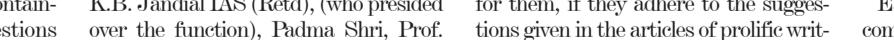
Baloria releases book 'Old Age is a Boon and not a Curse'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

Jammu: A book "Old Age is a Boon and not a Curse" brought out by Home for the Aged and Infirm, Ambphalla Jammu by collecting articles, containing power-packed brief suggestions from very eminent and renowned writers was released here on Friday at Indian Institute of Public Administration.

These articles, compiled and given the shape of a book by I.D Soni, President of the Home, have direct bearing to the problems and needs of the daily life of senior educated persons.

Dr. S.S. Bloeria IAS (Retd), Former



Dignitaries releasing a book "Old Age is a Boon and not a Curse" in Jammu on Friday.

Chief Secretary J&K released the Book at a simple but impressive function, as a Chief Guest.

The function was also graced by K.B. Jandial LAS (Retd), (who presided over the function), Padma Shri, Prof. Shiv Dutt Nirnathi, Padma Shri Dr. Jitender Udhampuri and Prem Gupta, IPS, Patron of Home besides other literary figures of Jammu Division.

The Chief Guest, in his valued address, appreciated the efforts made by the Home to motivate the elderly persons and to make them capable to contribute devotionally on one hand and to remain happy, peaceful, enlightened

and courageous on the other. He further said that these articles are going to become shining beacon to elderly people and shall prove as nuggets of wisdom for them, if they adhere to the suggestions given in the articles of prolific writers sincerely. K.B. Jandial, in a brief manner, expressed his views about the articles compiled in the shape of a Book. He praised the efforts of the Home to encourage the elderly persons who live in fear of the future, of unpredictable happenings, of ill-health, of lack of emotional touch and greatest of all - loneliness. These articles, he commented, will go a long way to be a source