

AICC Gen Secy reviews J&K situation, ULB elections

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: AICC General Secretary Incharge Organisation and Member Parliament, K C Venugopal on Tuesday chaired a meeting of senior leadership of Jammu and Kashmir to take stock of the overall situation especially the preparedness for the upcoming elections to the ULB and Panchayats due to be held later this year.

The meeting was attended by the AICC Incharge J&K Affairs and Member Parliament Rajni Patil, JKPC President Vikar Rasool Wani, CWC Member Tariq Hameed Karra, AICC Joint Secretary Co-Incharge Sayeed and G A Mir, Working President Raman Bhalla, Ex Dy CM Tara Chand, Mula Ram, Th Balwan Singh, GN Monga, Neeraj Kundan and Ravinder Sharma.

The J&K leadership apprised the general secretary about the current political



AICC General Secretary Incharge Organisation and MP, K C Venugopal chairing a meeting of senior J&K leaders.

situation and the party's preparations for the upcoming elections to the ULB and Panchayats due later this year.

The party leaders apprised him of the boost to the party after the massive response to the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Shri Rahul Gandhi and the landslide victory of the party in Karnataka.

The people are totally fed up with the policies of the BJP government especially the unprecedented price rise, record unemployment and job seams besides other anti

people actions of the government.

The people want early restoration of statehood and immediate elections to the assembly, which stand's dissolved for around five years.

The General Secretary AICC told the J&K leaders to further gear up the activities and preparations for the upcoming elections to ULB and Panchayats in a coordinated manner besides continue raising the public issues in a forceful manner and expose the BJP's wrong policies.

100 laptops provided to girl students of Govt schools in Jammu Div



Director SEJ, Ashok Kumar Sharma distributing laptops among students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Kumar Sharma on Tuesday distributed 100 free laptops, 25 laptops each to Reasi, Kathua, Jammu and Kishtwar districts for the government school girls of Jammu division here at a function organised in the Government Girls Higher Secondary School Mubarak Mandi.

The event was marked as an important step towards promoting digital literacy and IT awareness among girls in line with the vision of the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

The laptops were distributed by the Director, the chief guest on the occasion, along with the guests of honour: K K Parashar, representative of Paytm Foundation and General

Secretary, Mahamana Malaviya Mission, Jaipur (Raj.) and Dharmendra Jhamb, Vice President, Paytm Foundation, New Delhi, S S Rathore, Chief Education Officer, Jammu and the Principal of the school, Poonam Sharma.

Speaking on the the Director said that the aim of the program was to bridge the digital divide and empower the girl students by providing them access to digital platforms, digital education, and IT awareness.

Addressing the teaching fraternity, he said that the Directorate keeps reinventing itself to keep up with the changing times in order to provide the students with the latest teaching aids and tools.

"We believe that digital litera-

cy is the key to unlock the potential of individuals, businesses, and nations. We are committed to bridging the digital divide by providing access to digital platforms and education to everyone, regardless of their gender or geographical location", he added.

The event was marked as a significant milestone in promoting digital literacy in Jammu and Kashmir, especially among girls, who often miss out on the opportunity to access digital platforms and IT education due to various social and cultural barriers.

The enthusiasm of the students towards the program encouraged the organizers to plan similar events in the future.

K K Parashar informed the audience that the laptops were

Gaurav condemns selective killing in Anantnag, terms it 'despicable act' by Pakistan Expresses grief over loss of lives in bus accident in Jajjar Kotli

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jammu, today strongly condemned the killing of youth Deepu hailing from Udhampur District in the terrorist attack at Anantnag District, terming it another despicable act of violence by Pakistan.

In a statement issued here today, Gaurav said that the target killings are testimony to the fact that minority community is not safe in the Valley as terrorists are targeting the vulnerable community after regular intervals. He said that the situation right now is grim as every now and then terrorists are carrying out terror strikes killing the soft targets with police and other security forces proving out to be defunct in stopping this vicious cycle of violence and killings.

Gupta demanded that the government should come up with a foolproof security strategy to ensure the safety of all, especially the minority Hindu community residing in the

Valley. The government should brace-up the security grid and mobilize the intelligence network to ensure that such horrendous attacks should be stopped in the coming time, he said. Gaurav said that the government should come up with a foolproof security strategy to ensure the safety of all, especially the Hindu community, which is by and large the main target of the ultras active in the Union Territory. He said that there is need to further boost up security to instill confidence among the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, Gaurav Gupta also expressed grief over the loss of lives in a bus accident in the Jajjar Kotli area where in 10 persons died and more than 50 were injured after their bus skidded off a bridge and fell into a gorge. He expressed solidarity with the bereaved families and prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured.

He appealed to the government to provide all medical assistance to the injured and compensation to the kin of victims.

National Secy Mahamana Malaviya Mission, KCCI delegation call on LG



KCCI delegation calling on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Srinagar on Tuesday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: K.K. Parashar, National Secretary Mahamana Malaviya Mission and representative of Paytm Foundation, New Delhi called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, at Raj Bhawan on Tuesday.

He discussed with the Lt Governor various welfare initiatives being run by his organisation in Jammu Kashmir. He apprised the Lt Governor on the upcoming

programmes including distribution of laptops to students, Oxygen plant at Kathua, and an MoU for Digital literacy and IT sector development between J&K Government and the Paytm Foundation.

The Lt Governor appreciated the efforts of Parashar and assured him of all the support from the UT administration.

Earlier, a delegation of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry

(KCCI) led by its president Javid Ahmad Tenga met the Lt Governor and discussed matters relating to Industries & Commerce; investment and growth in various sectors including Education, Hospitality, Food processing, and crop insurance for Horticulture Sector.

The Lt Governor assured the members of the delegation of appropriate action and redressal of the genuine demands put forth by them.

BJP to launch campaign to highlight achievements of Modi govt's 9-years: Ashok Koul



BJP General Secretary (Org.), Ashok Koul chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP will launch a massive campaign during the next 30 days to highlight PM Modi's 9-year-tenure.

"Senior party leaders will take the achievements of Modi government to masses in Jammu & Kashmir during the meticulously designed "Maha Jana

Sampark Campaign", which will start with a Press meet by Party President, said Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Org.), Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir while chairing a review meeting of Media and Social Media teams at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here on

Tuesday.

J&K BJP General Secretary & former Minister Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal, who is supervising the campaign along with Members of state level media and social media teams including party Spokesperson Abhijeet Jasrotia, Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, social Media Incharge Ankit Gupta, Mahila Morcha Chief Spokesperson Ritika Trehan and others participated in the meeting.

Koul stressed that, whereas the programmes would be conducted in between the masses, however the central teams of the party's media and social media have to take a proactive role in

ensuring the reach of the party's policies and achievements to every corner of the region.

"The party will formally launch the 'Maha Jana Sampark Campaign' and share the details in a Press Meet to be addressed by party President Ravinder Raina at party headquarters. Thereafter, the party will also hold Press Meets in all the Lok Sabha constituencies to share the minute details of the whole campaign", said Ashok Koul.

Dr. Devinder Manyal distributed the responsibilities among the team members and prompted them to work professionally to present the merits of the Modi government.

E-Auction of 7 minor mineral blocks generate Rs 55 Cr revenue

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The District e-Auction committee, under the Chairpersonship of Deputy Commissioner Avny Lavasa, successfully conducted the e-Auction of three minor mineral blocks located in Tawi river on Tuesday. The e-Auction notice for these three blocks was notified on 04-05-2023 by District Mineral Officer, Jammu and the e-Auction for the same was conducted today under the supervision of ADC L&O Harvinder Singh. The Department of Geology & Mining had identified 32 minor mineral blocks in Tawi river and its tribu-

taries in District Jammu, out of which clearances for 07 Number of Minor Mineral Blocks were issued by Single Window Committee of District Jammu. These blocks were put to e-Auction and four blocks had already been successfully auctioned and LOIs have been issued H1 Bidders, for which revenue of Rupees 15 Crores was generated. The remaining three blocks following in the Tawi river which were e-Auctioned on 30-05-2023 generated additional revenue of Rupees 40 Crores which is the highest ever recorded revenue for any minor mineral block in J&K.

During the e-Auction, the highest bid amount for Block Number 12/J and 13/J was submitted by M/s Choudhary Power Projects Pvt. Ltd. and for block 19/J highest bid amount was submitted by Sandeep Singh. The e-Auction was conducted in presence of Dr. Gulshan Kumar, District Mineral Officer, Jammu (Member Secretary), H.L. Langel, Joint Director, Geology & Mining, Jammu, Ashok Khajuria, Treasury Officer, Jammu, Kumar Jatinder Sharma, Executive Engineer, and Fungo Ram Bhagat, Executive Engineer, (Irrigation).

Yudhvir, Priya releases devotional album 'Jyot Jage Darbar'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, BJP J&K Vice President along with Priya Sethi, National Executive Member BJP and former minster and Zorawar Singh Jamwal, BJP leader today released a devotional album 'Jyot Jage Darbar' in a programme held here on Tuesday.

Renowned singers Sunil Sharma, Sahil Lucky, Suraj

completed under the banner of The Wave of Art.

Observing that music knows no boundaries, Sethi said it binds the people in a unique cord and generates harmony in the society. "And, when music relates to spirituality, it directly touches souls and creates an aura free of tension and hatred", he said, adding that music plays pivotal role in preserving culture and taking



BJP J&K Vice President, Yudhvir Sethi and others releasing devotional album.

Singh and Professor Anupama Singh were also graced the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi complimented the singer of devotional song Hari Hans besides musicians and composer on the release. He praised the artists for devoting their services to the divinity of Maa Durga in a melodious composition and hailed the efforts of organizers.

The lyrics of the songs have been given by Indrjeet Kesar, music by Rakesh Anand, Video Director Shubam Singh and video was edited by Bupinder Singh. The recording of the album was done at Krishna Digital Studio and Audio Mix Master at Gourav Beats Studio. The Album was

it beyond boundaries.

Sethi said the young artists deserve all the encouragement by the organizations associated with promotion of art and culture besides the electronic channels. Speaking on the occasion, Priya Sethi congratulated the entire team of video album and hoped that this will make waves in music industry besides is liked by people across the country. She hoped that such music album will inspire young artists of J&K to explore their hidden talent and make their niche in the society.

Zorawar Singh hoped this would go a long way to promote local talent and said that youth should be educated about our traditional values which are the foundations of our age old heritage.

Dental Camp by PG Dept of Conservative Dentistry held at IIIM Jammu



IGGDC doctors with IIIM Jammu faculty during a camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Post Graduate (PG) Department of Conservative Dentistry & Endodontics conducted a screening-cum Restorative Dental Camp at IIIM Jammu. The Team of Dental Surgeons led by Dr. Azhar Malik, HoD Post Graduate Dept. of Conservative Dentistry conducted screening and on spot restoration of the staff of IIIM. The event was

organized in association with IIIM Staff Club, Jammu. Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM, Jammu and President CSIR-IIIM Staff club inaugurated the event with opening remarks on importance of oral hygiene. Senior faculty from Dental College apprised the RRL school children's and others regarding standard oral care and measures to prevent carries. Session was chaired by

Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Er. Abdul Rahim Chief Scientist, Dr. Azhar Malik Prof. & Head, PG department of Conservative Dentistry, IGGDC Jammu, Dr. Shashank Singh, Senior Principal Scientist & Vice President CSIR-IIIM, Staff Club, Jammu Anju Bala Principal, RRL School, Jammu. Senior Faculty Dr. Ajay Gupta Associate Professor, Dr. Rachna Dhani,

Assistant Professor, Dr. Shamim Anjum, Assistant Professor, Dr. Ravinder Bhagat, Lecturer, Dr. Sachin Lect. Dr. Sukhbir Kour, Dr. Sangeeta Bhagat IGGDC, Jammu, Resident graduate students and dental technical staff did spot restoration, evaluation and restoration of dental problems and oral related diseases of RRL School children and IIIM Staff. Other Executive members of Staff club Dr. S.R. Meena, Sport Secretary, Rajni Kumari, Cultural Secretary conducted the proceedings of the event.

The Camp was organized under the overall guidance of Prof Rakesh Gupta, Principal, IGGDC Jammu in success of Dental Care program.

Court frames charges against CEO, ZEO & Ors

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Special Judge Anticorruption Jammu Tahir Khurshid Raina framed charges against Tarsem Lal then Chief Education Officer (CEO) Jammu, Ram Rakha the then ZEO Chowki Choura, Jammu, Sheru Ram the then Headmaster Govt. High School Mallah and Priti Rani u/s 5(1)(d) r/w 5(2) of PC Act, Svt. 2006 and Sec. 120-B, RPC.

The case of the prosecution against the accused is that one Kasturi Lal s/o Kaka Ram r/o Mallah, Tehsil Karah Balli, District Jammu, lodged a complaint against the public servants, namely, Sheru Ram, the then Headmaster Govt. High School Mallah, Ram Rakha, the then ZEO Chowki Choura, Tarsem Lal, the then CEO, Jammu, and others alleging therein that the public servants had misused their official positions for extraneous consideration to give undue benefit to Ms. Priti Rani d/o Bachan Dass r/o Mallah,

Tehsil Karah Balli District Jammu for appointing her as ReT Teacher in Govt. High School, Mallah. On the basis of said complaint a preliminary verification was

conducted by the ACB wherein it was found that Ram Rakha, the then ZEO Chowki Choura, had prepared panel of select list wherein accused Preeti Rani figured at S. No. 1, despite knowing the fact that her category certificate based on ALC had expired on the date of application and her case for renewal of the same was pending disposal with Tehsildar Akhnoor. That the CEO, Jammu, namely, accused Tarsem Lal, despite having clear directions of the Director School Education, Jammu, to keep the engagement order pending in case of any discrepancy, had processed the case of beneficiary which paved way for her engagement. As such, the aforementioned public servants made/ facilitated the illegal engagement of Ms. Priti Rani and conferred upon her undue benefit by engaging her as ReT Teacher in Govt. High School Mallah under ALC category. It was done in disregard to the Govt. Order No. 1034/Edu of 2013 dated 26-12-2013 which provides special dispensation for recruitment of teacher on ReT pattern in socially and educationally backward areas and in the area near Line of Control identified under

J&K Reservation Rules. This illegal appointment led to beneficiary to withdraw salary of Rs. 99,000/- till Feb. 2017. It was, therefore, revealed in preliminary verification that the said public servants in connivance with the beneficiary facilitated her selection/engagement as ReT Teacher quite illegally. Pursuant to the said findings of the said preliminary verification, the FIR got registered against the said public servants and the beneficiary for commission of offences under Sections 5(1)(d) r/w 5(2), J&K PC Act Svt. 2006, r/w Sec. 120-B, RPC. The registration of the case led to the investigation in the case.

Special Judge Anticorruption Jammu Tahir Khurshid after hearing both the sides held that in the light of the factual matrix of the case, as presented briefly in the foregoing paras, coupled with the legal position, as referred to herein above, I am convinced that there is a prima-facie material on record to presume that offences under sections 5(1)(d) r/w 5(2) of PC Act, Svt. 2006 and Sec. 120-B, RPC stand committed by the accused who are required to be charged for the commission of said offences.

Congress leader Joins BJP with supporters



BJP State President Ravinder Raina welcoming newly joined members.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RS PURA: Prominent Congress leader, Lambardar Rajindra Kumar from Khawaskhan Dharp Panchayat and social activist Dr. Varinder Singh Sambyal from Ekta Vihar along with hundreds of his supporters joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under the leadership of BJP State President Ravindra Raina and Deputy Mayor, Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria here at Dharp in RS Pura-Jammu South constituency.

has always acted as a family that respects everybody and cares for everyone".

He said the party has always opened up arms for those who want to serve the nation and society.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria said that entry of Lambardar Rajindra Kumar and Dr. Varinder Singh Sambyal into the party fold will boost the morale of the youth. Deputy Mayor Jammu while welcoming the new entrants claimed that the people are coming forward in large numbers to join the BJP and strengthen the hands of Narendra Modi due to the public-friendly decisions taken by the Prime Minister. On the occasion, Lambardar Rajindra Kumar said that he was impressed by the policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and expressed his faith in BJP to bring change in Khawaskhan Darp Panchayat area. Mandal President Ranjit Singh, Harbans Chaudhary, Rakesh Sangral, Jugal Kishore, Sohan Singh (Sonu), Sham Lal, Suresh Motan, Sanjeev Kumar, Gardari Lal and others were present on the occasion.