

BFDC demands action against miscreants tampering archaeological structure of Bahu Fort

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bahu Fort Development Committee (BFDC) has condemned the attempt of tampering with archaeological protected ancient structure of Bahu Fort, which housed Jammu's deity Maa Bawe Wali by unknown miscreants and unobvious silence of the administration on the criminal act.

Speaking to media, Rajeev Charak President BFDC said that some miscreants tried to install fabricated structure in fortified archaeological protected monument, which remained under tight security of Jammu and Kashmir police and paramilitary forces.

Charak surprised to know that despite being protected by men and technology driven gadgets, nobody knows that about so called



Fabricated structure being installed in ancient structure of Bahu Fort.

miscreants who raised constructions in broad day light.

He alleged that police and district administration tried to save offender, which is again a criminal offence as per laid down laws. He said after BFDC raised the issue, the directorate of archeology and museums, Jammu and Kashmir writes to district administration to take

action against violators under relevant sections of J&K Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1920. However, so far, no action has been initiated and police has been failed to identify the violator who raised the structure. Charak further said that earlier also the temple management tempted with the protected monument and raise various constructions but complaints and representations by people still biting dust in deputy commissioner's office.

He urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to constitute a committee and investigate the matter.

Charak Further said that since 1997 to till now, BFDC held protests, campaigns and press meets demanding constitution of Shrine Board for Bawe Wali Mata temple, but our

POWERGRID conferred with prestigious ATD Best Award for third time

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
GURUGRAM: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSE under Ministry of Power, Government of India, has been conferred the prestigious ATD BEST Award 2024 for strategic approach to talent development driving business results. The award was conferred by the world's leading Learning and Development (L&D) body, Association of Talent Development (ATD), USA. This year's accolade highlights POWERGRID's innovative approach to adopting world-class technologies, such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, for the efficient maintenance of extensive transmission network and the successful execution of large-scale projects.

This recognition places POWERGRID among the elite organizations worldwide



Dr. Yatindra Dwivedi, Director (Personnel) and Bipin Kishor Mundu, CGM (HRD) on behalf of POWERGRID receiving the award.

in the field of L&D. This is the third time POWERGRID has been honoured with the ATD BEST Award, having previously received it in 2021 and 2023.

The achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of its employees and the strategic vision of the leadership in fostering an environment that encourages continuous learning and skill enhancement. By embracing

cutting-edge technologies and nurturing talent, POWERGRID is well-positioned to continue delivering excellence in the power transmission sector.

The award was received by Dr. Yatindra Dwivedi, Director (Personnel) and Bipin Kishor Mundu, CGM (HRD) on behalf of POWERGRID at a ceremony held in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

Sant Shri Asharamji Bapu Ashram organises Sharbat Vitran sewa



Sant Shri Asharamji Bapu Ashram Sewadhars distributing Sharbat.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Sewadharis of Yuvva Sewa Sangh, Rishi Prasad, Mahila Sewadharis and Bal Sanskar departments associated with Sant Shri Asharamji Bapu Ashram and Gaushala Bhagwati Nagar Jammu performed Sharbat Vitran Sewa at Jewel Chowk Jammu on the holy occa-

sion of Shri Buddha Purnima.

It is well known to everyone that Sant Shri Asharamji Bapu Ashram Jammu has been performing so many social service activities following their Sewa calendar of every month for several years.

Members of Shri Yog Vedant Sewa Samiti always

National Seminar on "Relevance of Buddhism in modern world" organised at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: On the occasion of Buddha Purnima, the Department of Buddhist Studies, University of Jammu (JU) in collaboration with INTACH Jammu Chapter and Haloti Gumpa Welfare Society, Kishtwar organised a one-day National Seminar on "Relevance of Buddhism in the modern world" at the seminar hall of the Department of Urdu.



A dignitary speaking at the Seminar in JU.

Vesaka Buddha Purnima, Buddha Jayanti is a Buddhist festival. It falls on the day of the Full Moon in May and commemorates the birth, enlightenment (Nirvana), and death (Mahaparinirvana) of Gautama Buddha. The event commenced with the traditional lighting of the lamp, followed by floral

tributes to Buddha while students and scholars recited prayers in Pali.

Suresh Kumar Gupta, Principal Secretary of the Department of Culture, was the Chief Guest for this inaugural session.

He highlighted the relevance of Gautama Buddha's teachings in today's hectic professional

lives, suggesting they can provide relief and guidance.

Earlier Prof. Shohab Inayat Malik, Head of Buddhist Studies, JU delivered the Inaugural address.

Prof. Ram Nandan Singh was the Keynote Speaker of the inaugural Session. Prof. Singh provided deep insights into how Buddhist principles can transform

individual lives and societal structures in the modern world. Further, he also talked about the important teachings of the Buddha i.e. Four Noble Truths, Eightfold Path, Theory of Relativity, Brahmavihara, etc. Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh spoke about the importance of love, kindness, and friendliness in fostering peace and social harmony in the current global context.

Venerable Lobzang Dechan, the Special Guest speaker, emphasized that we should follow Buddha's teachings daily, not just on special occasions.

S. M. Sahani, Convenor of the INTACH Jammu Chapter, stressed the importance of conserving and promoting local heritage.

Dr. Rajesh Sharma con-

JKMEF holds meeting, discusses issues

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF) and its affiliated organizations held a meeting chaired by President Sushil Sudan to address long-standing issues affecting healthcare employees in the region. Key topics included ensuring regular salaries, timely promotions, release of pending funds, and creating new positions to meet healthcare demands.

Representatives from various associations highlighted con-



JKMEF members after the meeting at Jammu on Thursday.

cerns such as pay disparities, promotion delays, staff shortages, and inadequate infrastructure. President Sudan reiterated the federation's ded-

ication to resolving these issues through peaceful means and dialogue with the administration, prioritizing employee welfare. The meeting conclud-

ed with plans for collaborative action, including formal representations to authorities to improve morale and working conditions for healthcare

workers in Jammu and Kashmir:

Notable attendees included Prafulat Singh, Bharat Bhushan Bhagat, Onkar Singh, Jasvinder Singh, Aslam Bhai, R.P. Singh, Dheeraj Sharma, Madan Lal Sharma, Ram Lal Verma, Surjeet Rajan, Gagan Singh, Sapna Gupta, Anita Bhagat, Bahadur Singh, Anil Khajuria, Lawrence Massih, Kulwant Singh, Tejinder Singh, Daleep Choudhary, Sanjay Choudhary, and Ashwani Gupta.

Celebrating values of peace, love, self-awareness, DGP extends greetings to police Pariwar on Buddha Purnima

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: On the auspicious occasion of Buddha Purnima, the Director General of Police, J&K R.R. Swain has extended heartfelt greetings and warm wishes to dedicated police Pariwar, families of martyrs and the community of the J&K Police serve.

DGP in his message said that this day serves as a reminder to all of us to

embrace the timeless principles of peace, love, and self-awareness. Let the noble principles of Lord Buddha continue to illuminate our path, and may we all strive to genuinely contribute to the well-being and prosperity of the society. Buddha's teachings guide us towards a state of balance, resilience, and selflessness, which are crucial in

fulfilling our duties as law enforcement personnel, DGP added.

In the spirit of Lord Buddha's teachings, "I sincerely emphasise upon all our police personnel to lead their lives with a strong sense of responsibility, integrity, and self-discipline, and strive to serve the community with dedication and humility, DGP further added.

AIJKBEF delegation meets CEO J&K Bank, discusses various demands



AIJKBEF delegation calling CEO J&K Bank, Baldev Prakash at Jammu on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All India Jammu & Kashmir Bank Employees Federation (AIJKBEF) under the president ship of Chand Ji

Khair met the MD & CEO of J&K Bank Baldev Prakash and expressed their gratitude to the management of the Bank in general and MD & CEO in

particular, for registering record breaking profit of Rs 1767 Crore during the FY 2023-21.

The Federation also hailed the dynamic leadership of MD & CEO of the Bank for achieving several milestones.

During the meeting, Federation also apprised the MD of the various demands/issues facing the workman staff of the Bank.

The MD/CEO gave a patient hearing and assured that all issues/demands pertaining to workman staff shall be addressed very soon.

Syed Rais Maqbool, General Manager of the Bank was also present in the meeting. The meeting was also attended by Vijay Sharma, President Jammu Unit.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PHDCCI), Jammu Chapter, under the leadership of Chairman Rahul Sahai, has submitted a comprehensive representation to Arun Manhas, Director of Industries & Commerce, Jammu. Sahai expressed gratitude towards Manoj Sinha Lieutenant Governor of J&K and Vikramjit Singh Principal Secretary I&C for deciding to hold this consultation meeting every month so that problems of Industries could be solved.

The representation outlines critical suggestions, recommendations, and issues affecting both upcoming and existing industries in Jammu.

Key points include the urgent need for full commissioning of the promised 320 MW power in Ghati/Samba, ensuring unin-



PHDCCI Jammu Chapter Chairman Rahul Sahai speaking in a meeting.

interrupted power supply by keeping industrial Power feeders separate from residential and commercial connections, and extending the NCSS Package and application deadline beyond September 30, 2024, with an increased budget.

PHDCCI also emphasized the necessity for expedited departmental permissions for setting up new industries and apprized the house that 8 departments involved in per-

missions etc which are taking 113 days and only 131 days are left for the submission of the application for NCSS package, equal benefits for existing units under the NCSS 2021 package should be there, and a stable 24-hour power supply to avoid production losses due to frequent power cuts in existing industrial areas of Gangyal, Bari Brahmana, Birpur etc.

Additionally, the representation highlighted the significant delays in CGST reimbursement

which is pending since 2nd quarter of 2023 and working capital of units are blocked and choked the industry, in this GST department has cleared the cases but these are pending in treasuries, urging a special meeting with the Secretary Finance Department to address this issue.

It also called for expedited

land allotment to local entrepreneurs, alternate sites for unsuitable industrial estates like Meencharakan, promotion of tiny, micro, and small industries, and awareness programs for solar power generation benefits to industries and commercial establishments.

Other concerns include the need for modern facilities in new industrial estates, a review of residential quarter policies in old industrial estates managed by J&K SIDCO were advocated.

Rahul Sahai expressed gratitude to Arun Manhas for the opportunity to present these pressing matters and anticipates prompt and favourable actions to enhance the industrial sector in Jammu.

DEO Rajouri reviews poll preparations

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: District Election Officer Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat on Thursday chaired a meeting with Zonal and Sector Officers to discuss and strategize the preparations for the Lok Sabha Election-2024. Polling scheduled on May 25 in Rajouri-Anantnag Parliamentary Constituency.

The meeting emphasized the importance of ensuring a smooth, fair and transparent electoral process. The sector and zonal offi-



District Election Officer Rajouri Om Prakash Bhagat chairing a meeting.

cers were acquainted with their role and responsibilities during pre polling, polling day and after polling.

On the day of polling, sectoral officers were tasked

with executing a myriad of duties aimed at facilitating a seamless voting process. The responsibilities include conducting frequent inspections of polling stations, monitoring the pres-

ence of security forces, supervising the activities of polling agents and promptly addressing any issues or complaints that may arise during the voting process.

Additionally, officers

were entrusted with the responsibility of overseeing the proper handling and sealing of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) at the conclusion of polling.

District Election Officer Om Prakash Bhagat reiterated the importance of performing these duties with utmost dedication and diligence to uphold the integrity of the electoral process and ensure the democratic rights of citizens are safeguarded. He emphasized the critical role

of each officer in fostering a conducive environment for free and fair elections.

Meanwhile, the final randomization of polling parties was done by DEO Rajouri in presence of General Observer this morning.

Among the others, Commandants of IR and Armed Police, ASP Musadiq Majid Basu, ACR, Mohammad Jhangir Khan, Dy DEO, Shakeel Mir and other sectoral and zonal officers attended the meeting.

Mega cleanliness drive conducted in Gulmarg

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
GULMARG: In a significant initiative to preserve the natural beauty and cleanliness of international tourist destination Gulmarg, a mega cleanliness drive was on Thursday conducted at the scenic locations of Kangdori and Afarvat.

This effort was a collaborative endeavour by the Gulmarg Development Authority and the J&K Cable Car Corporation.

The drive commenced at Kangdori and extended to Afarvat, drawing significant participation from both organizations.

Under the coordination of Waseem Raja, Chief Executive Officer of GDA, the initiative focused on ensuring a green,

clean and plastic/ polythene-free Gulmarg. Raja emphasized the GDA's commitment to such cleanliness drives, affirming that these efforts will be sustained for the continuous upkeep of Gulmarg.

Tourists and locals alike expressed their gratitude for the efforts of GDA and JKCC. Many highlighted the importance of maintaining cleanliness in these pristine environments and commended the authorities for their proactive measures.

This initiative reflects the ongoing dedication of GDA and JKCC to promote sustainable tourism in the region, ensuring that Gulmarg remains a beautiful and welcoming destination for all tourists.