

ACS Home inspects facilities for Amarnath Yatris at Lakhanpur, Samba

• STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Additional Chief Secretary Home, R K Goyal, on Monday chaired an officers meeting to review arrangements being put in place for forthcoming Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2022 here at Lakhanpur.

The meeting was attended by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Mukesh Singh, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, DIG Vivek Gupta, Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, Rahul Pandey, SSP, Kathua R C Kotwal, SSP Traffic Rural, Mohan Lal Kaitha and other officers from district administration.



ACS Home, R K Goyal interacting with a police officer.

Additional Chief Secretary enquired about the status of amenities being put in place for the yatris at lakhanpur, lodge-ment centres and other identified locations along the national highway across the yatra route.

Goyal also took detailed

review of measures being taken up by the concerned officers with regard to drinking water facility, electricity supply, status of toilets and other related utilities.

While reviewing facilities at lodge-ment centres, Additional Chief Secretary

was apprised that 31 lodge-ment centres have been made operation ready across the district to accommodate the yatris.

Goyal called upon the officers to adopt yatri friendly mechanism for smooth and hassle free conduct of yatra with emphasis on ensuring swift flow of traffic across the route.

He also reviewed medical, security and fire safety arrangements wherein he was apprised that adequate manpower has been deployed at all critical points to facilitate the pilgrims.

R K Goyal directed Deputy Commissioner Kathua to ensure installa-

tion of CCTV for surveillance at parking spaces.

Regarding track of langar vehicles, Additional Chief Secretary called for devising out a mechanism to ensure their smooth passage.

Later, Additional Chief Secretary inspected facilities being raised at Lakhanpur and directed the concerned officers to ensure completion of works well before commencement of yatra.

Earlier, Additional Chief Secretary conducted a whirlwind tour of Samba and assessed the facilities being put in place in the lodge-ment centres for Shri Amarnathji pilgrims.

Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, Deputy Commissioner, Samba, Anuradha Gupta, Director, Urban Local Bodies Jammu, Senior Superintendent of Police,

besides other district officers were also present.

ACS visited Nonath Ashram Ghagwal, Tourist Transit Centre Diani and Chichi Mata Temple Samba and reviewed the status of utilities being established for the Amarnath Yatris. He enquired about the facilities including toilet complexes, sanitation, traffic arrangements, parking area, availability of power and drinking water besides other requisite services like security.

He asked officers to keep provision of accommodation for the pilgrims in the district in case of heavy rush or stoppage of Yatra due to any reason.

Deputy Commissioner informed that 22 lodge-ment centres with 8000 person capacity have been identified in the district with 100 per cent facilities including langar services.

Chisty blames Congress, other parties for playing with sentiments of minorities for vote banks



BJP Minority Morcha National General Secretary, Sufi M.K. Chisty talking to reporters.

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Blaming Congress and other parties for playing with the sentiments of minorities and deliberately keeping them underprivileged for their own petty political gains, BJP Minority Morcha National General Secretary, Sufi M.K. Chisty has said that only Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Union Government has truly worked for the upliftment of Muslims and other communities proving its true secular credentials. BJP, Minority Morcha, National General Secretary, Sufi M.K. Chisty accompanied with UT President, BJP Minority Morcha, J&K Sheikh Bashir

and other party leadership addressing a press conference here on Monday.

"Only Modi has truly empowered the Minorities by ensuring their education and amenities to the basic rights," he added. Chisty said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government has benefitted every needy person with plethora of the public welfare schemes. He told that this entire exercise is a part of programme namely "Seva Sushasan Ganb Kalyan" on the completion of eight years of successful, developmental, progressive of Government. Later, Chisty also asked the Morcha leaders to remain active in their respective districts, constituencies, booth level, and do work from grass root level for welfare and benefits of people.

Nitishwar inspects Shri Amarnathji yatra preparations via Baltal axis

Takes aerial survey of Yatra track

• STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Nitishwar Kumar on Monday took an extensive tour of Baltal to have first hand appraisal of arrangements for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2022 via Baltal route.

The Principal Secretary, who is also the CEO of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board directed the concerned departments to work in close coordination for finalizing the necessary arrangements well before the commencement of the Yatra so that pilgrims may not face any inconvenience.

He impressed upon the departments to ensure fool-proof arrangements for power supply, medical facilities, safe drinking water, sanitation, provision of toilets and bathrooms, sanitation facilities, parking, lodging and langar facilities, traffic and security arrangements etc. and directed them to ensure the tasks assigned to them are completed within the set timeline.

While inspecting the arrangements and facilities



Principal Secretary to LG, Nitishwar Kumar carrying out tour of Baltal to review Amarnath Yatra arrangements.

being put in place, the Principal Secretary directed the concerned officers to ensure that appropriate number of washrooms, dustbins, public utilities are put in place at each designated location to ensure the base camp and other sites are made comfortable, clean and hygienic for the pilgrims.

Mearwhile, the Principal Secretary inspected the facilities at Base Camp Hospital Baltal and inspected various units like X-RAY and USG unit, dispensary, laboratory, emergency and OPD ward and directed the CMO to ensure sufficient essential medicines, oxygen cylinders

and other emergency equipments are made available in the hospital. He also took stock of 70 bedded DRDO hospital coming up at Baltal.

The Principal Secretary also visited the site of Tent City which is being established at Baltal with 800 tent capacity, and was informed that tents will be outsourced to the locals who shall make bedding arrangements themselves.

The Principal Secretary reiterated that the LG led administration is committed to ensure the yatris on pilgrimage to the holy cave experience a comfortable and pleasant environment, and

said that the locals who provide various services during Yatra like ponies, logistics and other services are also fully prepared to provide all support for the successful conduct of the yatra.

Earlier, the Principal Secretary along with the Deputy Commissioner took an aerial survey of Yatra Track to inspect the progress of development works carried by various departments, including development and illumination of the track, establishment of shelter sheds, health facilities, mobile connectivity and overall condition of the track, and was satisfied with the pace of progress and complimented the district administration for its efforts in completing most of the works on time.

Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir, besides SSP Ganderbal, Additional Deputy Commissioner, SDMC Kangan, CMO, executive Engineers of various wings, besides other district officers and officials of the Shrine Board were present on the occasion.

Communal tension: Opposition leaders take out joint peace march in Jammu

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Concerned over communal tension "gripping" different parts of the country, including Jammu and Kashmir, several opposition parties and social organisations on Monday took out a peace march here and appealed to the people to maintain peace and harmony. The march was organised by Jammu-based All Parties United Morcha (APUM), a conglomerate of various socio-political organisations, including the Congress, National Conference, PDP and CPIMD, from Parade ground to Raghunath temple chowk in the old city. Raising slogans of religious harmony, the participants denounced the attempts by "mischievous elements" and "divisive forces" to incite communal tension in the country.

"The developing situation in the country, including in Jammu and Kashmir, in the wake of recent widespread protests is a cause for serious concern. Some forces with vested



Opposition leaders taking out joint peace march in Jammu.

interests are trying to harm the age-old communal harmony which is not good for the nation, former Member of Parliament Sheikh Abdul Rehman told reporters.

Rehman, who led the march, said similar programmes will be conducted in all districts to mobilise public support against those trying to vitiate the peaceful atmosphere.

The public as well as the religious leaders are requested to remain cautious and not allow the vested interests to disturb peace, brotherhood and communal harmony, he said.

Senior Congress leader and former legislator Ravinder Sharma denounced communal-

ism and fundamentalism in any form and asked the government to check such forces.

Unity in diversity is the strength of our nation and we have to maintain it at all costs for overall development, he said. Accusing the government of failure to control the mischievous elements, Sharma demanded stern action according to law against all those trying to spread hatred in the society.

The participants also appealed to the Supreme Court to take suo moto cognizance of the prevailing situation in the country and put a moratorium on 'mandir-masjid' conflicts and communal politics.

KP employees reiterate demand for relocation outside Valley

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Kashmiri Pandit employees on Monday staged another protest demonstration here, reiterating the demand for their relocation outside the Valley till peace is restored there.

Hundreds of employees, both men and women, assembled under the banner of 'All Migrant Employee Association Kashmir' outside the Press Club carrying placards, some of which read, 'Don't rehabilitate us at the cost of our blood! Orphaning our children! Widowing our wives! and the only solution is relocation anywhere outside Valley.'

Nearly 4,000 Kashmiri Pandits are working in different departments in the Valley after they were selected under



Valley-based KP's employees raising slogans during a protest.

the Prime Minister's employment package announced in 2008.

The package has two major components - one pertains to the provision of 6,000 jobs for youth and another to 6,000 accommodation units for the employees.

"Our protest is part of the ongoing agitation for our relocation from the Valley as we are

not feeling safe there. We have reached Jammu while our colleagues are still on protest in the Valley for the last 31 days," one of the protesters Shweta Bhat said.

"We are working on the field, feeling depressed and unable to concentrate on our work with a fear in mind," Bhat said, rejecting the government assurance of relocation to safer places

within the Valley.

She said the protesting employees will not buy the "government lippos" as "our lives are at stake." "Let the government relocate us anywhere outside the Valley till the situation becomes normal," she added.

Bhat said while all those living in rented accommodations have reached Jammu, those staying living in government accommodations are locked in transit camps where they are continuing their protest.

Another protester Ajay Kumar said, "We are employees and are ready to serve, but the situation is not conducive for us. We will return when the government announces that Kashmir has become terrorism free."

SPF demands induction of member from Sikh Community in J&K PSC



President SPF, Balvinder Singh talking to reporters.

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: President, Sikh Progressive Front (SPF), Balvinder Singh on Monday convened a meeting to discuss the important issue of the Sikh Community especially demand for induction of Member from Sikh Community in the J&K

Public Service Commission of JKUT. Now members of SPF are confident and hope that the assurances given to SPF by the LG will be fulfilled and a suitable Sikh Candidate shall be inducted as member in the JKPS which is likely to be constituted soon.

Besides this important issue other various issues taken up during the meeting including amendment of SRO-425 and make provision for inclusion of Non migrant Sikh youths of valley in the special Employment Package which is presently limited to non migrant Kashmiri Pandits only.

Other present in the meeting include Manjit Singh Vice President, S S Surinder Singh Wazir Secretary SPF, Janak Singh, Rajinder Singh, Sharanjit Singh, Iqbal Singh, Varinder Pal Singh, Jasvinder Singh, Tejinder Singh, Mamohan Singh, Arnitpal Singh and Dilbag Singh.

Tarkhan pays surprise visits to JSD stations; found employees absent

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Raj Kumar Tarkhan, Chairman Health and Sanitation JMC and Jal Shakti (PHE) on Monday conducted surprise raids in different stations of Jal Shakti Department (JSD) in Jammu and found most of the employees absent. He also found unlimited stock of water supply pipes dumped at Gandhi Nagar Sub-Division Jammu. Chairman Raj Kumar Tarkhan said employees are risking the machinery worth crores of rupees and warned them to be punctual on duty.

CRIME REPORT

Narco smuggler arrested with 55 gm heroin

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Monday arrested a narco smuggler with 55 gm heroin from Janipur area. As per details, during patrolling and checking duty, a party of Janipur Police Station led by SHO Ajaz Haider, intercepted a suspect near Sai Baba Mandir lower Roop Nagar. During frisking, 55 gm heroin like substance was recovered from possession of accused identified as Raj Mohd, son of Late Mohd Shafi, resident of Beli Charana. He was arrested and FIR no. 64/2022 under sections 82/1/22 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Janipur.



Man nabbed with Charas

• STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Police on Monday arrested a man along with Charas in Thannamandi area.

In an official statement, police said that a team led by SHO Thannamandi Shoket Chowdhary, during Naka checking duty, intercepted a suspect identified as Abdul Shakor, son of Abdul Aziz, resident of Bhanghai Thannamandi. During his search, Charas like substance weighing 68 grams was recovered. FIR No 86/2022 under sections 8/20 of NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Thannamandi. The arrest and recovery was made by team under supervision of SDPO Thannamandi Dr Intiaz Ahmed.

3 gamblers arrested; Rs 40,000 stake money recovered

• STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Continuing its endeavour to weed out social crime from society, District Police Reasi under the overall supervision of SSP Reasi, arrested 3 gamblers and recovered stake money amounting to Rs 40,000 from them. As per details, acting on specific information about gambling, a party from Police Station Pouni led by Insp Vijay Sharma SHO Pouni under the supervision of DySP Hqtrs Reasi Ifkhar Ahmed raided near Bharakh Nallah & arrested 3 gamblers identified as Ajeet Singh, son of Kirpal Singh, resident of Bharakh, Tehsil Pouni; Rakesh Kumar, son of Suraj Parkash, resident of Keri Taryath, Tehsil Taryath and Raj Kumar, son of Shakti Ram, resident of Kotla Ransoo, Tehsil Pouni. Taking cognizance of the matter, all gamblers were booked under section 13 of Gambling Act at Police Station Pouni.



Two arrested with 100 quarters of illicit liquor

• STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Police on Monday detained two bootleggers and recovered 100 quarters of illicit liquor from their possession. As per details, a team from Police Station Bishnah led by SHO Insp Pawan Kumar while on Naka duty at Laswara rounded up two suspect on a vehicle (JK02N-9899), who tried to flee away on seeing police but were overpowered by police. During search, 100 quarters of JK Desi Whisky (180 ml) each were recovered from their possession.

The duo, identified as Rajinder Kumar, son of Raj Kumar, resident of village Deoli, Tehsil Bishnah and Rakesh Kumar, son of Sukhdev Kumar, resident of village Deoli, was arrested and FIR No. 101/2022 under section 48 of Excise Act was registered against them at Police Station Bishnah. The overall arrests and recoveries were made under supervision of SDPO R S Pura Surinder Singh.

Woman among two killed, 6 injured in twin mishaps

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JHAJJAR KOTLI/REASI: Two persons including a woman were killed while seven others got injured in twin mishaps at Jhajjar Kotli and Reasi on Monday.

As per details, a jeep (JK02T-8150) which was on its way from Jhajjar Kotli to Jammu met with an accident inside Nandani tunnel no-1, due to which six friends, who were travelling in vehicle, got injured. They were shifted to hospital where one of them was declared as brought dead by doctors. The deceased was identified as Nikhil Singh, son of Punjab Singh, resident of Kattal Battal, Nagrota while injured revealed their identity as Sidh Dev Singh, resident of Bari Brahman; Akhi Kumar, resident of Nagrota; Yudhvir Singh, resident of Greater Kailash; Bablu, son of Gopal Dass, resident of Nagrota and Manish Kumar, son of Veer Singh, resident of

Gangyal. Meanwhile, a minibus on its way to Reasi from Katra got hit by a scooter near Simla Choa area, due to which both scooter-borne mother-daughter got injured. They were shifted to hospital where mother Reeta Devi was declared as brought dead while her daughter Meenakshi is presently under-treatment.

Man dies of bullet injury

• STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: A man died after he was hit by a bullet under mysterious circumstances in Thathri area on Monday.

As per details, one Bharat Bhushan, son of Girdhari Lal, resident of Thathri got injured by a bullet-shot while cleaning rifle. He was immediately shifted to hospital where he succumbed to injuries. Police is investigating the matter.

Burn injured succumbs

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man who was undergoing treatment in hospital after suffering burn injuries succumbed in hospital on Monday.

As per details, one Sachin Sharma, son of Vijay Kumar, resident of Rarnagar, presently staying at Domana area in a rented house suffered burn injuries on May 27. He was under treatment at hospital, but he succumbed to injuries.

Man consumes acid, dies

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man died after he consumed acid in his house in Digiana on Monday.

As per details, one Kalu, son of Hira, resident of Madhya Pradesh, presently staying at Rani Talab area consumed acid in his house and was shifted to hospital by family members, where he succumbed. Police is investigating the matter.

3 mobile phones recovered from Kot Bhalwal jail

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Three mobile phones were recovered from Kot Bhalwal jail on Monday.

As per details, during routine search, jail police recovered three phones after which an extensive search was also launched but nothing more was found. It is pertinent to mention that earlier also mobile phones were recovered from the jail, wherein several notorious gangsters and terrorists are lodged.

House burgled at Sarwal

• STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A house was burgled in Sarwal area from where thieves decamped with Rs 2 lakh cash and some ornaments.

As per details, one Varun Kumar lodged a complaint with police that thieves targeted his house when he was out with his family and decamped with Rs 2 lakh cash and ornaments. Police has registered a case and started investigation.