

Saroori demands immediate start on cancer hospital at Kishtwar, improved road connectivity

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP), Vice Chairman, Ghulam Mohammad Saroori, has issued an ardent appeal to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to address the persistent neglect in the Kishtwar district. In a recent meeting with several deputations in Chatroo, Saroori highlighted critical issues plaguing the district, particularly the urgent need for the construction of a cancer hospital and improved road connectivity.

Saroori emphasized the pressing need for the construction of a cancer hospital, which was sanctioned in 2014. Despite the approval, no progress has been made over the past decade. The absence of this vital healthcare facility continues to put the lives of countless residents at risk, forcing them to



DPAP, Vice Chairman, GM Saroori interacting with locals.

travel long distances for treatment. Saroori urged the LG to start the work on Cancer hospital construction to provide much-needed medical services to the district's population.

During his visit to Chatroo, Saroori met with local deputations who apprised him of the day-to-day problems faced by the general masses. One of the primary concerns raised was the lack of road connect-

ivity in the region. Saroori alleged that despite the central government's promises, not an inch of new link roads has been constructed in Kishtwar district over the past ten years.

He stressed the importance of connecting villages with populations of 250 or more, citing specific areas in desperate need of road infrastructure. These include: Batwari to Sheeri, Sigdi to Pahalgam, Kuchal

to Niecha, Kuchal to Basha, Keshwan to Jungna Balna, Balana to Nazla, Thal to Kwath, Dhinouthe to Mori and Sharekh to Burdhar and others.

Saroori highlighted that while the government is focusing on the development of highways, it must not overlook the essential infrastructure needs of rural and far-flung areas. He underscored that road connectivity is a fundamental right for these communities, crucial for their development and access to basic amenities. He demanded and requested the LG to visit Kishtwar personally to witness the issues firsthand. He believes that a direct visit from the LG would provide a clearer understanding of the district's challenges and prompt immediate action. The visit would also serve as a reassurance to the local

population that their concerns are being taken seriously at the highest levels of governance.

In his address, Saroori expressed his disappointment with the current state of affairs, stating that the government must fulfil its promises to the people of Kishtwar. He reiterated that the development of road infrastructure and the establishment of the cancer hospital are not just necessities but the rights of the district's residents. Saroori's impassioned plea reflects the broader sentiment of the Kishtwar community, which has long awaited the fulfilment of these critical infrastructure projects. The call for the LG's intervention is a call for justice, development, and the upliftment of a region that has been left behind for far too long.

Court issues show cause notices for attachment of salary issued to Director RDD Jammu, others

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Taking serious note of dilly dallying disposition of Block Development Officer, Block Changa, Assistant Commissioner Development, Doda and Director Rural Development Department, Jammu in satisfying decree dated November 16, 2023 by making a payment of Rs.1,92,294.20 to decreed holder, court of Additional District Judge, Doda Amarjeet Singh Langhe issued show cause notices to aforesaid officers as to why their salary be not attached on account of their failure to satisfy decree under execution. Said order has been passed in an execution titled Abdul Rashid v/s Block Development Block Changa.

By virtue of judgment

and decree dated November 16, 2023, aforesaid judgment debtor was obligated to pay to the decree holder above mentioned amount of money. Judgment debtor and his superior officers failed to satisfy the decree. While taking strong exception to recalcitrant disposition of judgment debtor and his superior officers, court observed - "Needless to say - decree is the ultimate fruit of litigation. The dilly dallying and recalcitrant disposition on the part of judgment debtor is only driving the decree holder to an utter frustration," adding, "Record reflects total in-action and stark indifference on the part of judgment debtor and his superior officers namely Assistant Commissioner Development, Doda and Director Rural

Development Department, Jammu - in so far as execution of decree in hand is concerned."

"Let show cause notices be issued to judgment debtor, Assistant Commissioner Development, Doda and Director Rural Development Department, Jammu, as to why their salary be not attached on account of their failure to satisfy decree under execution " - Court further directed,

Cautioning the judgment debtors and his superior officers - court further directed "Should the aforesaid officials fail to respond to aforesaid notices or decree under execution remains unsatisfied, then order as warranted under Order 21 Rule 30 of CPC shall follow."

Reasi Police organises Thana Diwas



ASP Reasi, Ifkhar Ahmed chairing the meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: As part of a public outreach program, "Thana Diwas," an initiative of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, was organized to bridge the gap between the Police and the public and address the grievances of the common masses. The event was held at Police Stations Reasi, Pouni, Katra, Armas, Mahore and Chassana by the District Police Reasi.

The program was chaired by Ifkhar Ahmed, Additional Superintendent of Police Reasi at P/S Reasi; Vipin Chandran, Additional SP Katra along with SDPO

Katra Surinder Singh Balaria at P/S Katra; Neeraj Padyar, Dy.SP Hqrs Reasi at P/S Pouni; Irfan Khan, JKPS, SDPO Armas at P/S Armas; Inspector Charanjeet Singh, SHO P/S Mahore at P/S Mahore; and Inspector Ranjeet Singh, SHO P/S Chassana at P/S Chassana.

Members of civil society and other respected persons of the areas were present at the events.

During the program, participants highlighted various issues of public importance. They were assured that their genuine grievances related to the Police would be resolved on priority, while those con-

cerning the Civil Administration would be taken up with the concerned departments for early redressal. It was reiterated that policing at the grassroots level in the District would be revamped to enhance the proficiency of the police force and to develop confidence among the people.

"Community policing is mandatory to boost public confidence, which would help in fighting against crime and social evils." Referring to criminal activities in the area, officers were urged to tackle issues such as drug abuse and other social evils with a missionary spirit. A pledge was taken to serve the society with dedication and to maintain the dignity of the force. It was emphasized that public grievances at the grassroots level would be addressed on priority and patiently. Such meetings will be held in every nook and corner of the District to further strengthen Police-Public relations for achieving better results.

Court awards 12 years RI in minor rape case

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Special Judge Fast Track Court POCSO Yash Pal Sharma on Thursday awarded 12 years Rigorous Imprisonment (RI) and fine Rs 20,000 to Mohd Hanief, son of Din Mohd., resident of Raika, Bahu Fort for raping with minor.

Court also considering all the factors relevant for determining the compensation, the economic condition of the victim, the victim is hereby awarded lumpsum of Rs. 5 lakh as compensation in terms of provisions referred above read with victim compensation scheme applicable in the UT of J&K.

The DLSA Jammu shall take necessary step for disbursement of compensation to the victim child in accordance with the law and rules governing the subject.

As per prosecution story, the proceedings in this case commenced with the lodging of written report by father of the victim on August 27, 2018 before I/C PP Digiana stating therein that the daughter of the complainant M namely Miss B, who is only 16 years old is kid-

napped by unknown person who had gone to market at 8 in the morning to buy something on August 25, 2018 i.e. Saturday but she did not return back, they searched for her everywhere including the houses of neighbour/relatives but she could not be found and now three days have gone, therefore, FIR be registered.

After registration of FIR no. 194/2018 at Police Station Gandhi Nagar, Jammu on the basis of daily diary report No. 17 of Police Post Digiana, the investigation commenced which was entrusted to SI Kali Charan. The IO on the basis of collection of evidence which included obtaining of date of birth certificate of victim from her school showing her date of birth to be June 19, 2002, framing of site plan of the place of occurrence. The police party finally on coming to know about the whereabouts of the accused and the victim went to Blind MP and recovered the victim from the accused, who was taken into custody i.e. formally arrested on October 23, 2018 from Allu Market Blind MP.

The IO after the medical

examination and other investigation made out offences under sections 363, 376 RPC and 4 POCSO Act and dropped the proceedings against Mohd Hussain and Abdul Hamid under section 169 Cr.PC.

Special Judge Fast Track Court POCSO Yash Pal Sharma after hearing both the sides observed that convict has been found to have committed the offence of penetrative sexual assault punishable with maximum punishment of life imprisonment. Similarly, the offence is against the society and committed against the minor victim of tender age of 16 years and student of 10th class.

Therefore, message has to go to the society at large and there has to be difference not to commit sexual abuse of any kind upon children. But undoubtedly in the case in hand. It has to be kept in mind that it is a case of romantic consensual relationship of the victim with the

accused who was above 16 years of age and accused was 6/7 years older to her but accused still exploited her taking the benefit of her tender age of 16 years when a child gets bodily changes and therefore, is susceptible to such type of relationship.

It is not the case of the accused being of the same age group or 2/3 years older to her but still fled away with the victim child from Jammu and took her to different places for two months and ultimately the victim was recovered from the possession of the accused from the state of M.P. by the police party along with father of the victim and during this period the victim had become pregnant also and she had suffered a lot of trauma, pain and agony when her pregnancy was terminated at Government Hospital after the registration of case during the investigation as is the evidence on record and not

denied by the accused which is totally corroborated from the report of doctors on record.

Admittedly, the prosecution has not brought on record anything to show that accused has any previous criminal record or previously convicted in any criminal case. Therefore, he continues to be first time offender.

Hence considering all these factors and mitigating circumstances projected by the accused and he being first time offender; keeping in mind the totality of the circumstances, the case being of romantic relationship, the convict Mohd Hanief is sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for twelve (12) years and also to pay fine of Rs. 20,000 which shall be paid to the victim as per sub section (3) of section 4 of POCSO Act. In default of payment of fine, the accused shall further undergo rigorous imprisonment of one year.

Chairperson DDC Rajouri discusses annual action plan for financial year 2024-25

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
RAJOURI: Chairperson District Development Council Rajouri Advocate Naseem Liyaqat today discussed formulation of annual action plan for the financial year 2024-25 here at a meeting of stakeholders held in the PWD Dak Bungalow.

The meeting was held to ensure that the projects proposed are within the budgetary limits and feasible to execute.

Detailed deliberations were held with officers of stakeholder departments and DDC Members underlining the priorities and importance of proper utilization of funds, effective monitoring of projects and timely completion of works.

The DDC members gave valuable suggestions and



Chairperson DDC Rajouri Advocate Naseem Liyaqat chairing a meeting.

inputs to enrich the planning process and effective development strategy for the district. The Chairperson emphasized the need for a comprehensive and inclusive plan that addresses the needs of the general public.

The officers were asked to ensure the formulation of the plan in consultation with DDC members to achieve need based development and maximum coverage of rural

populace.

The DDC Chairperson directed departments to identify works and projects that benefit the maximum number of people and can be completed within the stipulated time frame, as per the guidelines of the Finance department.

He also asked members to focus on completion of ongoing projects besides projecting only those works/projects which can be completed within

the working period of the current financial year.

It was further exhorted upon the DDC members and officers to formulate the development plan in accordance with the ceiling conveyed to them and to ensure the best use of available resources.

Among others the meeting was attended by DDC Member Thananandi, Abdul Qayoom Mir; DDC Member

Darhal, Iqbal Malik; DDC Member Sunderbani, Rajinder Sharma; DDC Member Sangeeta Sharma; DDC Member Novshera, Manohar Singh; DDC Member Dhangri, Rameshwar Singh; DDC Member Doongi, Khalid Choudhary; DDC Member Kalakote, Anita Thakur and DDC Member Mougla, Shamim Akhter.

The meeting was also attended by the ADDC (CEO DDC) Dr. Raj Kumar Thapa; SE PWD(R&B), Devi Dayal; SE Hydraulics, Bharam Jyoti Sharma; ACD, Vijay Kumar; ACP, Sheraz Chowhan; CPO, Maqsood Ahmed; DPO, Mohd Nawaz Choudhary; DSEO, Sandeep Sharma; EXEN PWD (R&B) Rajouri, Sardar Khan; EXEN PDD Rajouri, Mohd Rashid; EXEN Jal Shakti Rajouri, Ashwini Sharma; EXEN Jal Shakti Nowshera, Bipin Kumar; EXEN REW, Zahir Khan and other concerned officers.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman, Kathua, stressed on the need for making collective efforts to preserve and promote the Dogri language.

The DDC Chairman was speaking after inaugurating the day-long Chhinj Mela at Bhoond in district Kathua. The event featured a Dogri cultural program conducted by renowned Dogra folk dancer and singer Subash Brahamnu of Ram Nagar and his troupe.

Upon his arrival in Bhoond, Col Mahan Singh was greeted with a rousing welcome by Th Darshan and members of the local Chhinj Management Committee. The welcoming ceremony showcased a traditional display of musical instruments and the presentation of a Pagri and Shawl. The DDC Chairman cut the ribbon amid the enthusiastic cheering of slogans and the distribution of sweets.

Prominent citizens such as Surinder Singh, Yubkaran Singh, Dev Raj, and Babu Ram were also in attendance to support the event.

In his address, Col Mahan Singh emphasized the impor-



Col Mahan Singh (Retd), DDC Chairman, during the event at Kathua.

stance of preserving the Dogri language and promoting its rich cultural heritage. He emphasized upon the need to preserve the rich cultural heritage of Jammu and it is the youth who must come forward and work relentlessly as ambassadors to promote the rich Dogri language.

The DDC Chairman appreciated the efforts of youth in different fields for keeping the Dogra culture alive through their relentless performances at National and International level. He appealed to the youth to disseminate the richness of Dogra culture and language across the nation and abroad to make the people aware about the niceties of this old yet rich heritage through

their performance in various fields including theatre, folk lore and folk music, Dogri songs, literature, etc. He also appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to support and encourage the local Dogra artists so that they can also grow and achieve new heights in their respective fields of art and will make every citizen of Jammu region feel proud.

Col Mahan also acknowledged the significant turnout, with hundreds of people gathering from Sheetal Nagar and the surrounding Panchayats of the Bhoond Block to celebrate their cultural heritage. The event concluded with a lively Dangal competition, further enhancing the community's festive spirit.

KVK Reasi educates Farmers on Scientific Cultivation of Maize Crop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
REASI: Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Reasi of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology - Jammu (SKUAST-J) educated farmers on scientific cultivation of maize crop here today at Bhangal village in Reasi district of J&K which was enthusiastically attended by a number of farmers of the area. The programme was



organised under the dynamic leadership of Vice Chancellor, Prof .B.N.Tripathi and able guidance of Director Extension (DE), Prof. Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-J. The programme was initiated by Dr. Banarsi Lal, Chief Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi with the warm welcome of the farmers. He initiated the programme with the brief objectives of Cluster Front Line Demonstrations (CFLDs) especially on maize crop and highlighted the scientific technologies by which farmers can increase the maize production and productivity.

He guided farmers on the

hybrid varieties of maize crop for more farm returns. He guided the farmers on the use of maize hybrids and gave a detail view on scientific cultivation of maize crop. He narrated that Front Line Demonstrations signify the technologies by which farmers can get maximum yield from per unit area per unit time. He suggested the farmers that every year they should purchase new certified seed of maize hybrids and informed them to use only the recommended varieties for the district. He stressed on line sowing in maize crop by which weeding/hoeing in maize

crop becomes easier which further helps to increase the maize production. He encouraged the farmers for the commercial maize farming and guided them on Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) and Integrated Weed Management (IWM) in maize crop for maximum yields. He informed the farmers that the maize crop is sensitive to the moisture stress and moisture excessive conditions and suggested the farmers they should drain the water from maize fields. During the programme Sarpanch of the area Ms.Premolata was also present who thanked KVK Reasi for promotion of maize hybrids in the area. In this programme various quarries were asked by the farmers which KVK scientist answered in a satisfactory way. The programme was concluded by Sh.Manohar Lal with the formal vote of thanks.

Ranvijay pays obeisance at Baba Chamliyal Shrine, prays for peace & prosperity of J&K people

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBA: Ranvijay Singh, Trustee of Jammu & Kashmir Dharmarth Trust, visited the revered Shrine of Baba Dalip Singh Manhas, commonly known as Baba Chamliyal Devsathan, located in Ramgarh along the Indo-Pak border in Samba district. He paid obeisance and offered prayers for the peace and prosperity of the Jammu and Kashmir region.

In a heartfelt gesture, he expressed his deep spiritual connection to the shrine and emphasized its importance in fostering unity and harmony among people of diverse backgrounds. He highlighted the role of sacred sites in preserving the region's compos-



ite culture and heritage, urging people to uphold these values and pass them on to future generations.

Ranvijay Singh also underscored the significance of such events in promoting social cohesion. He remarked, "Shrines in

Jammu and Kashmir, as well as across the country, are symbols of our rich composite culture and heritage. It is our duty to preserve these sanctuaries and ensure that their ethos is transferred to future generations." He further noted that gatherings at

these shrines provide people with an opportunity to interact with one another, promoting mutual understanding and strengthening bonds of brotherhood.

Appealing to the visitors, Ranvijay Singh urged everyone to maintain communal harmony and brotherhood. He emphasized that the essence of such sacred gatherings lies in their ability to bring people together, transcending religious and cultural differences.

"Let us strive to maintain the spirit of unity and peace that these shrines embody," he said, reinforcing the need for mutual respect and collective efforts in building a harmonious society.

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