

LG, Waqf Board Chairperson visit Hazratbal Shrine

Peace & harmony spirit of all religions: LG Sinha

Spiritual traditions of Kashmir need a huge revival: Dr Darakhshan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Manoj Sinha along with J&K Waqf Board Chairperson Dr Darakhshan Andrabi on Thursday paid a visit to Dargah Hazratbal Shrine to take stock of the Eid celebrations. Lieutenant Governor & Waqf Chairperson interacted with all government departmental representatives & Waqf Management Committee representatives involved in the Eid arrangements and instructed them to upgrade the facilities for the devotees. LG Manoj Sinha said that J&K Waqf Board is doing exemplary work in upgrading facilities at Sufi shrines of J&K.

While talking to the media, LG said that peace & harmony was the spirit of all religions and we need to nourish



Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha along with J&K Waqf Board Chairperson Dr Darakhshan Andrabi during visit to Dargah Hazratbal.

this spirit of spirituality in our new generation so that while shining in

spiritual excellence we are able to create a society where co-existence and harmony are the driving forces. LG Sinha instructed the divisional administration to work hard in glove with the Waqf body to ensure all facilities to the people at all shrines and important prayer locations for smooth Eid prayers. While thanking the Lt Governor, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi said that this visit of the head of the UT to Hazrat Dargah means a lot to all and sends a message of care & well being for all without any discrimination. She said that spiritual traditions of Kashmir need a huge revival. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir P K Pole, DC Srinagar Aijaz Assad, Director Tourism Dr G N Yattoo and other departmental heads were also present on the occasion.

HC upholds PSA of one, quashes detention of 5 under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir High Court quashed detention orders of five detainees held under Public Safety Act (PSA) and directed the authorities to release them from the custody where as upheld the detention under PSA of one. The Court while hearing the two separate petitions filed by Suhail Azim Khan, Pethbigh Dhalgam, District Anantnag, Basit Ahmad Shah, Magraypora Bapora Wapora Tehsil Chadoora District Budgam, Jahangir Ahmad Bhat resident Wahibugh Tehsil & District Pulwama, Kamaljeet Singh resident of Jammu, Ali Hassain of Jammu challenging their detention orders passed against them by District Magistrates Anantnag, Budgam, Pulwama and Jammu, quashed all detention orders and directed the jail authorities to release both the detainees forthwith from the custody, if they are not required in any other case

whereas High Court upheld the detention of Mohammad Shaban Bhat seeking quashing of Order no.K7160/2021 dated 10.09.2021 (for brevity 'order impugned') passed by Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir (for short 'detaining authority'), in terms of Section 3 of Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988. Justice Rajneesh Oswal, while quashing the detention order of Kamaljeet Singh and Ali Hussain order of detention, is not sustainable in the eyes of law as the respondent was under obligation to bring to the notice of respondent all the material facts so that the respondent No. 2 would have been in a position to derive his subjective satisfaction with regard to the existence of grounds necessitating the detention of the petitioners. Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul while quashing the detention orders of Suhail Azim Khan, Basit Ahmad Shah and Jahangir Ahmad Bhat observed that it is evident that

the whole of the material was not placed before the detaining authority so as to enable it to record its subjective satisfaction that the passing of detention order is necessary so as to prevent the detenu from indulging in activities which are prejudicial to the security of the State. This too vitiates the order of detention.

While upholding the detention under PSA of Mohammad Shaban Bhat passed by Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir (for short 'detaining authority'), in terms of Section 3 of Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul observed that the present case relates to illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs. The drug problem is a serious threat to public health, safety and well-being of humanity. Our global society is facing serious consequences of drug abuse and it undermines the socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development. Besides, it also distorts health and fab-

ric of society and it is considered to be originator for petty offences as well as heinous crimes, like smuggling of arms and ammunition and money laundering. Involvement of various terrorist groups and syndicates in drug trafficking leads to threat to the national security and sovereignty of States by way of Narco-terrorism. Drug trafficking and abuse has continued its significant toll on valuable human lives and productive years of many persons around the globe. With the growth and development of world economy, drug traffickers are also seamlessly trafficking various type of drugs from one corner to other ensuring availability of contrabands for vulnerable segment of society who fall into trap of drug peddlers and traffickers. Due to India's close proximity with major opium growing areas of the region, India is facing serious menace of drug trafficking and as a spill-over effect, drug abuse especially among the youth is a matter of concern for us and Our Constitution framers had visualized danger of misuse of such type of substances and, thus, made it part of directives issued to the State. The

Directive Principles, which are part of our Constitution, lay down that the State shall make endeavours to bring about the prohibition of substances injurious for health except for medicinal and scientific purposes. In recent years, India has been facing a problem of transit traffic in illicit drugs. The spillover from such traffic has caused tribulations of abuse and addiction. This trend has created an illicit demand for drugs within the country. The illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of the people and activities of persons engaged in such illicit traffic have a deleterious effect on the national economy as well. Having regard to the persons by whom and the manner in which such activities are organised and carried on, and having regard to the fact that in certain areas which are highly vulnerable to the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, such activities of a considerable magnitude are clandestinely organised and carried on, it is necessary for the effective prevention of such activities to provide for detention of persons concerned in any manner therewith.

'Ahead of Eid-ul-Adha, traffic violations & road side parking can't be tolerated'

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Ahead of Eid-Ul-Adha, Traffic Police in Srinagar have asked the people not to park their vehicles on roads, and urged all to park their vehicles at designated parking slots, as traffic jams during peak hours are becoming a headache for the commuters across Srinagar district. Roadside parking and encroachment on footpaths and lack of permanent bus stops are some of the main causes of the traffic mess.

"Those coming for shopping in the city should use the designated parking slots, we appeal all to cooperate with us and avoid parking their vehicles on roads, failing which action will follow as per the law," the traffic control unit officer said.

The officer said that the city traffic police is continuously

making announcements using a public address system for not parking the vehicles on roads and will intensify the drive for the rest of the days.

"Parking vehicles at parking slots will let the smooth movement of traffic, as the festivities are ahead, let us at the same time abide by the laws and avoid parking vehicles on roads which causes inconvenience to all. Don't invite the action by violating the rules," he added.

As Eid-Ul-Adha falls on Sunday July 10, the traffic flow in Srinagar city is expected to increase in the coming days as people throng the city center for shopping as most of the shopping malls and centers are in Srinagar city.

Administration also asked to field staff to relocate street vendors from heavy traffic

junction points which hinder smooth traffic ply.

Administration also stressed that civic sense and driving sense is imperative in better traffic management and appealed to all stakeholders to put in collective efforts to overcome traffic jams and decongest Srinagar City for smooth traffic regulation.

Meanwhile, higher authorities visited Lal chowk and other adjacent areas, he asked roadside street vendors to restrict their business to only designated spaces and not indulge in any violation/encroachment which causes inconvenience to the general public and movement of traffic. While as traffic violators were fined on the spot, drivers were advised to follow traffic rules in letter and spirit to ensure smooth ply of traffic.

Congress stages Dharna over LPG price hike

Modi Govt looting people in installments: Bhalla



Congress leaders raising slogans during a protest.

increasing prices of essential commodities.

The prices for the LPG gas cylinder needed and used in each and every household in India every month has been continuously hiked by the BJP Government and the possibilities of subsidies is costlier.

Sawhney said that the people are infuriated at the BJP for looting their pockets and making a joke of their lives.

Sawhney further said that BJP must see this the last straw, and a last warning from the Congress and the people, to cut down prices in the best interests of the common man and reduce prices of LPG cylinders and other essential commodities."

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Modi government's rich friends might not be affected by these issues, but the majority of the country pays the consequences of these hikes. From fuel to oil to pulses to everything needed in the kitchen, everything is costlier.

Youth President Uday Bhanu Chib said, "The Modi Government wants the people to cry and struggle to even cook proper meals for their families as thousands and lakhs will struggle to pay the bills. We sincerely urge the government to see the genuine troubles of the common man and reduce prices of LPG cylinders and other essential commodities."

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'Insult' of Tricolour at hands of Farooq Abdullah unacceptable: Kavinder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Giving a hard hitting rejoinder to irresponsible statement of National Conference President Dr Farooq Abdullah insulting Tricolour, Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta said that NC leader's remark against the Tiranga is unacceptable and shows his anti-national tendencies to the hilt.

Speaking at the sidelines of a three-day orientation programme at Patnitop, Kavinder said that the government should take cognizance of the anti-national stance taken by the head of a political party because such irresponsible statements are the testimony to the fact that the pleasant change in Valley is not going down well in the eyes of such dynastic rulers who were running their shops under the shadow of death, destruction and miseries of the people. He said that the scale of development in the UT of J&K is unprecedented and this is also irking the political class in Valley including Dr Farooq thus leading to unacceptable behaviour.

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Senior BJP leader, Kavinder Gupta speaking at a programme.

The former Deputy Chief Minister said that more and more people in J&K especially the Valley are reposing faith in nationalistic policies of the Modi government thus putting the very existence of NC and other Kashmir-based parties into deep crisis forcing their leaders to again go for anti-national stances like the case of Dr Farooq Abdullah, who openly insulted Tiranga.

Kavinder said that NC has lost relevance and that is the reason it has opted to contest Assembly polls under the ambit of PAGD. "The decision of Farooq over PAGD shows the restlessness of the party with regard to the upcoming elections in J&K", he added.

Regional Provident Fund Commissioner J&K holds interactive-cum-awareness programme

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) J&K on Thursday conducted an interactive cum awareness programme here at Conference Hall NHPC Colony Kishtwar on registration process and benefits of social security schemes and insurance schemes of EPFO for the welfare of contracted, outsourced, and other part time employees engaged by government departments and private organisations. During the event PF Commissioner, Rizwan Uddin gave detailed information on the EPF & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. He elaborated upon the

provisions of Employees' Pension Scheme 1995 and Employees Deposit Linked Insurance scheme, 1976 especially responsibility of departments and organisations in the registration process of their employees. He said that contractors executing works under

different Hydro Electric Power Projects and various governmental departments should be registered under the EPF & MP Act, 1952 so that their social security is ensured and they are benefited financially in case of need. If any member dies while in service, the nomi-

nee/widow/widower would get pension lifelong along with 2 children up to the age of 25 irrespective of their marital status and the nominee would get maximum benefit of Rs 7.5 lakhs under EDLI scheme.

There are other pensions pro-

vided under the scheme as per

eligibility of membership like superannuation, early pension, disability pension, orphan pension, widow pension and nominee pension. The Commissioner provided WhatsApp helpline numbers (for Jammu 6006567049) and (for Kashmir 7780813099) and said that the helpline is available for all advice and clarifications.

Later, the PF Commissioner held an interactive meeting with Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Ashok Sharma and NHIDCL authorities, its subcontractors and ExEn PMGSY and discussed various issues pertaining to the implementation of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 in the district.

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the living of a common person by introducing reformatory policies like Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), self attestation,

Digital India mission, New Education Policy, NITI Ayog, GST, Space programmes, CDS etc.

Shamsher Singh Manhas spoke on the political activities, process and election management in Jammu and Kashmir. He also said that since the time of Jana Sangh in 1951, BJP has not only developed a truly democratic political party in the Nation but at the same time the party has ensured that the pride of Indian politics

and Indian Democracy rises to the highest level of dignity in the Indian youth as well as in the whole world.

Sunil Sethi spoke on the Nation's new foreign policy and its recent success. He gave historic references in which earlier the Nation was benefited or was at loss due to the respective foreign policy decisions of those times. He insisted that India has shifted stance from being non-aligned to now active participant and decision maker in every serious issue in the world.

Rakesh Sharma spoke in detail on the Nation's defense policy. He took liberty to speak on the promotion of self-reliance in defense sector. He said that coordination of forces has now enabled in execution of defense decisions on the ground level on fast track. He said that the forces have been modernized like never before. He also discussed defense related issues with the neighbouring Nations.

Ankit Gupta spoke on the importance of social media and the ways to use it effectively.

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