

# J&K Bank signs MoU with Ellaquai Dehati Bank

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing with this endeavour of forging relationship with institutions, J&K Bank on Friday entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ellaquai Dehati Bank (EDB) for providing cash management services to the latter in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

As per the agreement, cash deposit facility has been extended to EDB at 110 designated branches and 3 other touch points of J&K Bank across the UT and EDB in turn has designated J&K Bank as 'the Preferred Banker' for its dealings with respect to all banking related services.



J&K Bank and Ellaquai Dehati Bank representatives after signing MoU.

The MoU was signed during a function held at corporate headquarters by Deputy General Manager (Strategy & IT) Mohammad Muzaffar Wani on behalf of J&K Bank and General Manager (General Banking & IT)

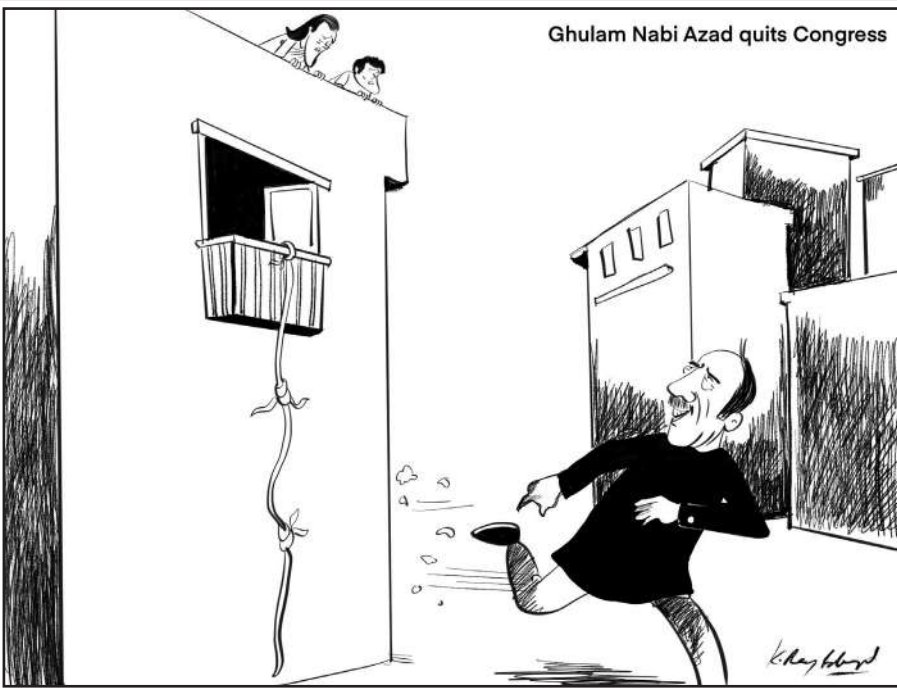
Abdul Rashid Bhat representing EDB in presence of J&K Bank's General Managers Ashutosh Sareen and Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat besides other senior officials of both the banks. General Manager EDB

Abdul Rashid Bhat hailed J&K Bank for its continued support saying, "J&K Bank has always been forthcoming in supporting other institutions operating in this geography which ultimately benefits the people of J&K. We believe our association with J&K Bank will gain further strength over time."

Earlier, expressing his pleasure over the agreement, General Manager J&K Bank Ashutosh Sareen said, "J&K Bank, being a major player in the economy of UT, is usually called upon to provide supportive services to other organisations including financial institutions and EDB has always endeavored to collaborate with the Bank

to improve its service delivery to the local populace. This MoU will go a long way in helping people of J&K particularly in rural areas where EDB also has a decent presence."

On the occasion, General Manager Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat also hoped that the association will be fruitful for both the institutions. He further said, "EDB nominating J&K Bank as 'Preferred Banker' reaffirms the strategic importance J&K Bank commands in the UT. The Bank will continue to collaborate with the important institutions by way of entering into such tie-ups to eventually facilitate and benefit the people of UT."



# Mudgal reviews implementation of important schemes, interventions of Coop Deptt with DCs

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary Cooperative Department, Yasha Mudgal on Friday chaired a meeting with all Deputy Commissioners to discuss progress on implementation of various important schemes and interventions of Cooperative Department across Jammu and Kashmir.

While interacting with Deputy Commissioners, the Secretary emphasized on them that the support of district administrations is vital to implement schemes/ projects like Yuva Sahakar, Ayushman Sahakar, Computerization of PACS (a new Centrally Sponsored Project), Cooperative Super Bazaars, Revival of Defunct Cooperatives and enabling setting up of Food Processing units in these districts. She asked the DCs to maintain coordination with department and get DPRs prepared under Yuva Sahakar, a NCDC Loan Scheme, wherein credit facility is available to the extent of 80% for cooperatives of aspirational districts and 100% for Cooperatives of SC, ST, women or persons with disability as members and for remaining cooperatives credit is available to the extent of 70%. The Secretary delved upon DCs of aspirational districts to submit atleast 24 DPRs and DCs of other districts were asked to submit 12 proposals. She asked them to identify land so that milk Processing units of 25,000 to 30,000 litres processing capacity could be established. She further asked them to ensure that Artisans of cooperative societies are provided with artisan credit card so that they can avail credit to setup their own units. The Secretary stressed upon all Deputy Commissioners to complete all ongoing development works of Super Bazaars and other works of Cooperative Department under their supervision so that proper benefit of all schemes of Cooperatives could reach to the farmers and people of Jammu and Kashmir as whole.

During the meeting, Yasha Mudgal said that 138 defunct cooperatives were revived in



Secretary Cooperative Department, Yasha Mudgal chairing a meeting on Friday.

2021-22 and 800 defunct cooperatives are targeted for revival during 2022-23 against which 78 cooperatives have been revived so far. DDCs were requested to ensure convergence among departments for revival of the same.

The meeting was informed that under Ayushman Sahakar, which is a NCDC Loan Scheme, 70% credit facility can be availed by cooperatives under the scheme for setting up healthcare infrastructure.

It was also informed in the meeting that there are 7 cooperative super Bazaars in J&K, Modernization work of the two super Bazaars (Kulgam & Anantnag) is completed and work on four Bazaars (Jammu, Srinagar, Baramulla and Budgam) is under way. Also, one cooperative super Bazaar is to be set up in remaining 13 Districts each and Cooperative societies for taking up the project have been identified in five districts (Kathua, Kishtwar, Poonch, Ganderbal & Kupwara).

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JAMMU: The J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu, is gearing up for the success of its call for Jammu Bandh on 29th August, 2022 (Monday).

The leadership and members of the Bar continued their mass contact programme to appeal different sections of the society for making the Bandh call a grand success.

The members and leaders of Bar Association from other district and Tehsils of Jammu province joined a meeting with the President J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu, M.K. Bhardwaj in the office chamber of High Court Bar Association.

All the Bar Associations of Jammu province have already expressed their support to the demands projected by J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu which include besides construction of multi storey building for housing registration authority, CAT, DRT, AFT, Consumer Courts, Tribunals, Commissions etc. at Janipur, Court complex, Jammu, similar facilities for registration, consumer and other quasi-judicial institutions in the Court complexes at district



Lawyers taking out Mashaal rally at Jammu.

and Munsiff court level of Jammu province.

The Udhampur Bar projected the demands for shifting the Labour Court to the newly constructed building in the court premises and also for maintaining the connectivity between district court and revenue courts as it exists today.

The samba Bar demanded location of registrars within the District Court premises, Samba. The Akhnoor Bar also demanded location of Sub Registrar office in Akhnoor Court area. The Bishnah Bar demanded the location of the office of Sub Registrar Arnia and Bishnah in the Bishnah court premises.

In this meeting besides M.K Bhardwaj, Surinder Kour, Sr. Adv. H.C Jahnaria, Ajay Bakshi, Harsh Sharma, and

all office bearers of JKHCBAJ namely Mohinder Pal Singh Pali, Vice President, Surjeet Singh Andotra, Gen. Secy. Aditya Sharma, Joint Secretary, Amandeep Singh, Treasurer participated from J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu, and J.D. Slathia, President, Bar Association, Udhampur, Mandeep Singh Sambyal, President, Bar Samba, Dhanraj Singh Sambyal, General Secretary Bar Association Samba, Aman Slathia, Joint Secretary Bar Association Samba, Vikrant Mahajan, Treasurer, Bar Association Samba, Abhinavne Sharma, Bar Association, Samba, Pardeep Pateyar, President, Bar Association Akhnoor, Vikas Mangotra, Gen. Secy. Bar Association Akhnoor, Sumit Sadotra, Vice

President, Bar Association Bishnah participated.

Later, taking further, the mass mobilization campaign, the members of the J&K High Court Bar Association under the leadership of M.K. Bhardwaj, also took a "Mashaal Rally" in New Plot, Amphala, Karan Nagar, Church and Peer Baba, CPO Chowk areas.

The lawyers made appeal to the shopkeepers and general public of Jammu to observe complete Bandh on 29th August, in support of the demands projected by the Bar Association and in the interest and broader unity and integrity of people of Jammu.

The other prominent lawyers who participated in the rally were J.P. Gandhi, Babu Ram Sharma, Baldev Singh (Sr.) Pawan Kundal, Narinder Sharma, Umesh Sharma, Monish Chopra, Mehrukh Syedan, Himani Jamwal, Salika Sheikh, Yasir Farooq Khan, Ch. Zulkar Nain, O.P. Bhagat, V.K. Sharma, Rita Kundal, Ashfaq Khan, Kuldeep Raj, Baldev Singh (Jr), Sant Kumar, V.S. Saini, I.H. Shah, Sudershan Kumar, Gaurav Sarngal, Javed Ahmed, Pushvinder Singh, Adil Malik, Amreg Bakshi, Meharban Singh, Manpreet

Kour, Chetan Misri, Nitin Sambyal, Sachin Gupta, Rajeev Chargoitra, Kamni Thakur, Sunil Sharma, Moti Sharma, Arvind Bandral, Sachin Sharma, Nipun Gandhi, Mohit Vaid, Ranbir Singh, Paramveer Singh Pardhan, Vishal Khajuria, Rohit Gupta, Anish Dubey, Salika Sheikh, Sumit Nayyar, Manoj Kermi, Gagandeep Singh, Love Kumar, Dharmvir, Kamni Thakur, Manoj Kermi, Intiaz Hussain, Ravinder Kumar, Himani, Mehrukh, Rukhsana, Ambika, Aasya Khan, Aprajita Bhagat, Jyoti Rani, Sameena Kousar, Zamir Qureshi, Harmit Mehta, Berjesh Badyal, Rohit Chandan, Sahil Tara, Manoj Gandhi, Survy Parihar, Bhavang Sharma, Vishwar Sharma, Paramvir Singh Pardhan, Jatin Gill, Amzi Arthur John, Rohit Gupta, Harshdev Singh, Sunny Parihar, Vishwar Sharma, Bagirath, Mohit Vaid, Sarvesh Kotwal, Surabhi Kotwal, Ranbir Singh, Zulfikar Ali Ahmed, Nadeem Ahmed, Basharat Choudhary, Sunil Sharma, Manpreet Kour, Anurag Bakshi, Rita Kundal, Sant Kumar, Kuldeep Raj, Ayushman Sharma, Abhinavne Chib, Ashfaq Khan and many more.

# Dr Jitendra calls for linking StartUps with MSMEs

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday called for linking StartUps with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector and said that the Government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is taking all measures including necessary policy changes to strengthen the MSME.

Addressing the "8th India International MSME & StartUp Summit and Expo", as chief guest, Dr Jitendra said, this sector has played an important role in shaping the Atma Nirbhar Bharat and added that the government has substantially increased the budget in the last eight years to strengthen the MSME sector. The Minister also informed that the government is encouraging unique local products to reach the global markets and, in the process, strengthening the Indian economy. Dr Jitendra reminded the audience about the commit-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing "India International MSME & Start-up Summit and Expo" at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

ment of the Modi government for making MSMEs globally competitive. Referring to the introductory remarks of Rajnish Goenka, Chairman, MSME-DE, wherein he said that the MSMEs account for almost one-third of India's economy and over 11

crore people are connected with the sector, Dr Jitendra said, even the Union Budget 2022-23 has presented a comprehensive package of policy announcements aimed at supporting the recovery of MSME, hit hard by COVID pandemic. Dr Jitendra Singh was pleasantly surprised to find huge number of Agri MSME stalls and pointed out that a new wave of Agritech start-ups has emerged in the country in the last few years and these start-ups are solving problems related to supply chain management, improper infrastructure and inability of farmers to access a wider range of markets. Dr. Jitendra Singh concluded by saying that one can't visualise India @2047 through the prism of 2022. He said, Narendra Modi's 8 years as Prime Minister gave India vision for 2047 and laid the roadmap for the next 25 years of Amrit Kal which would witness the ascent of India as a front-rank nation in the world.

# Congress to stand united in fight against enemy of public: Bhalla

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Congress party on Friday held a preparatory meeting at the party office in view of upcoming visit of Rajani Patil All India Congress Committee In-charge for Jammu & Kashmir and welcome of the new JKPC President Vikar Rasool Wani to be held on 30th of this month.

The meeting was chaired by Working President PCC Raman Bhalla. Senior Congress leaders including Mula Ram and Former Minister Yogesh Sawhney, Kanta Bhan, Mannohan Singh, T S Bajwa, Hari Singh, Frontal Cells of the party and various District Presidents from Jammu region attended



Working President PCC Raman Bhalla speaking at a meeting.

the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, discussions were held on the upcoming programme. Bhalla stated that the Congress Party is to stand united in the fight against the common enemy of public welfare and BJP's anti-people policies.

From government employees in J&K to students to the

unemployed youth, people in large numbers are stepping out on the streets for their genuine demands and needs and this needs to change, he said.

He further encouraged the party members to work on the grassroots level and connect with the public.

As the people are suffering on account of BJP's misrule, he

said that Congress must prepare well to fight the elections.

Congress leader Mula Ram said that the Congress party must be in ready mode in view of ensuing elections. People of Jammu are distraught and there is no end to their suffering BJP is removed from the seat of power.

Yogesh Sawhney said that it is high time to move the party's campaign against BJP's anti-people policies in full swing. We must work for the people and strive to form a people-centric government in J&K as and when the time comes.

Kanta Bhan, Mannohan Singh and various other senior Congress leaders also spoke in the meeting.

# Is it fair to demand reservations on basis of religion only when there is no such provision in COI ?

Let 'others' too accept social discriminations amongst them like Hindus, SC reservation can go beyond 15 pc

## ■ DAYA SAGAR

Article 334 of Constitution of India (1949) said "Reservation of seats and special representation to cease after ten years"-Notwithstanding anything in the foregoing provisions of this Part, the provisions of Constitution relating to - (a) the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies of the States; and (b) the representation of the Anglo-Indian community in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies of the States by nomination, shall cease to have effect on the expiration of a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution: Provided that nothing in this article shall affect any representation in the House of the People or in the legislative Assembly of a State until the dissolution of the then existing House or Assembly, as the case may be." But Reservation of seats and special representation are still there even after nearly 70 years, what does this indicate?

From the contents of Art-334 even an 'infant' mind can well read that intentions of the Constituent Assembly/ the elders who drafted the Constitution of

India keeping their special provisions for the time being support to be provided to some socially & educationally (administratively) weaker sections of the Indian society in Independent India so as to free them from the shackles of social and educational backwardness ( particularly all forms of discrimination of caste and creed that 'only' the Hindu society had boldly accepted to be there in when constitution of India was being drafted). It will not be out of place to mention here that the final touches to the draft constitution (B. N. Rau, an Ex ICS officer who is also said to have remained PM of Princely State of J&K for some time) was appointed as the Constitutional Adviser to the Constituent Assembly in 1946 for structuring the Constitution and initial draft was prepared by February 1948, thereafter it was on 29 August 1947 that a 7 member Drafting Committee was appointed with Dr B. R. Ambedkar - the then first Law Minister of Independent India - as the Chairman ) as was processes/ debated / decided by the Constituent Assembly of India were given under the guidance of Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar. In the circumstances that prevailed in

1947 there could have been no one better than Baba Saheb who could have the real feel and judgement of the quantum of support to be provided to some segments of Indian society so as to strengthen them socially and educationally.

In 1950 it was expected that the leadership in Independent India would be able to make India free of undue neglect meted to some castes / sects of Indian society who were suffering from social and educational backwardness. But the Indian leadership in democratic India failed to stand to the expectations of the "elders" and going by the amendments that have been made to the Constitution of India over 7 decades the social and educational backwardness that was targeted to go in ten years by Indian elders like Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar i.e by 1960 has not gone and so far the constitution has been amended 7 times so as to extend the provisions beyond 2020 ( 95th amendment act 2009, whereby the reservation was extended upto 25 Jan 2020 and The Constitution One Hundred and



A Look through the Mist

Twenty-Sixth Amendment Bill, 2019 was introduced in Lok Sabha by the Minister of Law and Justice, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, on

December 9, 2019 extending reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) for another 10 years by 104th Constitution Amendment Act, 2019 ). More so the provision of reservations for some classes of Indian Citizens was kept only on the basis of social & educational backwardness and the economic backwardness as focus had no where been kept in sight in 1950 while drafting Article like 334.

It is worth taking note here that the special provisions like reservations in legislature / services / education have been extended beyond 10 years not only for those who were in 1950/1956 specified as the castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within castes, races or tribes for the purposes of COI to be deemed as Scheduled Castes or who were specified as the tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within tribes or tribal communities for the purposes of COI to be deemed as Scheduled Tribes but

instead many more castes / classes have been included as SC/ST and additionally as OBCs( where as the provision of reservations for some classes of Indian Citizens was kept only on the basis of social & educational backwardness and the economic backwardness as focus had no where been kept in sight in 1950 while drafting Article like 334 Other Backward Classes) also for the purposes of reservations in government services/ government educational institutions, not only that more sects / groups are coming every next day demanding OBCs status and hence the reservation support. Going by these indicators instead the social and educational backwardness has grown after 1947 in Independent India.

Even the communities who believed in Islam and Christianity are demanding now religion based reservations since they are still 'slyng' from honestly accepting that it was not only the Hindu society where social discriminations were faced by the weaker sections. Had the Christians and Muslims accepted that the weaker sections there too faced social neglect, may be no one would have objected to including

castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within castes from amongst them also in Schedule of Castes for the purposes of COI there by increasing the percentage of reservations for the SC beyond 15 %, say 18% in case Muslims , Christians and like too have social discriminations amongst them as had been alleged to be there in Hindu society in pre 1947 times.

But instead they have been demanding reservations including that in services and education institutions on basis religious minorities ( Christian, Muslim ) well knowing that in the Constitution of India there is no provision / scope for such reservations and that too ignoring the fact as enshrined in the Constitution of India even for SC/ST as well under Article 334 of COI (1949) and that too for 10 years only.

On one hand the religious minorities talk of protections given to them by the Constitution of India and on the other hand they demand reservations on the basis of religion for which there is not even a bit of provision in the 'same' constitution.

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