

Delegation led by BDC Chairperson, former MLC call on LG



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha interacting with delegation led by BDC Chairperson.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A delegation led by Rafiq Ahmad Balote, BDC Chairperson Uri on Sunday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan.

The delegation comprised of PRI representatives including DDC Member Shopian, BDC Chairperson Shangus, youth representative, religious leader from Kupwara, and social workers put forth various demands pertaining to the development of their respective areas which included road connectivity, border tourism,

mobile network connectivity, and other developmental issues. The Lt Governor while interacting with the members of the delegation observed that the UT administration is paying dedicated attention towards the development of remote and far-flung areas.

He said that the government has laid a mechanism whereby the development plans will be formulated at the grassroots level and move upwards for implementation.

The Lt Governor asked the representatives of the people to continue their efforts in

bringing out the issues and concerns of people for their redressal.

Earlier, Surinder Ambar, former MLC called on the Lt Governor and put forth various issues of public importance.

He expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor for taking comprehensive measures for safeguarding the rights and interests of Kashmiri migrants, and launching online portal for time-bound redressal of grievances related to Kashmir Migrants' Immoveable properties.

Post August 5 benefits percolating in J&K: Raman

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: "Those who questioned what Jammu and Kashmir got after abrogation of Article 370 must see how tribal communities are going to get their rights under the Forests Rights Act (FRA), which in turn will help them get empowered and also strengthen biodiversity and economic development, improve their livelihood and encourage adaptive use of environment. The decision of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to implement FRA in letter and spirit in Jammu and Kashmir will directly help over 12-20 percent population of Scheduled Tribes who until now were denied their rights because of the non-applicability of central laws in this UT".

This was stated by BJP J&K Executive Member Raman Suri, who added that after 5th August 2019 about 106 new laws, in addition to many previous ones, were extended to Jammu &

Kashmir and the Forest Rights Act (FRA) is one amongst them, which aims at benefitting the tribal community socially, economically and politically. The FRA, he added, will now protect tribal communities against forced displacements and give them grazing rights, access to water resources and forest products, except timber. FRA, he said, is going to be an absolute game changing historic decision. These developments are a message to the political parties like Congress, PDP and NC, which never cared for the welfare of tribal communities and delayed implementation of FRA for decades to suit their own interests.

Now that the Government has started the process of implementation of FRA, Rs 15 crore have already been set aside for Tribal Health Plan, where health sub-centres and mobile medical care units for the migratory population will be set up in months to come.

BSF band presents enthralling display at Balidaan Stambh Jammu



Div Com Jammu, Dr. Raghav Langer laying wreath at War Memorial Stambh.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a series of events under the programme "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav", the BSF Band on Sunday presented an enthralling and exciting display at Balidaan Stambh, War Memorial Jammu. The colourful BSF band played many popular tunes and enthralled the audience. The audience were spell

bound by the BSF Band performance. A large number of spectators from Jammu witnessed the event.

Dr. Raghav Langer, Divisional Commissioner, Jammu was chief guest on the occasion and paid floral tributes to the Martyrs by laying wreath at War Memorial Stambh.

N S Jamwal, IG BSF also offered his tributes to

the Martyrs. Raghav Langer, Div Com, during his address praised BSF for its Professionalism and expertise in Border Guarding. He said that BSF has been delivering its best despite new challenges on the Border. The BSF Band performance was widely applauded by the audience who were spellbound by the performance. It is reiterated that the country is celebrating 75th year of Independence and to mark this auspicious event, these types of programmes are being organised under the aegis of Government of India to instil a sense of pride among the citizens.

BSF has always been on the forefront in delivering its best for the Nation.

In the end a vote of thanks was presented by Harilal, DIG BSF.

DIPR condoles with Sameena Qazi

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Department of Information and Public Relation (DIPR) on Sunday expressed grief and sorrow over the demise of mother of Sameena Qazi, an employee of the Department.

A condolence meeting of officers and officials of the Department was held in which participants expressed sympathies with Sameena Qazi.

They prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

MSS terms appointment of new office bearers by former president as unconstitutional

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting of all managing trustees of Mahasha Sadar Sabha Dogra Hall was held under the chairmanship of N.D Rajwal wherein a resolution was passed to strongly condemn the action taken by former President M.L Rao appointing new office bearers.

"We condemned the action of President M.L Rao appointing Bodh Raj Rao as the chairman of the election board and then the action of Bodh Raj Rao in which he has constituted the election board nominating Khilari Lal as Dy. Chairman, Chaman Lal Sangotra as General Secretary, Gopal Krishan as Secretary, Ravi Panotra as Joint Secretary, Jaipal Banotra as Treasurer, Gareeb Dass Tehsildar (Retd.), Som Raj Taroch and Kanwarjit Singh Sethi as Member," said Rajwal.

He added that this action on the part of former president M.L Rao whose term of office as president has been expired on May 22, 2021, hence the appointment of Bodh Raj Rao as chairman of the election board and further nomination of the above-noted persons is totally illegal, unconstitutional, arbitrary, unwarranted, and against the principle of law as per provision of the Constitution.

There who attended the meeting and passed the resolution include N.D Rajwal (Chairman), B.D Nariyal, Som Raj Majotra, Cap. Ramesh, Tersem Lal, Kamal Kishor and Birbal Tanotra.

Tribal Research Institute approves 30 Fellowships

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Tribal Research Institute, J&K has approved 30 fellowships for the year 2021-22 in 12 different sectors to conduct action research, studies and also formulate plans for socio-economic and infrastructure development of tribal communities in J&K. The programme aimed to engage young scholars, researchers and professionals in project and policy formulation to support the departmental initiatives in tune with community demands.

Secretary, Tribal Affairs Department and Director TRI, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Sunday informed that the department has approved the fellowships in different sectors which will lay foundation for development planning aimed at tribal welfare and under the scheme an outcome analysis of various projects under implementation will also be conducted. Based on the outcome of such studies and reports the

tribal affairs department will coordinate with concerned departments and organisation for required interventions.

The General Administration Department recently constituted a Working Group headed by Secretary, Tribal Affairs Deptt as chairman and having Director Archives & Archeology, Secretary JKAACL, Director Libraries and Research, Director, Tribal Affairs and Heads of Deptts from Jammu University, KU, BGSBU and Central University as members. The working group is tasked to establish TRI in J&K. Notification of professional fellowships is first steps towards establishing an institute of excellence in tribal studies.

The fellowships have been approved in 12 sectors which include Health & Nutrition, Remote Sensing & GIS, Animal/ Sheep Husbandry & Dairying, Public Health & Sanitation, Research & Policy,

Literature, Culture, Web Designing, IT & Digitisation, FRA implementation, Women empowerment and Livelihood schemes for tribal youth.

Graduates in medicine and public health will conduct comprehensive survey of tribal health and organise various screening camps. Their field reports will form the basis to support the recently launched Tribal Health Plan under which a network of Tribal Sub-Centers and mobile hospitals is planned. Fellows in health sector will also focus documenting traditional healthcare practices and supporting tribal communities on public health in local languages.

In remote sensing and GIS a complete mapping of tribal villages, highland pastures habitation, migratory routes, transit facilities, and infrastructure projects will be done which will help the department in efficient resource planning for area development initiatives. Livestock husbandry &

dairying fellowship aims at targeting development of 100 milk villages, formulation of village specific DPRs, skilling of tribal youth, packing & marketing plans and value addition of livestock products.

Fellowships in research and policy will focus on sector specific policy formulation for tribal welfare, inter-sectoral convergence and local area development apart from critical evaluation of policies in vogue enabling TRI to propose proactive steps to be taken by departments for tribal welfare. Likewise fellowships in art, culture and literature will focus on preservation of tribal art and culture, supporting tribal artists and providing support and platform for development of tribal literature including publications. A dedicated fellowship is also planned to work on models to empower tribal women and youth, developing schemes for their welfare to be supported and funded by tribal affairs Department.

Congress seeks revocation of disengagement of 918 ICDS helpers, others

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) on Sunday termed the decision to disengage ICDS helpers and others as unfortunate and sought immediate revocation of the order.

The Party also questioned the move, saying that rather than regularizing the employees, administration is planning to disengage those, who are serving the departments since decades, which is detrimental to the functioning of the departments and the livelihood of the employees.

Unemployment has risen considerably due to the wrong policies adopted by the govt, the educated unemployed youth are feeling frustrated in

absence of the job opportunities, it is very sad and anguishing to observe that JK administration seems hell bent upon to disengages the employees working in different departments since a long time, JKPCC said.

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) President Ghulam Ahmad Mir and various other senior party leaders and Former Legislators have strongly condemned the move to disengage 918 helpers working in ICDS and urged the Govt to revoke the order in the larger interest of the employees and the functioning of department. It is very unfortunate to observe that administration is adopting anti employee policies without caring about

the service period and the career of the employees, besides their livelihood, which is at stake due to such decisions on the part of the administration.

Snatching the livelihood of those who are serving the Govt since decades is very unfortunate, deserves strong condemnation, Congress Leaders added and urged the LG Manoj Sinha to intervene into the disengagement of 918 ICDS helpers and others to ensure that their livelihood is not snatched.

They leaders sought regularization of ICDS Helpers and similarly situated employees serving in different department in Jammu and Kashmir, without any further delay.

Dir Agriculture visits Baramulla, Kupwara Districts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal on Sunday visited Baramulla, Kupwara districts of north Kashmir.

During the tour, Director Agriculture said that Kupwara district has a great potential for apiculture. During the tour he visited Apiculture Demonstration cum Training Centre (DCTC) Gulgam Kupwara, inspected modern processing cum bottling unit for honey and had an interactive session with the progressive apiculturists of the district.

Speaking on the occasion Director Agriculture said that apiculture and allied wings could not only increase manifold the



Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal during visit to Baramulla.

income of farmers but it could also generate employment opportunities for the educated youth of the area. He asked the young farmers to adopt apiculture and other allied wings like mushroom, exotic vegetable cultivation etc on commercial lines and become job

providers rather than job seekers.

Director Agriculture reiterated that department's commitment to provide all the technical guidance and every possible support during the migration of Bee colonies from one place to other place. He directed the

Chief Agriculture Officer Kupwara to submit DPR for flora Corridor for smooth and continue supply of flora to bee apiary owners by way of plantation of different nectar rich shrubs and plant species.

Director Agriculture also chaired a review meeting of the Department in which he reviewed the status of implementation of different centrally sponsored schemes. He asked the concerned officers to work for the welfare and wellbeing of the farming community. Director Agriculture also visited vegetable farm Kupwara.

Chief Agriculture Officer Kupwara and other senior officers of district Kupwara were accompanying the Director during the visit.

Dir H&H Kashmir chairs valedictory function at IICT Campus

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Silk Technical Services Centre (STSC), CSTRI, Central Silk Board, Jammu organized 10- day Capacity Building Training (CBT) on Silk Weaving Technology and its blends with Silk/Pashmina for 20 registered Handloom weavers, in association with Handicraft & Handloom Department and Indian Institute of Carpet Technology in its campus at Bagi-Ali-Mardan Khan, Nowshara. The valedictory

function was on Sunday chaired by Mahmood Ahmad Shah, Director Handicrafts & Handloom Department, Kashmir and was attended by Zubair Ahmad, Director Indian Institute of Carpet Technology, Representative of Director, Sericulture Department, N.S.Gehlot, Scientist D, Central Silk Board along with other officers.

On the occasion, course completion certificates were issued by dignitaries among weavers. The Training Programme was conducted by subject experts from Central Silk Board, Handicrafts and Handloom Department, IICT and others.

The experts provided them necessary inputs on different subjects such as Raw material, Designing, Quality Control, Dyeing to trainees and also informed about different welfare schemes of the Government.

Speaking on the occasion, the

Director, Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir assured the weavers that the department will extend requisite support by way of up-gradation of their existing Handlooms along with allied processes for the overall upliftment of weavers for increasing their production which in turn will improve their earnings. He further said that need is to make necessary changes in the existing processes as well as designing aspects so that products are manufactured as per the prevalent demand in the market.

The Director IICT in his remarks urged the Silk Technical Service Centre (STSC) of Central Silk Board, Jammu to conduct such Capacity Building Training Programmes on regular basis in Kashmir division so that maximum number of Handloom weavers get benefited from such training programmes.

Zumba event organised

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Zumba event was organised on Sunday by the Ruchika Makeovers presents Happy Feet Zumba at Mint Leaf Marble market, here.

The event was hosted by Aarti Mahajan Dingra and was attended by more than 70 people. The event was organised to make general people aware about the importance of fitness and dance in our day to day life.

Multiple Zumba events have been organised over the years by Shape n Smile fitness studio and Planet Fitness.

The event was attended by



Participants of zumba event posing for a photograph.

various known faces from the town. Kuldeep Hans, Upasana and Kritika Khana were the

Special Guests of the event. Kapoor Studios was the photography partner of the event.

Special dance performance presented by Mukesh Kumar, Vishal and Pradeep.

‘BJP has given a result oriented, practical govt’

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The BJP government at the Centre, under Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has familiarised the people of J&K with the concept of what is to be done for them while in power rather than using the chair to promote own interests. During the past seven years, especially the current period after the reorganisation of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, one initiative after the other is witnessed, each making people realise as to what should be done in practical rather than emotional sloganeering. In a statement, Balbir Ram

Rattan, J&K BJP Spokesperson, said this while mentioning that Jammu and Kashmir had been most unfortunate state in the sense that one region was preferred over the other in all matters and at all levels.

He said that Jammu always got step motherly treatment and even the leaders of Kashmir-centric parties hailing from Jammu always adopted complete silence just for their own survival in politics. Balbir said that the Modi government ended the appeasement policy of a region and delivered justice to Jammu, which can be seen by a glance on the long list of development projects, health institutions, prestigious professional, technical and academic establishments granted to this region and without neglecting Kashmir in such matters. Balbir further said that the BJP government abrogated the controversial Article 370, which had induced a sense of separatism and created wedge between J&K and rest of the country and the people hailed this step overwhelmingly. The people too contributed by outrightly rejecting the slogans of Autonomy and Self Rule. They also dissociated themselves from the politics of family rule.

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