

LG calls for streamlining online-Revenue Services

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday emphasized on streamlining of online-Revenue Services to make the system more transparent and accountable to the common people.

Reviewing the functioning of the Revenue Department at the Civil Secretariat, the Lieutenant Governor also advised for mapping of forest land, besides creating a dedicated IT cell in the Revenue department.

He appraised implementation of several initiatives undertaken by the department for ensuring smooth delivery of services to the public.

The Lt Governor was briefed about Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigrani; Digitization of Land Records; Change of Land Use; issuance of Land



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

Passbooks and Property cards; SVAMITVA Scheme etc.

Obsolete rules should be repealed and replaced with a more people-oriented regulatory system for ease of living, ease of governance and overall improvement of the efficiency of the Revenue Department, the Lt Governor directed the officials.

The Lt Governor instructed the senior officials of the revenue

department to work out viable solutions to address issues and challenges.

While reviewing the progress made under Land Records Information System, the chair was informed that a total of 8,21,40,595 of scanned documents, including Jamabandis, Mutations and Girdawaris have been uploaded till date.

Shaleen Kabra, Financial Commissioner, Revenue gave

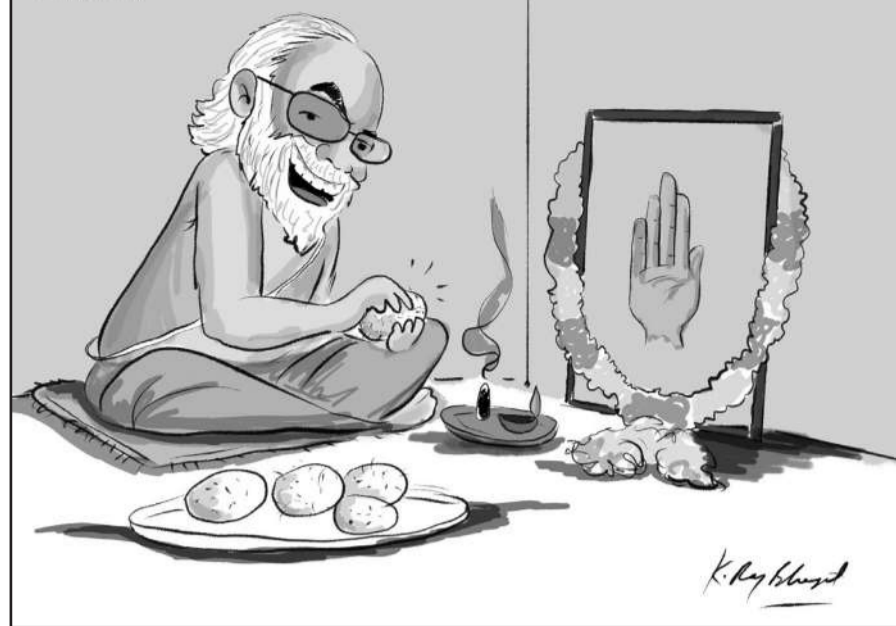
a detailed briefing on the steps taken to achieve the core objectives of Revenue Department and the progress registered under Digital India Land Record Modernization Program; Digitization of Maps and its update/survey through latest Geo-reference technology; Ground Truthing through Mobile App; Online-Revenue Services and End to End Integrated Workflow.

It was informed that the Revenue department is using a grievance redressal portal for timely disposal of grievances & complaints online.

Vijay Kumar Bihuri, Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Revenue Department gave a comprehensive overview of the working of Evacuees' Property Department; Registration Department and Haj & Aunaf Affairs Department.

Vivek Bhardwaj, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Achal Sethi, Secretary to Government, Department of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs and senior officials of Revenue Department attended the meeting.

Shraad



CCI welcomes amnesty for domestic power consumers, appeals for its extension to traders & industrialists



Arun Gupta, President CCI chairing a meeting of office bearers.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: While welcoming the amnesty scheme for domestic power consumers/connections announced by the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Administrative Council, Chamber of Commerce and Industries (CCI), Jammu on Friday appealed to the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to announce a similar amnesty for the Traders / Industrialist sector as these sector continues to suffer after being adversely affected during the peak Covid-19 pandemic.

This was expressed during a meeting of the CCI held under the chairmanship of Arun Gupta, President CCI at Chamber House here.

Arun said "We wholeheartedly welcome the move of UT Govt waiving off interest and surcharge on domestic power connections by introducing amnesty scheme. However, we seek roll out of another amnesty scheme for the Traders and Industries power consumers so that the unit holders also get some relief on this front."

He further stated that the Jammu Chamber

of Commerce and Industries has already raised this significant issue with the UT Administration a number of times demanding power tariff amnesty scheme for the traders and industrial sector and are still waiting for rolling out of the scheme with great hope as it would go a long way in holding the hands of this vital sectors which is experiencing a very tough and testing time at present.

The CCI President said that the Traders and Industrialist are trying to come out of Covid trauma after having suffered for more than two years on account of huge economic losses and theirs' is a genuine and fit case for granting of power amnesty scheme. He reiterated the CCI appeal to the LG led UT government to announce amnesty scheme for the Traders and Industrialist at the earliest.

At the same time Chamber requested the defaulting consumers to avail the benefits of this amnesty scheme and clear their outstanding dues within the prescribed period of 12 months as failure to do so will invite penalty and legal action under electricity act 2010.

Petitioner, having competitive interest, not entitled to maintain petition in public interest: DB

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Rajnesh Oswal while dismissing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by Aman Satya Kachroo Trust, observed that petitioner being a prospective candidate having personal interest in establishment of OSCs in Jammu & Kashmir and having competitive interest, is not entitled to maintain a petition like this in public interest.

When PIL came-up for hearing, the DB observed that a committee constituted under chairmanship of Justice J S Verma (former Chief Justice of India) in wake of Nirbaya's case made certain recommendations especially for formulating schemes to provide women easy access to justice; access to Government services as well as access to welfare schemes of both Central and State Governments. All these schemes were to be funded fully by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCDC) from out of 'Nirbaya Fund'.

DB further observed that petitioner is a Trust alleged to have been registered in Delhi in 2009. The said Trust, through its Founder Trustee Prof Rajendar Kumar Kachroo has preferred the writ petition in public interest seeking direction for constitution of a committee

under the leadership of Chairperson, State Legal Service Authority (SLSA) to provide directions and guidance to Department of Social Welfare J&K, in implementation of all women related schemes in J&K, particularly, WHL & OSC. Secondly, directions were sought for Ministry of Women and Child Development to assess whether the schemes of WHL and OSC in J&K are being implemented as per the guidelines and lastly to allow petitioner to make submissions before the Ministry of Women and Child Development in context of implementation of aforementioned schemes in J&K. It was averred that the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, is the architect of the Schemes WHL and OSC and provides for the guidelines of their implementation. The aforesaid schemes are to be implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, J&K. The petitioner admitted that WHL and seven OSCs in the districts of Jammu, Srinagar, Kathua, Doda, Rajouri, Anantnag and Kupwara are operational in J&K. Out of these OSCs, the petitioner is managing the OSCs at Jammu and Srinagar whereas four separate Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have been selected to operate OSCs of Kathua, Doda, Anantnag and Kupwara.

DB further observed that the petition has not been filed in public interest rather for espousing the petitioner's personal commercial interest. The petitioner has filed more than fifteen petitions including the contempt petitions with the object of forcing the Territory Government to allot all contracts for implementation of the above schemes to it in every district. The petitioner aims to monopolize OSCs by conveying that no other agency/NGO has the capability and expertise to run them other than it. The respondents have also stated that as per guidelines for the implementation of the OSCs issued by the Government of India in 2015, the proposal to set up OSCs have to be submitted to the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the funds for the purpose would be transferred directly to the District Magistrate(s)/ District Commissioner(s) by the Government of India. The erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir vide Government Order dated 08.09.2016 constituted two committees namely, 'State Steering and Managing Committee' and 'District Level Management Committee' to monitor the functioning and over all working of the OSCs. The first Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Administrative Secretary, Social Welfare Department who has to submit report

after evaluating the functioning of OSCs every six months. The other Committee at the district level is under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner and has to scrutinize and monitor the OSC in the district. In order to operationalize OSCs in remaining twelve districts, the Committee selected the petitioner to run all of them. However, the petitioner failed to comply with the terms and conditions of empanelment within the time which led to cancellation of its contract. Thus, the matter with regard of establishment of twelve, OSCs could not be finalized as the matter is sub-judice before the court. The petitioner himself is responsible for the non-implementation of the OSCs in the remaining twelve districts of Jammu and Kashmir. However, in public interest, the Government of India handed over the charge of the twelve OSCs in the said districts of Jammu and Kashmir to the officials of Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) and Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) as a measure of interim arrangement. In this way, in every district of Jammu and Kashmir, OSCs are operational. The centers working under interim arrangement are being managed by the Social Welfare District Officer. The Centers lack integration with the Toll Free Service -181 Women Help Line as the same is

being controlled by the petitioner. The petitioner itself is a hurdle in fully operationalizing OSCs and their integration with the WHL.

10-day Ganesh Utsav celebrations conclude with immersion of idols



Devotees immersing idols of Lord Ganesha in River Tawi on the conclusion of ten days long Ganesh Utsav in Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Processions with idols of Lord Ganesha taken out for immersion in different rivers and canals on decorated vehicles marked the culmination of 10-day long Ganesh Chaturthi festival across Jammu region on Friday.

The immersion processions of idols of Lord Ganesha from various areas were taken out with full religious zeal and enthusiasm. Hundreds of devotees including men, women and children took part in these processions.

The idols were taken out in specially decorated open vehicles from different areas and Mohallas where the devotees worshipped the Lord Ganesha during the 10 day-long Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations.

Rush of devotees was seen on Surya Putri river Tawi where large number of devotees in processions thronged from early in the morning for immersion of idols of Lord Ganesha and performed special Pooja on the occasion.

The authorities have also made elaborate security arrangements during the immersion ceremony of the idols of Lord Ganesha.

During the 10 day long festival people made Pandals in different localities, bazaars and Mohallas in which idols of Lord Ganesha were installed for worship during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival.

Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President participated in several programmes held at various temples in the Jammu East

Constituency at Peer Kho, Peer Mitha, Shalamar, Gummat, Dewana Mandir at Kacchi Chawni and paid obeisance to Ganpati ji.

Speaking on the occasion, Yudhvir Sethi said May Ganpati ji bless us with a happy and healthy life.

He added that celebration of such festivals bring people together and cement the bonds of brotherhood and communal harmony. He hoped that this auspicious occasion will usher Jammu and Kashmir in peace.

Culmination of 10 days celebrations of Shri Ganesh Chaturthi, Mahautsav started from 31st August 2022 to 9th Sep.2022 after installing a beautiful Idol of Lord Ganesha at Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Complex

Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. The Idol was immersed in River Chenab near Jio Pota Ghat Akhnoor after performing Pooja Arhana by Th. Gulchain Singh Charak (Former Minister) and President of Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust along with other Trustees/Special Invitees and large number of devotees.

Prominent amongst those who participated in the programme include Sarv S C Rekhi, (Genl Secy), Prithvi Raj Vaid, Ramesh Thakur, V. K. Abrol, Parshant Sharma, Kapil Slathia, Sumesh Damral, Ved Verma, Dr. Jeet Gupta, Kiran Rajput, Uma Katal, Krishan P Gupta, Sandeep Singh, Ashok Khajuria, Tarun Gupta and Kulbir Singh Chib.

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