

HC bars non-State subjects from allotment of petrol pumps

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 2: High Court barred those aspirants from taking part into allotment process for establishment of petrol outlets in the State who are not permanent residents of the State.

Hearing a petition challenging the guidelines as also the advertisement notification which provides that the non-state subjects having relation with the residents of the State can apply for establishing of outlet, the Division Bench of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey and Justice Tashi Rabstan directed that the guidelines and advertisement notices shall not be given effect to this extent.

Court has declined to grant complete stay on the process of allotment of 628 Outlet Retail Dealerships in the state merely because the petitioners are already having Outlet Dealership at different sites of the State.

But in order to ensure adherence to the Constitutional Scheme and the local laws having reference to the ownership

rights of the properties of the subjects in the State of J&K, DB directed that the Clause (IV) of the impugned guidelines incorporated in the advertisement notices shall not be given effect in respect of the applicants who are not fulfilling the requirements in tune with the local laws.

Court has made it clear for the respondent Corporations (oil companies) to only process the cases of applicants who are adhering to the provisions of the local laws with reference to ownership or transfer of land.

Arguments on behalf of petitioners counsel about the guidelines and advertisement notice was that both are against State Subject Laws and raised the objection that the guidelines and the advertisement notices are having the effect of violating the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of the Jammu and Kashmir Land Alienation of Land Act which prohibits the transfer of land in favour of non-State Subject and transfer of land in favour of any person who is not a State Subject.

Shazad demands audit of bunkers in border areas

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: Citing massive allegations of irregularities and nepotism in construction of bunkers and identification of sites for construction of new community and individual bunkers for civil population in border district Poonch, Dr Shazad Malik, a renowned educationist urged Union Home Ministry and Governor Satya Pal Malik to order Judicial auditing of whole procedure of construction of civilian bunkers in the district.

While interacting with the people of Balakote area today, Dr Shazad said that it is so unfortunate that everyday allegations and complaints pour in from residents of border areas that newly constructed bunkers are constructed using the sub standard material. He said that all sites for bunkers are identified at the behest of politicians with-

out adopting any scientific and strategic parameters.

Explaining concern over the sufferings of locals of border areas, he said that innocent people living near border and LoC face troubles, as at one side they become victims of unprovoked shelling from Pakistan and on the other side, neither administration nor Government show any sympathy to them.

Dr Shazad alleged that on papers billions of rupees are sanctioned and released by Union Government for people of border areas but on ground the situation is totally different. There is lack of coordination between different agencies of the State and Central Government. Malik demanded establishment of an independent body called as BADA, Border Area Development Authority that shall exclusively cater all the needs of people of border and LoC areas.

Strengthen Modi for development of Ladakh: Abhijeet Jasrotia

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: BJP today appealed the people of Ladakh region to strengthen the hands of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi to ensure development of the region.

The appeal was made by



BJP leaders during a press conference at Jammu on Thursday.

BJP leader, Abhijeet Jasrotia and party's Media incharge & State press secretary, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, at a press conference held at BJP Headquarter, here.

Abhijeet Jasrotia, who returned here after campaigning for Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, the BJP's MP candidate for Ladakh, explained the historical work done by the party in the Ladakh region, which earlier ruling parties failed to do.

Abhijeet Jasrotia appraised the media about the various works done by BJP Government in Ladakh region which included Zojila tunnel initiative, Cluster University for Ladakh, doubling of Kargil-Zanskar road, extension of Kargil and Leh Airports, which will be

built as a gateway for Ladakh on Ladakhi traditional style and will be a source of attraction worldwide. He added that the historic step of connecting Ladakh through train route was also an initiate of BJP Government.

He appealed to the people of Ladakh to remain more vigilant from such people who are once again trying to divide the people of Ladakh in the name of religion, as these parties have no future, neither in Ladakh nor at the centre. Such political parties will put all efforts to keep Ladakh disconnected from the rest of the world, which they succeeded to some extent in the past through their discriminatory policies.

He promised the people of Ladakh that if once again voted to power, then they will be directly connected to the Centre as BJP is once again going to form Government with majority. So people should cast their vote in favour of the party.

Jasrotia said Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, has the road map for the development of Ladakh. Not only this, he also has famed special strategies for the creation of employment avenues for unemployed youth of Ladakh. He added that the success of Jamyang Tsering Namgyal will be the success of the bond of common man of Ladakh with Narendra Modi, who has a special place for the patriotic people of Ladakh.

Safaikaramcharis Union holds demonstration

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, May 2: The Safaikaramcharis Union held a protest demonstration against the Municipal Council Kathua in support of their genuine demands here today. They protested in front of Municipal Council Office and raised slogans in favour of their demands.

While addressing the president of the Union criticized the attitude of Municipal Council Kathua, Chairman, Naresh Sharma.

He said that the Council has promised two and half day salary in lieu of holidays on which they are working but has backtracked now. The Pay Commission benefit was also not given to them. They demanded the new recruitment in the Council as the working

area has increased and shortage of man power is serious problems for the Union. He has criticized the harassment of Safaikaramcharis in various manners.

He added that the Safaikaramcharis including the women are working in worse condition. No safety mask, hand gloves or shoes are given to them. Even the soap for cleaning hands is not given to them. The Council has issued uniform after Union demanded it for three years continuously. The Council is earning huge sum of money from various sources but have nothing for Safaikaramcharis. It is matter of serious concern to deprive them of their rights. He appealed the higher authorities to pay attention towards the grievances of Safaikaramcharis.



BJP leaders at a press conference at Leh on Thursday. —Excelsior/Morup Stanzin

BJP exudes confidence of victory in Ladakh

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH (LADAKH), May 2: Exuding confidence that party will emerge victories in Ladakh in the ensuing Lok Sabha elections, BJP today said the party has gained a strong hold in all the four regions of the Ladakh including , Leh, Kargil , Zaskar and Nobra.

This has been possible only because of party's vigorous campaigning during last fortnight by reaching the far flung areas of the region including the last villages on LoC. This was stated at a joint press conference by BJP State president, Ravinder Raina, its general secretary, Dr Narinder Singh, party incharge Ladakh region & MLC, Ch Vikram Randhawa and BJP district president, Leh, Dorjay Angchuk here, today.

Termining the poll campaign totally positive they said BJP received a good response every where from the people of every community and they acknowledged the keen interest shown by BJP led by Narendra Modi Government in the development of the region. The people expect

that BJP will further launch more developmental projects in the Division and boost its economy, they added.

The BJP leaders also made an appeal to make the party rally on May 4 a success which among others will be addressed by Union Defence Minister, Nirmala Sitaraman and CM of Arunachal Pradesh. They assured people that BJP Government at Centre will pay extra attention for promotion of tourism by giving main thrust to eco tourism in the region to generate employment.

They said in last five years of Modi Government extra ordinary development has taken place in Ladakh region and will further intensify the pace of development in the region. The more programmes of employment generation for the youth will be implemented in the region to make Ladakh one of the developed areas of the State, they added.

Making a dig at Congress the BJP leaders said it is a divided house as one of the party leaders is contesting as rebel candidate.

IRCON celebrates 43rd Annual Day

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: IRCON International Ltd celebrated its 43rd Annual Day by organising a function at New Delhi.



Vinod Kumar Yadav, Chairman, Railway Board along with others inaugurating 43rd Annual Day Celebrations of IRCON.

Vinod Kumar Yadav, Chairman Railway Board (CRB), Vishwesh Chaubey, Member Engineering, Railway Board, S.K Chaudhary, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), IRCON inaugurated the event by the lighting of lamps.

Deepak Sahlok, Director, Projects, Mukesh Kumar Singh, Director, Finance, Yogesh Kumar Misra, Director, Works and senior officers and ex-officers of Railway Board and other organizations were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Vinod Kumar Yadav CRB Railway Board highlighted

Vishwesh Chaubey, Member, Engineering said IRCON's contribution in the project of national importance is exemplary and shows the highest degree of commitment and engineering excellence.

S.K Chaudhary CMD IRCON attributed the all-round success of the company to its team and said that the company is committed to further accelerate the growth by preparing itself for future challenges in the construction sector.

IRCON has named its Annual Day Event as 'Srijan' (means creation, construction) from this year.

Teachers Forum delegation calls on DDC Kathua

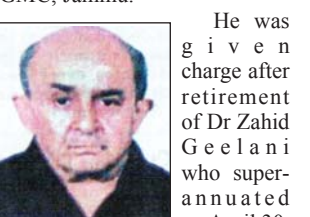
Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, May 2: A delegation of Jammu Kashmir Government Teachers Forum (JKGTF) led by its State chairman, Amar Nath Thakur called on Deputy Commissioner, Kathua and submitted two separate memorandums to him.

Dr Brij Mohan is HoD Pharmacology

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: Dr Brij Mohan Gupta, the senior most Professor of Department of Pharmacology has been assigned the charge of Head, Department of Pharmacology, GMC, Jammu.



He was given charge after retirement of Dr Zahid G e e l a n i who superannuated on April 30, vide Government Order No. 461-HME of 2019 dated 26-04-2019 and consequent upon this vide PMC Order No GMC/19/Order/252 dated 30-04-2019.

Dr Brij Mohan Gupta is graduate from Stenly Medical College, Chennai (1984) and Post Graduate from MGIMS, Seva Gram, Wardha (1991). He has many research publications to his credit and is a member of many prestigious academics committees. In addition, he is the member secretary for Animal Ethics Committee, GMC, Jammu.

The main demands submitted and discussed were sanctioning of required ministerial staff of all five hanging educational zones of district Kathua, releasing additional one month salary of all employees of district Kathua who have performed their duties in Urban Local Body and Panchayat elections in 2018. Releasing the remuneration of all ROs and AROs of Panchayat and Local Body election without any disparity, relieving all teaching staff engaged in Lok Sabha elections at the cost of student studies in the district, releasing pending salary of 227 SSA head teachers for the months of December, 2017, January and February 2017 etc.

Deputy Commissioner heard all the demands and issued directions to CEO, Kathua to take necessary action. Thakur apprised DC Kathua that many teachers are engaged in all five hanging zones as to do the clerical works and school students are suffering for want of staff, this is going on for many years and no one has given attention towards this issue. Thakur also added that all the assigned teachers (particularly RRT) in Election Cell should be detached immediately for the welfare of student.

Later delegation also met Chief Education Officer, Kathua and handed over the memorandum, CEO Kathua on the spot directed Planning Section in charge to recommend the required staff of all five hanging educational zone Bhaddu, Mahanour, Marheen , Lakhnupur and Sallan to higher authorities. He also assured that necessary action would be taken on all demands as directed by Deputy Commissioner, Kathua.

Omar forgot atrocities on people through POTA, Ikhwan: Beg

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 2: Launching a scathing attack on National Conference (NC) vice president, People's Democratic Party (PDP) senior leader, Dr Mehboob Beg has warned Omar Abdullah against misadventures of politicizing the human tragedy of south Kashmir for petty political gains.

"I am deeply disappointed by Omar Abdullah's politicization of South Kashmir's human tragedy for political gains. Omar Abdullah's casting aspersions on our party does not dilute the fact that his family and his party - the National Conference has been the single largest source of political oppression and suppression on the people of the State," Beg said.

"No one in south Kashmir has forgotten what NC did to workers of Jamat-e-Islami in 1970s. Omar Abdullah himself stands responsible for devastation of south Kashmir, when

during his father's rule POTA was imposed, notorious STF and Ikhwan was unleashed on people of Kashmir," He added.

Beg reminded Omar that it was in his rule that south Kashmir faced worst security crackdown that destroyed many families. "Who can forget the tragic fate of Asiya and Neelofar - daughters of South Kashmir, who were brutally raped and murdered by culprits shielded by Omar Abdullah's administration? Everyone knows the shameful role that Omar Abdullah and his administration played in protecting perpetrators of the crime of disrespecting daughters of South Kashmir," he reminded.

The PDP leader reiterated that, the devastation of south Kashmir is a human tragedy of immense pain and suffering. "Let's not politicize it for petty political gains and if anything let's come together to heal the pain and suffering of the people of south Kashmir, rather than take advantage from their miseries", Beg added.



Kamlesh Pathania, Trustee of Shri Bhopinder Singh Pathania Charitable Trust inaugurating a medical camp at Basantgarh.

Trust organises medical camp

Excelsior Correspondent

BASANTGARH, May 2: Shri Bhopinder Singh Pathania Charitable Trust here today organised a free medical camp at PHC Basantgarh.

Free diagnosis, specialized treatment and medicines were offered to the needy and deserving patients of the area in the camp.

About 400 patients visited the camp for check-up.

A handout stated that the Trust has decided that all BPL patients shall be assisted for free treatment in speciality/super-specialty faculties at Jammu/Srinagar as well as Delhi and Chandigarh.

The camp was inaugurated by Kamlesh Pathania, Trustee of

the Trust in the presence of R.S Pathania, Former Legislator, Brij Mohan Sharma, Shiv Charan, Jagmohan, Bikram Singh, Bhushan Modi and Rattan Chand, all Trustees.

Tehsildar and BMO Basantgarh along with various officers were also present on the occasion.

The camp was organized in collaboration with District Administration Udhampur.

A sensitization cum awareness programme was also carried out where ASHAs/Anganwadi Workers/Helpers were educated and trained for challenges and issues being faced by them in the far flung areas where access to proper healthcare remains a far-fetched reality.



Officers and employees of Punjab National Bank during a protest demonstration at Jammu on Thursday.

PNB officers, employees stage protest

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: All India Punjab National Bank Officers Association (AIPNBOA) along with All India PNB Employees Federation here today staged a protest demonstration at PNB Circle Office Rail Head complex.

The protesters expressed resentment against receding manpower in the bank by 30-40 per cent, downgrading of branches, pending various employees' welfare measures etc.

Addressing the protesters the leaders of protesting organizations demanded that their

long pending demands should be immediately addressed.

AIPNBOA President, Umakant Sharma that the Bank has taken few unilateral decisions which are harming the interests of employees in particular and development of the bank in general.

Issues like arbitrarily withdrawal of facilities like those given to pregnant lady staff, stopping recruitment of fresh staff etc were condemned by the protesters.

The protesters also raised slogans in favour of their demands and framed a joint memorandum to handover to the J&K Circle Head.

Sudan conferred with 'Best Citizens of India Award'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: The Best Citizens Publisher House conferred 'Best Citizens of India Award' to Sushil Sudan, president, Jammu Kashmir Medical Employees Federation (JKMEF) and Member of Pharmacist Council of India for his contribution in the field of Health.

Pertinent to mention here that the award was presented to few most outstanding politicians and cine stars throughout India and Sushil Sudan is one of them.

Sudan was presented this

prestigious award keeping in view the services rendered by him in the field of Medical Services and for betterment of employees which he used to highlight at the different platforms. He has been actively involved in Trade Union activities since joining of service in 1989. He took active part in getting 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Pay Commission recommendations for the employees of J&K.

He was conferred with "Rashtriya Gaurav Award" recently in New Delhi by International Friendship Society.



Deputy Commissioner Jammu chairing a meeting on Thursday.

NQAS to assess DH Gandhi Nagar for grant of National Certification

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar today chaired a meeting of District Quality Assurance Committee, who is also the chairman of the committee and took stock of the preparedness of District Hospital Gandhi Nagar for assessment of the health institution for grant of National Certification.

Under Quality Assurance Programme, District Hospital Gandhi Nagar Jammu has been certified by the State under National Quality Assurance Standard (NQAS).

It is pertinent to mention that National Quality Assurance Standards have been developed keeping in the specific requirements for public health facilities as well global best practices. NQAS are currently available for District Hospitals, CHCs, PHCs and Urban PHCs.

Standards are primarily meant for providers to assess their own quality for improvement through pre defined standards and to bring up their facilities for certification. The National Quality Assurance Standards are broadly arranged under 8 "Areas of Concern"- Service Provision, Patient Rights, Inputs, Support Services, Clinical Care, Infection Control, Quality Management and Outcome.

These standards are ISQUA- The International Society for Quality in Health Care accredited

and meet global benchmarks in terms of comprehensiveness, objectivity, evidence and rigour of development.

It was revealed in the meeting that soon District Hospital Gandhi Nagar will be assessed by a National Team for National Certification under NQAS.

Deputy Commissioner also reviewed preparedness of Hospital for NQAS and various issues were put up before the chairman of the committee by Chief Medical Officer Dr. Danish Ayub Khan and Medical Superintendent Gandhi Nagar Dr. Chander Parkash.

Meanwhile, Ramesh Kumar also reviewed the Health and Wellness Centre of District Jammu established under Ayushman Bharat for providing primary health care facilities.

Deputy Commissioner also reviewed progress under Kayakalp Scheme aimed at to promote cleanliness, hygiene and infection control practices in public health care facilities. He stressed that maximum number of health facilities of district Jammu should be covered under Kayakalp.

Among others, ADC Jammu Rishpal Singh, P.O ICDS Natasha Kalsotra, CPO Jammu G.L Sharma, State Nodal Officer for Quality Assurance NHM Dr. Narinder Bhatiyal, District Programme Manager Jammu NHM Dr. Isha Kohli, BMOs and other senior doctors were present in the meeting.

Love for Kashmir compels KP to return after 3 decades

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, May 2: Bidding farewell to Kashmir after he was fired upon by gunmen way back in 1990, Bhushan Lal Mawa, a Kashmiri Pandit has come back after 29 years to restart his business in Zaina Kadal area of old city Srinagar.

Bushan Lal was given a warm welcome by his fellow businessmen in the area and has asked rest of the Pandit community to return to Kashmir and at the same time asking the Government to create conducive environment for it.

"In October 1990 someone came and fired upon me. I received two bullets in the abdomen and one hit me in the shoulder. The incident forced me to flee Kashmir and I settled in Delhi," he said.

He said that though he was well settled in Delhi, but there was a kind of longing to return to Kashmir. "It is this longing that made me to return", he said.

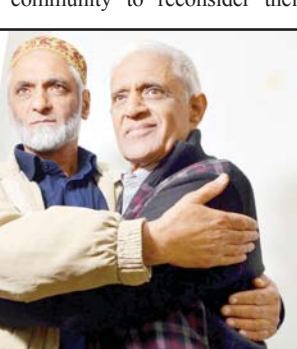
"I have a name in Delhi, but somewhere, deep in my heart there was a longing to return to Kashmir, I used to miss my place. I used to miss the brotherhood, affection of my place. It is that longing which has finally made me to return to Kashmir," he said.

On the other side, a local Kashmiri doctor came personally to welcome Bhushan Lal at his shop after finishing off his night shift. He said that he could not control himself when he saw a video on the social networking site.

On the welcome that he was given by the locals, Lal said that he

was given hero's welcome and that he has no words to express the feeling. "I have come back after 29 years. I don't have words to express this feeling. I was given hero's welcome", he said.

He asked the rest of the Pandit community to reconsider their



Kashmiri Pandit Bhushan Lal Mawa being welcomed in Srinagar.

—Excelsior/Shakeel

decision and return to Kashmir.

"Kashmiri Pandits should bear this in mind that every Kashmiri is not a militant, if some are there, we * Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

cannot generalize things. They should reconsider their decision and come back", he suggested.

He said that Kashmiri Pandits were craving to return to Kashmir as deep down, there is a longing to come back. However, he said, there is a need to create conducive atmosphere.

"Kashmiri Pandits are actually craving to come back to Kashmir, but for that an atmosphere is to be created. The gap that was created has to be filled and that has to be filled by the people and Government," he said.



SSP Traffic (Rural) M L Kaith addressing a press conference in Kathua on Thursday.

Traffic Police challans 510 vehicles, imposes Rs 1.5 lakh fine

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, May 2: In order to ensure hassle free vehicular movement in Kathua and Samba districts and to implement the Motor Vehicle Act strictly on ground, M.L. Kaith, SSP Traffic, Rural Jammu today accompanied by the DySP Traffic Samba-Kathua, Behari Lal and other officials launched a special drive against the violators.

During the special drives, 510 challans against the traffic violators were done revenue amounting to Rs. 1,50,000 realised from them.

15 vehicles have been seized and handed over to the concerned police stations for further proceedings, Kaith told media persons.

It is pertinent to mention here that during the last two months, Traffic Police Rural Jammu under the close and effective supervision

of SSP Traffic Rural, Jammu launched various special drives in the whole jurisdiction against different type of visible as well as other offences to ensure strict enforcement.

During this period, a large number of vehicles were challaned and seized. A total number of 28135 vehicles were challaned, 371 vehicles were seized and Rs 42,51,300/- fine was collected from violators.

Out of the total of 28135 vehicles, 1683 vehicles were booked for overloading 5417 vehicles for not wearing Crash helmets 5408 vehicles for non-wearing of seats belt and 127 vehicles for wrong parking.

Besides, 124 School Vehicles have also been challaned during the last two months under various sections of M.V Act/Rules. Traffic Police has counseled the violators before imposition of fine.