

## Thieves shatter dreams of would be bride, her family

SRINAGAR: Just a few months before getting married, the dreams of a lady hailing from Srinagar outskirts here were shattered as the thieves struck into their home on last Friday and decamped with all her gold worth Rs 22 lakhs.

On last Friday when all the family members were out to offer mandatory congregational prayers, the thieves struck into the house, located at 90 feet road, Usman Abad Colony Soura.

The would-be bride said that the ongoing construction of their home was stopped due to snowfall in Kashmir while all the family members were out to offer Friday prayer at different masjids. "My father and brother reached the home after offering Salaat where they find suspicious position

as the lockers and other gates were open," she said.

She added that they got a call from their brother to know about the suspicious position at home. "We reached home quickly to verify the matter and found that the thieves have struck into our home and decamped with gold worth Rs 22 lakhs," she said, adding that the thieves have used axe to break the safe where the gold was kept by the family.

Chulam Muhammad, grandfather of the lady told KNO that they have registered a report at Soura police station in this regard who have lodged FIR and have started investigation into the matter.

They appealed police to speed up the investigation and nab the thieves at an earliest. (KNO)

## Spurious drugs available in Kashmir markets? 'Institute of Peace Studies' writes to Drug Controller



SRINAGAR: A large number of attendants Monday alleged that doctors from SMHS Hospital are prescribing drugs from a single company and once they get the drugs outside the hospital they turn out to be sub-standard and fake.

The abundance of spurious drugs in the markets of Kashmir is not unknown as the Valley witnessed a great upheaval in 2013 when a fake drug scam was unearthed here.

Reliable sources told Kashmir News Trust that 'Institute of Peace Studies' in a communication to Drug Controller has complained that there are spurious drugs available in the Kashmir markets. The Institute has mentioned the names of at least 8 drugs that are not only sub-standard but spurious as well.

"A doctor prescribed me an intravenous injection for infection. When I purchased the same from a medical shop outside SMHS Hospital, the liquid in bottle seemed impure and later on when inspected, one of the medicos declared it 'fake and sub-standard," said Yousuf-ul-Omar displaying the said injection.

The injection is question is 'Acucilav I.V.' manufactured by Macleods Pharmaceuticals of Andheri East Mumbai.

He said the doctors at SMHS Hospital are prescribing drugs manufactured by the same company.

Pertinently, in 2013 the Doctor Association of Kashmir Dr Nisar-ul-Hasan had blamed the then Health Minister Sham Lal Sharma, his polling agent Ashok Sharma the Central Purchasing Committee (CPC) members, two Principals, two Directors and the Drug Controller for running fake drug racket in Kashmir Valley. The delegation that visited the office of KNT lamented that the age-old bond between a patient and a doctor has been lost. "The onus goes to policy makers of Indian State who pledge to protect us but supply spurious drugs to kill people in Kashmir. These policy makers are busy in minting money. If we will not raise our voice and express concern then who will come forward to help us," they said.

Efforts to reach Drug Controller could not be materialized, however, an official from the department said that will take samples of the drugs in question and send them to laboratory for testing. (KNT)

### Listing Mughal gardens on UNESCO

## Div Com Chairs Meeting To Discuss Preparation Of Nomination Dossier



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Baseer Ahmad Khan today convened a meeting to discuss the preparation of nomination dossier for listing of Mughal gardens on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites.

The meeting was attended by Director Archives, Archaeology & Museums, Muneer-ul-Islam; Deputy Director Archives, Archaeology & Museums, Mushtaq Ahmed Beigh; Conservation Architect & Historic Building consultant, Abha Narain Lambah

and Executive Director Knight Frank, Deben Moza. Abha Narain Lambah is the project consultant for the preparation of nomination dossier.

During the first meeting on the subject, threadbare discussions were held on various aspects that need to be looked into while preparing dossier. Project consultant, Abha Narain Lambah gave a detailed presentation regarding how to prepare a nomination dossier. She informed the meeting that among 38 World Heritage Sites located in India, J&K has no such site in UNESCO's list.

To be included in the World Heritage list, she said, the sites must be of outstanding universal value and should meet the selection criteria. She further said that she is hopeful about listing of J&K's Mughals gardens as World Heritage Site given their rich natural and cultural heritage.

The Div Com assured that all the necessary support will be provided by the divisional administration in this regard and directed the concerned departments to cooperate and provide necessary information for the formulation of the dossier.

## Vistara airlines barred a minor girl from board on the plane

SRINAGAR: Officials from Vistara Airlines Monday disallowed an 8th class student passenger to board on the plane after they found spelling errors in her name on Adhar Card. Rahila Jan, a 14 year old girl from North Kashmir's Bandipra district was bound for Jammu along with her family members but was perturbed when a female supervisor of the airlines didn't allow her to board on the Vistara (UK611) plane.

The incident virtually brought the family members of the girl and the airlines employees to blows even a top police officer from Anti-Hijacking Wing tried to intervene into the matter, however, the officer's plea to let the girl fly was rejected by the female supervisor of the airlines.

"On the air ticket the name mentioned is Rahila Jan while her Adhar Card mentions her name as Rahila Nazair. This was the excuse that my niece was disallowed to fly from Srinagar to Jammu, even though she is only 14 years old," said the uncle of the passenger to a local agency.

The family members al-



leged that this was only an excuse to mint money from them. "We were forced to buy a new air ticket for her and it cost Rs 12,000 for us. The irony is that the amount of the earlier ticket was not refunded and it was rejected," they said alleging that these private airlines always

find new ways and means to loot common passengers.

Earlier, Go Air Airlines Company was also accused by passengers of mismanagement.

Despite repeated attempts, Director Srinagar Airport couldn't be contacted. (KNT)

## PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry meets MoS finance and cooperative

SRINAGAR: PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry yesterday met MoS Finance and Corporate Affairs Mr Anurag Singh Thakur to submit an economic rejuvenation plan, consisting of a 20 point agenda, for economic development and employment generation in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The suggestions on deferment of EMI till March 2020 and interest subvention for all business loans for 3 years with effect from August 2019, Income Tax exemption for 5 years, all 372 points of

Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Government of India should be implemented in J&K on priority, among others have been submitted to rejuvenate the growth trajectory of Jammu & Kashmir. Dr D K Agarwal and PHDCCI Kashmir Chapter Chairman, Baldev Singh along with Mushtaq Ahmad Chaya Mentor Kashmir Chapter and Showket Ahmad Chowdhury State Expert Committee chairman of Kashmir Chapter were enthused meeting Anurag Singh

Thakur, Hon'ble Minister of State (MoS) Finance and Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance who suggested consideration of the suggestions given to rejuvenate the Industry in Kashmir and to visit Kashmir in the next 10 days.

The immediate intervention suggested for economic development in the UT includes roll-back of 9% registration / road tax on New vehicles in automobile sector, lending by banks to all SME's and large borrowers needs to be structured for 15 years in J&K, amnesty extension from

previous tax regime - VAT for 3 years, deceleration of Kashmir valley as Special Economic Zone (SEZ) among others, said Dr Aggarwal.

To enhance the engagement of the youth population and generate employment in J&K we suggest that time bound single window clearance for all projects, services, cable car projects at Shankaracharya Temple, Pahalgam, Dodpathri and Sonmarg, reviewing of Srinagar Master Plan in line with Srinagar Smart City Project, among others, said Dr D K Aggarwal

## NDPI urges LG to conduct an enquiry into e-tendering 'scam' in G&M Department

SRINAGAR: The National Democratic Party Indian (NDPI) has expressed a serious concern about e-tendering scam in Geology and Mining department.

Rajesh Gupta alleged that the District Mining Officer (DMO) Kathua in recent bid on Saturday could not give relevant timings according to given rules to bidders which allegedly showed the e-tendering process of various mining blocks was compromised to benefit select old mining mafia players.

Gupta said the new contractors of mining department who felt cheated by DMO Kathua by allotting all nine blocks to one person by playing fowl in given timing. Contractors conveyed their grievances to its DMO Kathua that they could not get relevant timings which allegedly showed the e-tendering process of various mining blocks was. PHD Chamber meets MoS Finance Mr Anurag Singh Thakur and submits an economic rejuvenation plan for the

union territory of Jammu & Kashmir The Union Territory (UT) of Jammu & Kashmir has now turned towards the economic activities and the business as usual now. The transport activities, educational institutions, markets etc. are in the normal course of work, said Dr D K Aggarwal, President - PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in a Press Statement issued here today.

## Family requests people to help it to locate missing woman

SRINAGAR: A family from Magam area of Budgam Monday appealed general public to help them in tracing a woman who according to them has gone missing in the first week of current month.

Sabreena Bano (27), a resident of Agrilan Magam left her house on January 6 and till date she hasn't turned up.

"A missing report stands registered at Police Station Magam," they said. She according to the family is 'mentally unsound'. If anybody is having any information about her, he or she may please contact on 9906105742 or 6006162019. (KNT)



## Centre rejigs senior officials, appoints 31 at Jt Secy level

NEW DELHI: In a major rejig, the Centre on Monday approved the appointment of 31 senior civil servants at the Joint Secretary (JS) level or its equivalent, including IAS officer Bharat H. Khera as Joint Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat.

The Cabinet Committee on Appointments, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, took the decision in this regard, a Ministry of Personnel order said.

Of the 31 officers, 20 are from the Indian Administrative Service; two each from the Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS), Central Secretariat Service (CSS) and Indian Railway Personnel Service (IRPS); and one each from the Indian Postal Service (IPoS), Indian Railway Traffic Service (IRTS), Indian Forest Service (IFoS), Indian Civil Account Service (ICAS) and Indian Defence Estate Service (IDES).

Khera, a 1995-batch Himachal Pradesh cadre IAS officer, will become Joint Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat from the date he assumes charge of the post, for a combined tenure of seven years or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

He replaces Chandra Shekhar Kumar, a 1992-batch Odisha cadre officer, who was appointed to the post in January last year for five years.

Ashok Kumar Parmar, a 1992-batch Jammu and Kashmir cadre officer, was appointed Advisor (JS level), Inter-State Council Secretariat under the Ministry of Home Affairs, by downgrading a vacant post of Advisor, vice R. Rajagopal, a 1982-batch Tamil Nadu cadre IAS officer.

Ashutosh Agnihotri, a 1999-cadre Assam cadre IAS officer, will be Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, for a tenure of five years, vice SCL Das, a 1992-batch Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram Union Territories (AGMUT) cadre officer.

Shantanu, a 1997-batch Tripura cadre IAS officer, was appointed Joint Secretary, Department of Military Affairs, for an overall tenure of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Rajeev Singh Thakur, a 1995-batch Rajasthan cadre IAS official, will be Joint Secretary, Department of Military Affairs for an overall tenure of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Vimalendra Anand Patwardhan, a 1996-batch IA&AS official, will function as Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor in the Ministry of Civil Aviation for a combined tenure of seven

years or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Patwardhan would replace Arun Kumar, a 1989-batch Haryana cadre IAS officer who was last year appointed Director General in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

Nagaraju Maddirala, a 1993-batch Tripura cadre IAS officer, will be Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Coal from the date of assumption of charge for five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, replacing Ashish Upadhyay, a 1989-batch Madhya Pradesh cadre IAS officer.

S. Suresh Kumar, IAS, (AP:2000), will be Joint Secretary in the Department of Commerce for a combined tenure of seven years, replacing Rajneesh, an IAS officer of the 1997-batch of the Himachal cadre.

Vineet Mathur, a 1994-batch IPoS official, has been appointed Joint Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, for a tenure of five years by upgrading a vacant post of Director and to be adjusted against the next likely vacancy of JS in the department.

Sanjukta Mudgal, a 1990-batch IFoS officer, will be Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, for a tenure up to her superannuation on March 31, 2024 or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Pranav Khullar, IP&TA&FS (1993 batch).

Puneet Agarwal, IAS (TR:1998), will be Joint Secretary, Department of Defence Production, from the date of assumption of the charge of the post, for a tenure of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Shantanu, IAS (TR:97).

Vishal Gagan, IAS (1998), will be Joint Secretary, Department of Defence, from the date of assumption of charge of the post, for a tenure of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, vice Bharat H. Khera.

Others appointed to the Joint Secretary-level posts in different departments include Sudhodh Kumar Singh, Nipun Vinayak, Padmaja Singh, Chandra Shekhar Kumar, Ashok Kumar Parmar, Ashutosh Agnihotri, Pravash P. Pandey, Shantanu, Rajeev S. Thakur, R.K. Khandelwal, Meenakshi Jolly, Meena Balimane Sharma, Tanmay Kumar, Manoj Sahay, Ashish Kumar Goel, Santosh Kumar Yadav, Balachandra Subramoney Iyer, Hari Ranjan Rao, Rakesh Kumar Verma, Sudhodh Yadav, Vinayan J., Ashok Kumar Singh and Manoj Sethi.

## B. Ed. Aspirants protest against IGNOU for cancellation of 2 papers

SRINAGAR: Aghast over the cancellation of 2 papers, scores of in service 2nd year B.Ed. aspirants staged a protest in press colony Srinagar on Monday, demanding the reversal of the decision of cancellation by the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU).

According to CNS the protesting aspirants under the banner of In Service Teachers Forum led by its chairman, raised slogans against the university authorities, for cancelling their 2 papers, for which examinations were held last month on 7th and 8th January, which were declared cancelled three days later on 11th January on the pretext of paper leakage.

They said that they are around 27,000 in number of different ages, working in various government schools and have been punished for no reason. They accused authorities for insensitivity towards them and said that if the papers were to be cancelled, they should have been cancelled immediately and not three days later.

They said the new dates for holding the exams have been now declared for 14th and 15th February, but it is very difficult for them to prepare again for the papers, which they already appeared in.

When contacted, the director local chapter of IGNOU Dr. Shameem told that the decision to cancel BES 128 and BES 129 papers of B.Ed. 2nd year, held last month was taken by the central authorities, after it came to fore that the papers were already leaked in Jammu division, after which both the papers were cancelled. He said that it not within his jurisdiction to cancel the exams and is within the domain of the vice chancellor of the university.

Meanwhile Pro vice chancellor of IGNOU Mr. Kannaria told CNS that there is a set procedure in case of leakage of papers, where if the complaint of paper leakage is found true, the papers get cancelled. (CNS)