

# JAMMU EXPRESS

Vol: 51 Issue 235 Regd. No.: 21797/1971 Postal Regd No. : JK/470/13-15 RNI No. :-JKENG00104 ₹ Price: 2 Pages 12



**Lt Governor interacts with DCs, SPs a day...** 4



3

**Taapsee Pannu Starrer ashmi Rocket Goes On Floors...** 9



## Six years after flood fury, many 'Nardua; villages complain of sticky and slimy water in hand pumps

**Ground water seeped through sub-surface taking chemicals and fertilizers rendering water unpotable**

**Jammu Express News**  
**Jammu, Oct 1:**

Six years after Jammu region was hit by devastating floods, water across several affected villages is still unsuitable for drinking. At several villages surrounding the river Tawi, villagers are not drinking underground water.

45 cluster villages of Jammu (west) across the Phallian Mandal bridge, which were worst affected now have started lamenting about dirty water coming out of many hand pumps in some of the villages which is not fit for drinking.

"Our village heads had reported this to Flood Control and Irrigation department from where some officials had come few months back and taken the samples. After that no action was taken," said Rani Sharma of village Sumb at Phallian Mandal.

The villagers said that some of the hand pumps were producing normal water, but

since few past months the water has turned slimy and bad to taste. They also said after taking bath in the water, the body becomes sticky produces itching sensation.

The 45 villages that suffered total loss in 2014 include most of the villages from Raipur Domana and Marh constituencies while few are from R S Pura constituency

which is outside the domain of nardua (an area surrounded by a river from all four sides).

### JAMMU WATER WOES

"Some hand pumps produce such water while others still are normal to drink and

bathe," said Badrinath, a farmer at Toph adding that the sticky and slimy water is either being used to

bathe animals or for irrigation purposes.

An official at I&FC department said that

since floods ravaged the cluster villages that remained submerged for many days, the ground water had seeped through sub-surface source into the underground taking along the chemicals and fertilizers turning the water dirty at different hand pump source.

A high official at Public Health Engineering Rural said since he is not in

receipt of any such complaint, but will take the cognizance of the matter.

"I will constitute a team of experts to visit the sites at hand pumps which are producing dirty water. If need arose, the pipes of hand pumps will be pushed little more beneath for fresh water as area is wetland," he said adding that reason for water turning sticky will also be worked out.

300 people died and 25 suffered injuries due to devastating floods that battered the state in September, on September 4, 2014.

Apart from damage caused to 26,1361 structures, farm sector of 3.27 lakh hectares of agricultural land and 3.96 lakh hectares of horticulture land also suffered damage..

45 cluster villages of Jammu (west) across the Phallian Mandal bridge, were the worst affected in Jammu region as these villages are situated in the low-lying areas of Jammu district and are encircled (Turn on Pg 2)

## Pak violates ceasefire in Kupwara, two soldiers killed, four injured

**Srinagar, Oct 1:**

Pakistan resorted to unprovoked ceasefire violation along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Naugam sector on Thursday, killing two soldiers, even as the Indian Army gave a befitting response.

"Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation along the LoC in Naugam sector, Kupwara on Thursday morning by firing mortars and other weapons," Defence spokesperson Colonel Rajesh Kalia said.

Kalia said two soldiers were killed and four sustained injuries in the firing from across the border, PTI reported. "The injured personnel are being evacuated while a befitting response is being given to the Pakistani firing," he added.

The development comes a day after another soldier was killed in unprovoked small arms firing and "intense" shelling with mortars by Pakistani troops in Jammu and Kashmir's Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district.

The deceased soldier was identified as Lance Naik Karnail Singh. General Officer Commanding of the White Knight Corps and all ranks paid their tributes to the deceased soldier and offered condolences to his family.

This month, Pakistan has increased unprovoked firing along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir. On September 14, three army men, including a Major, were injured as Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked mortar shelling and small arms fire along the LoC in Rajouri district.

On September 6, an Indian Army soldier was killed and two others were injured in firing and mortar shelling by Pakistan along the Line of Control (LoC) in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

Sources said the exchange of fire and mortars was intense and rare in this sector. While there has been a surge in cross-LoC firing in Jammu's Rajouri and (Turn on Pg 2)

### SNIPPETS

#### Several top J&K Bank officials booked by ACB

**Srinagar, Oct 1:**

Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has registered a case against former executive president and ex-chairman J&K Bank among others for awarding tenders of house-keeping to a Mumbai based Company M/s SILA Solutions Pvt. Ltd by not following the proper tendering norms, causing Rs. 6,29,56,575 loss to the bank.

In a statement, an ACB spokesman (Turn on Pg 2)

#### Soldier killed in Pak shelling in Poonch

**Jammu, Oct 1:**

An Army soldier was killed after Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked small arms firing and "intense" shelling with mortars along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Krishna Ghati sector of Poonch district late on Wednesday.

The deceased soldier was identified as Lance Naik Karnail Singh. The Indian Army retaliated befittingly, Defence PRO Lt Colonel Devender Anand said.

Earlier in the evening, Pakistani troops had initiated the ceasefire violation in Mankote sector Poonch. (Turn on Pg 2)

#### Shopian encounter: Bodies will be handed over to families

**Srinagar, Oct 1:**

Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday said that since the DNA samples of the labourers killed in the Amshipora encounter had matched that of the Rajouri families, the three bodies will be exhumed and handed over to them. The encounter at Amshipora in South Kashmir's Shopian took place on July 18.

"As the DNA samples of three dead bodies of Rajouri matched (Turn on Pg 2)

## Govt. suspends three more employees on 'corruption charges', six this week

### J&K UT administration starts to act against deadwood, corrupt officials

**Jammu, October 1:**

Continuing its drive against 'corrupt' officials government today again ordered the suspension of three employees of Health and Medical Education Department in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu & Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956.

Those suspended included Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Bandy, the then BMO, Beerwah, Mushtaq Ahmad Parry, the then Junior Assistant (Cashier), Medical Block, Beerwah presently posted at Medical Block Khansahib and detailed to work at CMO1s Office, Baramulla. Zahoor Ahmad Bandy, the then

Pharmacist, SDH, Beerwah, presently posted at Medical Block Soibugh, Budg.

It is pertinent to mention here that in past one week government has suspended six government employees and started inquiry against them.

On September 30, Government suspended Mohinder Singh, then Storekeeper, Office of BDO, Barnoti presently posted as Senior Assistant in the office of Assistant Soil Conservation Officer, Sarore, District Samba.

As per the order issued by General Administration Department (GAD) "Pending enquiry into his conduct,

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PULSE

Mohinder Singh, the then Storekeeper, Office of BOO, Barnoti is hereby placed under suspension, with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of J&K Civil Services Rules. During the period of his suspension, he shall remain attached in the office of Divisional Commissioner, Jammu".

On September 29, Dr. Bharat Bhushan, KAS, Managing Director, J&K SC, ST and OBC Development Corporation, is hereby placed under suspension. During the period of his

suspension, he shall remain attached with the General Administration Department.

On September 26, the government had ordered the suspension of Ashiq Hussain, Deputy Registrar, Cooperative Societies, J&K. He too was suspended in terms of Rule 31 of J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control Appeal) Rules, 1956.

During the period of his suspension, he will remain attached in the office of Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.

Anti-corruption unit in J&K is directly under Lt.Governor Manoj Sinha. The Centre in September had issued rules for a smooth functioning of the Jammu and Kashmir adminis-

tration, specifying that the police, the all-India services and the anti-corruption bureau will be under the direct control of the Lieutenant Governor (LG) of the Union Territory.

The rules, notified by Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 has also made it clear that in case of a difference of opinion between the LG and the council of ministers (when it is formed) with regard to any matter, the former shall refer it to the Centre for the decision of the president and shall act according to that decision.

Since Lt. Governor took over the reins (Turn on Pg 2)

#### Oman 16th country to have air bubble arrangements with India

**New Delhi, Oct 1:**

India has established a separate bilateral air bubble arrangement with Oman for operation of special international passenger flights between the two countries, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Thursday.

Till Wednesday, India had formed such arrangements with 15 countries - Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Iraq, Japan, the Maldives, Nigeria, Qatar, the UAE, Kenya, Bhutan, the UK and the USA.

Under an air bubble pact between two countries, special international passenger flights can (Turn on Pg 2)

#### Petrol demand returns to pre-COVID-19 levels, diesel sales inching up

**New Delhi, Oct 1:**

India's petrol sales rose 2 per cent in September - the first increase since the country's lockdown in late March - signalling demand returning to pre-COVID-19 levels.

Diesel sales continue to be below normal but have shown a month-on-month increase, according to provisional data from state-owned fuel retailers who control 90 per cent of the market.

Petrol sales in September rose 2 per cent year-on-year and were up 10.5 per cent over the previous

month.

Diesel sales continue to be in the negative territory, with demand falling 7 per cent year-on-year. But the demand was 22 per cent higher over August 2020.

This is the first time that petrol sales in the world's third-largest oil importer have risen since the March 25 nationwide lockdown crippled economic activity and sent demand plummeting.

Petrol sales rose to 2.2 million tonne in September as compared to 2.16 million tonne in the same month (Turn on Pg 2)

#### Congress, Independent councillors of JMC accuse Mayor of failure to combat Covid-19

**Jammu, Oct 1:**

Independent and Congress councillors of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) have accused BJP and Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta of failure to combat covid-19 pandemic in city.

A group of councillors have submitted a Memorandum to Lieutenant Governor Manoj

#### PUBLIC CONCERN

Sinha and alleged BJP led municipality has not taken adequate measures to ensure proper sanitation in the city is one of the factors in rising cases of covid-19 in Jammu.

They have alleged that Mayor is deliberately ignoring General House Meeting to discuss issues concerning the people.

"If Parliament session can be called by Prime Minister of India, If the Deputy Commissioner, Jammu or Commissioner JMC can call meeting of employees, then why Mayor is adamant not to call General House Meeting", councillors have questioned.

"Despite repeated requests and resentments shown by different corporators, Mayor failed to deliver satisfactory services to the people of Jammu. So long as the funds and facilities are concerned, Jammu is lagging far behind the Kashmir", memorandum says.

Councillors have alleged that 'leadership has totally failed to give justice to the people. We fully hope that yourself will end this discrimination and provide justice', (Turn on Pg 2)

## Two Inspectors earn millions patronizing betting while hoodwinking superiors

**Jammu, Oct 1:**

Two Police Inspectors posted in Kathua range are minting money these days not from conventional means which Police officials employ but from betting in cricket matches courtesy IPL. The deal has been struck for Rupees Twenty five thousand for each match being played daily. The Bookies are operating their betting network from an office being run in the heart of the Kathua where bets are being placed without any fear of Police authorities. Both the Inspectors are daily earning handsome money by hoodwinking higher police officials.

As per reports, there is a network of Bookies in Kathua in which bookies of neighbouring Punjab state also actively participate. This network of bookies is putting bets worth lakhs of rupees

#### EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE

daily not only people from Kathua but people of other far off districts also participate in this gambling. Now one SHO who is close to this betting syndicate is helping them in running this gambling vice by providing them with a safe den

from where they can operate their betting network. A deal worth twenty-five thousand was settled and the SHO deputed one of his blue-eyed boys to collect the daily income from the betters.

The betting den has been made near the Police Station on the advice of the SHO so that he can manage the things if anything goes wrong. This whole affair came into the knowledge of another Inspector who is posted in another wing of the police department in the same district but not as an SHO. The inspector who is posted in a wing to gather information is also close to the SHO (Turn on Pg 2)