

Volume 11, Number 1, January 1998

Kashmir Images

Government releases Special Operations Album of the Cultural Academy

Fight for protest and right for violence

India must guarantee world population of Dalit youths



Quick REAR:

3 Turbans
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Police cabinet

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Delegation of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir visiting the Valley today.

Interlocutors visiting Valley today

Meet delegations in Kathua and Ganderbal in Jammu

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By governmental turbine and bureaucratic red tape?

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Kashmir Images, ADB's first multi-edition newspaper printed simultaneously from Jammu and Srinagar



Vol No. 47

daily

Excelsior

REGD NO JK-71/2009
RNI No. 28547/65



No. 19 JAMMU, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2011

12 Pages

Rs. 2.50

Salman, Patel, Jairam may be elevated

Reshuffle in Union Cabinet today

NEW DELHI, Jan 18: The much-talked about reshuffle and expansion of the Union Council of Ministers will take place at PM tomorrow amidst indications that Salman Khurshid, Praful Patel and Jairam Ramesh could be elevated to Cabinet rank.

Indications also emerged that the 'big four' incumbents in Finance, Home, Defence and External Affairs may not be disturbed in the reshuffle, the first in the UPA-II after it retained power in May 2009.

Dr Singh, who held discussions today for over two hours with Congress president Sonia Gandhi, gave finishing touches to tomorrow's exercise which Congress sources said would be a "moderate" affair.

Gandhi was accompanied by her Political Secretary Ahmed Patel during the discussions with Dr Singh. In the evening, senior leader and Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee met Gandhi.

In the reshuffle, Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar may shed Consumer Affairs, one of the three portfolios he has,

while Kapil Sibal may give up Science and Technology.

Sibal, who was given recently additional charge of Telecom in the wake of exit of A Raja, may retain that. But there is speculation that HRD, which he holds, could go to M Veerappa Moily in case Chushri takes over as Law Minister, a portfolio currently with Moily.

Equally strongly a section in the party feels that Sibal may continue to hold the HRD to maintain continuity in the Ministry because he initiated a series of reforms.

Debmukh and Joshi could be drafted for party work with the reconstitution of the AICC on the cards immediately after the Ministerial reshuffle.

Significantly, Virbhadr Singh and Tribal Affairs Minister Kantilal Bhoria were among the Congress leaders who met the party president today against speculation about their fate.

For the vacancy created by the resignation of P Chidambaram in the PMO, the names of Manish Tiwari and Ajay Maken are doing the rounds. Maken is now MoS in the Home Affairs. (AGENCY)

Meenakshi Natarajan, Manish Tiwari, Manicka Tagore.

Rajiv Shukla of Congress, Sudip Bendopadhyay of Trinamool Congress and a DMK representative either T Basu or T K S Elangovan could be inducted. Basu met the Prime Minister this morning.

Those who could face the axe include M S Gill (Sports), Virbhadr Singh (Steel), B K Handique (Minors), C P Joshi (Rural Development) and Vilasrao Deshmukh (Heavy Industry).

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Govt announces roadmap for arrears' payment

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Jan 18: The State Government today announced a roadmap for payment of 50 per cent arrears of Sixth Pay Commission report.

The Finance Ministry issued an order implementing the Cabinet decision on payment of arrears to the employees today.

As per the order, the arrears to the State Government employees with effect from 11/2006 to 30/6/2009 will be paid through the GPF route in varying number of instalments with different lock-in period.

However, the Government order didn't make any mention of payment of arrears to the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) especially those which have implemented the Sixth Pay Commission report.

"Class-IV Employees shall be paid arrears in four equal instalments of 25 per cent each, starting from 2011-12 with a lock-in period of three years for each instalment", the order said.

Similarly, it added, the Class-III employees, who include all Non-Gazetted employees other than Class-IV, will be paid the arrears in equal instalments of 20 per cent each starting from 2011-12 with a lock-in period of four years for each instalment.

Class-II and Class-I employees including all Gazetted Officers, Head of Departments (HoDs), MHOs and above will be paid the arrears in six annual instalments starting from 2011-12. Their first five instalments will be paid at the rate of 15 per cent each and the last instalment at 25 per cent. The instalments will have a lock-in period of five years.

However, the instalments on account of 50 per cent of the pay revision arrears in respect of the employees, who have retired/expired between 21/2006 to 31/12/2010 or may retire/expire up to 31.3.2011 will be paid in cash instead of the GPF route as per the road map applicable to the Government employees treating them as pensioners for the payment of their pay revision arrears.

According to the order, 50 per cent pay revision arrears of the State Government employees, who may retire/expire within two months, will be paid in cash.



A shepherd grazes his cattle in a snow covered field in Narbal, Srinagar on Tuesday.

Court orders FIR against Azim

BADAMUN, UP, Jan 18: A local court today directed the police to register an FIR against SP leader Mohammad Azim Khan on the charge of sedition for his controversial comments on Kashmir.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Pawan Pratap Singh gave the order on an application filed by Bajrang Dal leader U Gupta on January 3.

The court directed the police to register the FIR under Section 124A (Sedition) of the Indian Penal Code.

HC pulls up CBI in Adarsh scam

MUMBAI, Jan 18: The Bombay High Court today pulled up CBI for the "delay" in filing a FIR in Adarsh Housing scam and ordered it to take a final decision within two weeks even as Maharashtra Government opposed a probe by the Central agency.

The court also directed issuing of summons to CBI's regional Joint Director to appear before it when the court hears the case again after two weeks.

During hearing of a petition in the Adarsh case, a division bench of Justices B H Malpalale and U D Salvi asked, "It has been more than two months since CBI has been conducting a preliminary inquiry into the case. Why have you (CBI) not registered FIR as yet?"

"We fail to understand why there is a delay in lodging of FIR. Media reports have virtually carried CBI's draft FIR and revealed all the accused's names," Justice Malpalale said.

Kashmiri on US nuclear expert panel

WASHINGTON, Jan 18: Indian-American Vijay Sazawal, a well-known atomic industry expert, has been appointed by US Commerce Secretary Gary Locke to the prestigious Civil Nuclear Panel.

Sazawal was born and brought up in Srinagar and came to the US in 1970 for doing PhD.

Sazawal, who was appointed to CINTAC for a two-year term, is a long time advocate of Kashmiri nuclear industry. He is a policy analyst and a commentator who specialises in local governance and intra-company dynamics affecting political dynamics within the Kashmir valley.

He has written extensively on the current political situation in Jammu and Kashmir, arguing for new and innovative approaches in understanding and resolving discontent in all communities and regions of the State.

Sazawal regularly interacts with various sections of the Kashmiri society, including local and national politicians, expand US civil nuclear industry and exports and strengthen the competitiveness of the industry," he said.

Sazawal, currently Director of Government Programmes of US Enrichment Corporation (USEC) Inc, was involved in Track-2 discussions preceding the completion of the 123 Agreement between India and the US.

"When the US and India, during the Bush administration, began to negotiate a civil nuclear agreement, my input and advice was sought by the US State Department and the Department of Energy, and I was actually involved briefly in 'Track-2' discussions preceding the completion of the 123 Agreement with India," Sazawal told after the appointment.

For over three decades

Omar meets PC today with baggage of issues

JAMMU, Jan 18: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is meeting Union Home Minister P Chidambaram tomorrow morning in New Delhi to have a discussion on a variety of issues including his persistent demand for troops cut and partial or phased withdrawal of Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) before the summer as a Confidence Building Measure (CBM) to prevent any further spurt of unrest.

The BJP's Eka Yatra from Kolkata to Srinagar during which the BJYM proposed to hoist tricolor at Lal Chowk in Srinagar on January 26 is also expected to figure prominently in more than an hour long meeting with the State Government felt

Failure of brakes leads to accident

JAMMU, Jan 18: Twenty-five students of Mahant Bachitter Singh Engineering College got injured after a bus, they were travelling over, overturned on B C Road early this morning.

The ill-fated bus, which overturned on BC Road near Shakuntla Cinema complex on Tuesday. Later, he hit the bus with parapet as a result of which the vehicle overturned on the road causing injuries to all the 25 students. "It is due to the presence of mind by the driver that fatal accident could be prevented", police officials said.

On the receipt of information, a police party from Rehbari Post, Nuth pushed to the spot and started rescue operation. All the injured students were rushed to Government Medical College and Hospital where doctors had

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Interlocutors meet delegations in Udhampur

JAMMU, Jan 18: On second day of their fourth visit to the State, the Interlocutors -Dileep Padgaonkar, Prof Ratha Kumar and M M Ansari today met over 20 delegations of various political parties, social, youth and student organizations in Udhampur district. Late in the evening they had about an hour-long meeting with Governor N N Vohra here on their return from Udhampur.

The Interlocutors will fly to Srinagar tomorrow afternoon and return to New Delhi on January 21.

They briefed the Governor about their meetings with various political and other organizations in different parts of the State and opinion gathered from them about

Senior advocate's son commits suicide

JAMMU, Jan 18: Son of a senior advocate allegedly committed suicide at his residence this evening.

Police spokesman said that Akshay Anand, son of a senior advocate and social activist S S Anand Lehar allegedly committed suicide at his residence this evening.

He was shifted to the Government Medical College and Hospital by the family members where doctors declared him as brought dead. "It could not be immediately ascertained as to how he committed the suicide," he said.

"We have initiated inquiry proceedings under Section 174 CrPc in this regard and post-mortem of the body will be conducted tomorrow morning before handing over the body to family members," he said.

2 killed as jeep rolls down

UDHAMPUR, Jan 18: Two persons were killed when a jeep, they were travelling in, rolled down into a gorge near Battal Balluan under the jurisdiction of Udhampur Police Station late last night.

The ill-fated vehicle bearing registration number UB32AS-2199 was heading towards Battal Balluan when it skidded off the road and rolled down severely injuring both the occupants.

On receipt of information about the accident, a police party rushed to the spot and shifted both the critically injured persons to District Hospital where doctors declared them as brought dead.

The deceased have been identified as Mahesh Kumar, son of Krishan Lal of Jakhhar and Balbir alias Balu, son of Kaku Ram of Rakh Wadal.

A case has been registered in this regard.

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*Call on Vohra, Tara Chand

JAMMU, Jan 18: The Interlocutors apprised Mr Vohra about their perception of the situation and the measures recommended by them to the Union Home Ministry for restoration of peace and a solution to Kashmir problem.

The Interlocutors sought some suggestions by Mr Vohra on proceeding further. They couldn't meet Chief Minister Omar Abdullah yesterday as he was away in the Union capital.

However, possibility of a meeting between the Interlocutors and the Chief Minister in Srinagar is not ruled out as the trio would be in the Valley till January 21.

Before visiting the Raj Bhawan, the Interlocutors visited Civil Secretariat where they met Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand on about half an hour and presented a memorandum in Hindi to the Union Home Minister.

Tara Chand, a senior Congress leader, apprised the Interlocutors about situation prevailing in the State.

A BJP delegation led by party's State vice president Pawan Gupta met the Interlocutors for about half an hour and presented a memorandum in Hindi to the Union Home Minister.

Mr Gupta told the Interlocutors that Article 370 of the Constitution was a stumbling

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INSIDE	WEATHER
Truth must prevail	JAMMU
Spin for further postponement	Fair. Mist at some places.
Medicare services	TEMPERATURE
SMDU's 39	Max: 10 Degree C
Students selected by ICS	Min: 4.0 Degree C
Bidals for expediting disposal of pending cases under Rohru Act	RELATIVE HUMIDITY
Protests after Army vehicle crushes women	High: 37.0 per cent
Dumny, Plessa push South Africa to 229	Lowest: 37.0 per cent

Weather

JAMMU

Fair. Mist at some places.

TEMPERATURE

Max: 10 Degree C

Min: 4.0 Degree C

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

High: 37.0 per cent

Lowest: 37.0 per cent

Sunrise on Wednesday: 5:31 pm

Sunrise on Thursday: 7:32 am

KASHMIR

Mainly clear sky.

TEMPERATURE

Max: 7.2 Degree C

Min: 2.0 Degree C

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

High: 96.0 per cent

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