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### Metro Rail Project...

projects like the deadline for Central Vista Project has been set which will be completed before 26th January, 2022. He also mentioned that the projects are being completed before their deadlines under the current government.

Saying that many schemes under the present government are reaching to their saturation points, the Minister said that under PM Ujjwala Yojana 1.0, eight crore LPG connections have been provided to the beneficiaries. He also said that timely implementation of all schemes has been stressed by this Government.

On the occasion, the Minister distributed assistance to beneficiaries under various Government schemes - PMAY, MUMKIN, Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), PM Ujjwala and PM Svanidhi (Street Vendor Card Distribution).

Puri also e-inaugurated 800 LPM Oxygen Generation Plant at Government Hospital, Sarwal, Jammu, Integrated Solid Waste Management System in 78 ULBs, Façade Lighting & Illumination of Bahu Fort, 164 KLD Septage Treatment Plant at Bhagwati Nagar, Revamping of Urban Infrastructure in 76 ULBs. The Minister also laid e-foundation stone of Façade Lighting at four Tawi Bridges & Construction of R.C.C Nallah & Development of Park (phase-II) in lower Roop Nagar.

Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament from Jammu said that after Narendra Modi took oath as the PM of India, many new schemes and programmes have been launched for the welfare of the people. He also said that a new dawn of development has been set in J&K after the abrogation of Article 370 which is evident from the fact that the benefits of schemes & programmes are reaching to its actual beneficiaries in J&K.

Chander Mohan Gupta, Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation; Pankaj K. Singh, Joint Secretary, Housing and Urban Development, GoI; Dhiraj Gupta; Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, J&K; Sujoy Chaudhary, Executive Director, IOCL; Anshul Garg, DC Jammu and Avny Lavasa, Chief Executive Officer JSCL also were present in the function.

Earlier, Union Minister chaired a meeting to review the implementation of flagship schemes and initiatives taken by Housing and Urban development Department for implementation of these schemes.

Principal Secretary, HUDD Dheeraj Gupta, during the power point presentation, apprised the Minister regarding the flagship schemes including AMRUT, SBM(U), Smart Cities Mission, PMAY-U, PM-SVANidhi.

It was apprised to the Minister that there are total 62 projects have been completed out of 83 projects under AMRUT and other 21 projects are going to be completed soon. Under Swachh Bharat Mission 51246 individual household toilets have been constructed so far. Under PMAY -U, more than 55 thousand houses have been sanctioned and 11 thousand houses have already been completed.

It was further informed that there are 133 projects under Jammu Smart City out of which 35 stands completed and 45 are in process where as Srinagar Smart City has 137 projects out of which 42 have been completed and 33 are in progress. Under PM- SVANidhi 14311 cases were sanctioned and 13311 cases have been disbursed.

The Minister stressed on the concerned authorities to take all possible measures to accelerate the pace of various ongoing works on different projects for their time-bound completion. He emphasized on completion of all the pending works on priority so that the aspirations of the public are met.

The Minister exhorted for mobilizing men and machinery for completing the projects in stipulated time frame besides urged to ensure productive and fruitful utilization of the available resources.

### Over 97 Cr...

39,10,45,406 first doses have been administered to individuals in the 18-44 age group across states and Union Territories, and 10,80,93,471 second doses have been given in the same age group since the start of phase-3 of the vaccination drive, the data showed.

The daily vaccination tally is expected to increase with the compilation of the final reports for the day by late night, the ministry said.

On Wednesday, 27,62,523 doses were administered as the vaccination coverage reached 97,11,20,405, it said.

The vaccination exercise as a tool to protect the most vulnerable population groups in the country from COVID-19 continues to be regularly reviewed and monitored at the highest level, the ministry underlined.

### Petrol, diesel prices...

fuel retailers. In Mumbai, diesel now comes for Rs 101.40 a litre; while in Delhi, it costs Rs 93.52.

This is the 13th time that petrol price has been hiked in two weeks while diesel rates have gone up on 16 times in three weeks.

There was no change in rates on October 12 and 13.

While petrol price in most of the country is already above Rs 100-a-litre mark, diesel rates have crossed that level in a dozen states including Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chattisgarh, Bihar, Kerala, Karnataka and Leh.

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

Shedding the modest price change policy, state-owned fuel retailers have since October 6 started passing on the larger incidence of cost to consumers.

This is because the international benchmark Brent crude has jumped to near USD 84 per barrel for the first time in seven years.

On September 13, Brent was trading at USD 73.51.

Being a net importer of oil, India prices petrol and diesel at rates equivalent to international prices.

The surge in international oil prices ended a three-week hiatus in rates on September 28 for petrol and September 24 for diesel.

Since then, diesel rates have gone up by Rs 4.9 per litre and petrol price has increased by Rs 3.9.

Prior to that, the petrol price was increased by Rs 11.44 a litre between May 4 and July 17. Diesel rate had gone up by Rs 9.14 during this period.

### J&K achieves 100...

be negative in a 24-hour period, the officials said.

The number of active COVID-19 cases in Ladakh has gone up to 42 -- 39 in Leh and three in Kargil.

### Terrorism weapon of...

terrorism in all its manifestations, noting that women have been and will remain equal contributors in the fight against the menace.

"The SCO as an organisation has unequivocally rejected terrorism in all its manifestations and forms. The reality further reinforces the role of all citizens of the SCO in this fight against the common threat that is challenging us," he said.

"This fight cannot be won by half the population of our region or a country. Women have been and will remain equal contributors in this fight, both within the armed forces and beyond," he said.

In his speech, the defence minister also provided a brief overview of the role being played by women in the Indian armed forces.

"Our future is in our hands. It is for the SCO nations to ensure regional stability, promote peace, ensure gender equality and work towards the betterment of the entire region. We look forward to much greater participation and a bigger role of women in various tasks of the armed forces," he said.

In his address, Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat said the character of a war has evolved from a predominantly conventional one to a hybrid and grey-zone warfare, adding that cyberspace and outer space are the new revolutionary domains of war fighting.

"In consequence, the distinction between the roles of men and women in modern day war fighting is getting blurred by the day. The notion of gender gap is passe," he said.

The Chief of Defence Staff said women have proved their mettle in demanding combat roles such as fighter pilots, paratroopers, submariners and the like, and their abilities in the cognitive and information domains are unmatched.

"Indeed, across the globe, countries are gaining valuable experience in the contribution of women warriors and the views shared today will help chart the course for the growing role of women in the emerging combat environment," he said.

Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs Reenat Sandhu said the past decades have opened up new vistas for women in the Indian armed forces and the women military officers have created a niche for themselves at the global level in UN peacekeeping missions.

She said India created history in 2007 by deploying the first ever all-female Formed Police Unit (FPU) for UN Peacekeeping in Liberia.

"Due to their dedication, professionalism and motivation, the all-female Formed Police Unit proved to be a strong, visible role-model, gaining worldwide attention and illustrating the significant contribution that women can make towards global peace and security," Sandhu said.

Representatives from almost all the SCO countries participated at the online conference organised by India.

### Term-I board...

internal assessment will be completed in schools before the first-term exams are over. The marks allotted will be 50 per cent of the total marks and mentioned in the syllabus. The schools will be informed separately about the full scheme so that they can make the necessary preparations," he added.

The CBSE is offering 114 subjects in Class 12 and 75 subjects in Class 10.

"The CBSE has to conduct the examinations for a total of 189 subjects. If the tests are conducted for all the subjects, the entire duration of the examinations would be about 40-45 days. Therefore, to avoid learning loss of students, the CBSE has decided that the subjects offered by it will be divided into two parts -- major subjects and minor subjects," Bhardwaj said.

"As the major subjects are offered by almost all the affiliated schools, the exams for these subjects will be conducted by fixing a date-sheet, as done earlier. Regarding the minor subjects, the CBSE will make groups of schools offering these subjects and thus, more than one paper would be conducted by the board in the schools on a day," he added.

Bhardwaj further said the second-term examination would be conducted in March-April, 2022 and whether it will be objective or subjective-type will depend on the Covid situation in the country.

The plans by the board to split the session into two terms had come against the backdrop of the pandemic, which forced the cancellation of board exams for some subjects last year and a complete cancellation of the exams this year.

### Anti-drone technology...

to reporters on the sidelines of the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the DRDO-sponsored Kalam Centre for Science and Technology (KCST) at the Central University of Jammu in Samba.

Reddy said the technology has been transferred to multiple industries, which have taken orders from the armed forces and security forces of the country.

"They are providing it to them. They will be delivering it to them (security and armed forces) to tackle the drones that are coming in (from across the border)," he added.

Reddy said the capability of the anti-drone system has been demonstrated multiple times, adding, "It was deployed on the Independence Day and the Republic Day also."

Earlier, Defence R&D Secretary and DRDO laid the foundation stone for construction of the Kalam Centre for Science and Technology (KCST) in the campus of Central University of Jammu.

He said that KCST will emerge as a focussed research and prominent work centre in the country.

During the foundation stone-laying ceremony, Reddy was flanked by CUJ Vice Chancellor Ashok Aima and Director General (TM) Hari Babu Srivastava, Director General (MED & CoS) Sudhir Kamath, Advisor Cyber (GoI) Amit Sharma and others.

Reddy emphasised the importance of two verticals in KCST -- computational system security and sensors -- in the present scenario.

He also said that the protection of cyber-physical system and data security during routing is of utmost importance and emphasized the need for skill development in computational security.

The CUJ VC thanked the DRDO chairman for this venture which would open up a new chapter in the university.

The governing council unanimously sanctioned three research projects of Rs 30 crore under the computational system security vertical.

### J&K will be...

Power Generation in the district.

The Minister mentioned that people will witness a change in the power sector as Kishtwar is going to become a hub of Hydroelectric Power that will make Jammu

and Kashmir power surplus.

Later, the Minister inspected the power house site of the 1000 MWs Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Project at Arzi. The project is jointly being built by the Chenab Valley Power Projects Private Limited, NHPC and J&K Power Development Corporation. The Minister inaugurated the concreting of the power house control block there.

Singh said that he is satisfied on the pace of the construction work at Pakal Dul Power House & stressed that the concerned officers must ensure completion of all ongoing works in a stipulated time following Covid-19 SOPs so that these projects will be commissioned well in time so as to fulfil the Power Generation demand.

The Minister also took stock of the progress on implementation of the Area Development Plan in the adjoining areas of these projects and directed the District Administration to ensure the timely implementation of ADP for the benefit of PAFs.

Earlier, the Union Minister took an Ariel survey of upcoming HEPs in the district Viz. the dam site of the 1000 MWs Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Project at Dangduru Dachhan, 540 MW Kwar Project, and 624 MW run-of-the-river Kiru Hydroelectric Project.

DC Kishtwar; Ashok Sharma; General Manager Dulhasti Power Station, Nirmal Singh; SSP; Kishtwar; Shafkat Hussain Bhat; officers of Dulhasti Power Station, District Administration, CVPPPL and Ratle Hydroelectric Power Corporation were present.

### Chairs review meeting...

place is high on the agenda of the Prime Minister.

He said that a lot of schemes have been introduced to improve the overall efficiency of the power sector in Jammu and Kashmir. He added that the Central Government has a target to provide electricity connection to every household in the Union Territory. Principal Secretary Power; Rohit Kansal gave a detailed power point presentation about the challenges and achievements of the power department on the occasion.

The meeting was also attended by Chief Secretary Jammu and Kashmir Arun Kumar Mehta and other senior officers of Union Power Ministry and UT Government.

### Huge quantity of...

escape and efforts are on to arrest them, the spokesperson added.

Police have registered cases in both incidents and further investigation has been initiated, he said.

### Navratri at Vaishno...

telecast would be the main attraction for the pilgrims, the officials said.

Besides, elaborate arrangements, including ensuring round-the-clock water and power supply all along the tracks and in the Bhawan area, sanitation and sanitisation, medicare and availability of special "fast related" food at the catering outlets of the shrine board, were made for the pilgrims visiting the shrine, they said.

The shrine board also made arrangements for free food for the pilgrims at Tarakote Marg and Prasad Kendra at Sanjichhat.

The officials said that for the ease and comfort of pilgrims, facilities like accommodation, battery operated vehicles, passenger ropeway and helicopter services were also operated smoothly.

Adequate arrangements have also been put in place for ensuring strict enforcement of COVID-19 protocols and guidelines, they said.

### Aryan Khan is...

to show that Aryan Khan was a regular consumer of drugs for the last few years. He also reiterated the charge of conspiracy against Aryan, based on his WhatsApp chats.

Since his arrest, the NCB has maintained that though nothing was recovered from him personally, Aryan's WhatsApp chats revealed his links with drug peddlers.

The ASG further contended that drugs were seized from Merchant at the docks, and they were meant for consumption by both Aryan and him.

The NCB has also been claiming that Aryan was in contact with members of an international drug racket.

The NCB was in touch with the External Affairs Ministry to identify them, the ASG said.

Singh also cited a high court ruling in another case that if an accused is shown to be in touch with drug dealers, bail cannot be granted even though there is no drug recovery.

Drug abuse is affecting youngsters, and being college-going boys should not be a consideration for bail, the NCB lawyer said, adding that the future of the country depends on this generation.

"This is not what our freedom-fighters had in mind. This is the land of Mahatma Gandhi and Buddha. The investigation is at preliminary stage, this is not the stage for grant of bail," he added.

Senior Advocate Amit Desai, representing Aryan Khan, said the NCB was pointing to international trafficking racket, but if the consumer states from where he procured drugs, then "the chain is complete".

The NCB itself had alleged that Aryan disclosed the name of Achit Kumar, another arrested accused, he said. The agency can continue the probe, but the allegation of links to international racket against Aryan is "inherently absurd and false", he said.

"I don't think there can be a debate that the entire world is fighting the drug menace. We got our freedom and we must protect it and save the younger generation from the drug menace," the lawyer said.

On Aryan's WhatsApp chats, Desai said today's youth have different ways of expressing themselves which might be a "torture" for the older generation.

The language could seem like something different than what ought to be (expected) in a court of law and might lead to suspicion, advocate Desai said.

"These are private moments which are being investigated. You can go ahead and investigate...But it has nothing to do with illicit behaviour; illicit drug trafficking," he added. Aryan Khan had lived abroad for some time, and lot of things are "legitimate" in other countries, the lawyer added.

Earlier, Aryan, Arbaaz Merchant and Mumun Dhamecha, who were among those arrested by the NCB on October 3, had been denied bail by a magistrate's court which said it can not hear the pleas in a case triable by a special NDPS court.

While Aryan and Merchant are lodged at Arthur Road jail, Dhamecha is at Byeculla women's prison in the city.

Based on a tip-off that a rave party was scheduled on the ship off the Mumbai coast, an NCB team, led by its zonal director Sameer Wankhede, raided the Goa-bound Cordelia cruise on October 2 evening and allegedly seized drugs.

## Sensitisation, capacity building programme on FRA held

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

ANANTNAG: One day sensitization cum capacity building programme on Forest Rights Act 2006 was held at Dakbanglow Anantnag on Thursday. Arvind Kumar Jha, former Commissioner, Tribal Research Training Institute, Pune Maharashtra presided over the session. He appraised the gathering about his valuable experience and expertise on the subject.

During the session, the main provisions of the act like eligibility, responsibility, sustainability, etc were discussed threadbare. Detailed deliberations on formation of Forest Rights Committees and processing of FRA claims were held with officers of concerned departments including revenue, forest and rural development.

The former commissioner discussed case studies from other parts of the country and enlightened the gathering about the

usual hurdles faced during implementation of the Act besides their timely and apt solutions.

Jha impressed on the gathering that balanced development ensures conservation of forests while at the same time recognizing and safeguarding rights guaranteed to scheduled tribes and other forest dwelling tribes are the way forward. He laid emphasis on sustainable development and the need to prevent misuse of provisions contained in the act.

On the occasion, the commissioner interacted with PRI members besides the field functionaries of various departments. He gave a patient hearing to their issues and clarified their doubts regarding implementation and coverage of the act.

The programme was also attended by ADC Gulzar Ahmad, DFO Liddler Division Bijbehara, DFO Anantnag, ACR, SDMs, BDOs and other officials.



### One killed, 4 of family injured as car falls into gorge

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A person was killed while four others got injured as the car, they were travelling in, fell into a gorge in Basohli area on Thursday.

As per details, a car (JK08K-3501) which was on its way to Bani from Billawar fell into a 150 ft deep gorge near Dayon Morh as the driver lost control over the vehicle. On receiving information, police rushed to the spot and shifted all the injured to hospital where doctors declared one of them as brought dead.

The deceased was identified as Sunil Singh, son of Basant Singh, resident of Marh Malati, Billawar, while injured were identified as Anuradha, wife of Basnt Singh, her son Gopal Singh, her daughter-in-law Kamlesh Kumari and Ashok Kumar, son of Omkar Singh. The injured were referred to GMC Jammu for advanced treatment.

### Forest team manhandled during anti-encroachment drive

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Forest Department team was manhandled while it was carrying out an anti-encroachment drive in Bajlata area on Thursday.

As per details, Bahu Forest Range Officer lodged a complaint with Sidra Police Post that a team of forest department has been manhandled while they were conducting anti-encroachment drive in Bajlata area. It was further stated in the complaint that the team visited the area to dismantle an illegal structure raised by one Ghulam, son of Abdul Gani, resident of Srinagar.

During the drive, several people including women, holding stones and sticks, gathered on the spot and threatened team of dire consequences. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

### Arms, ammunition recovered in Kupwara

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Border Security Force on Thursday recovered a cache of arms and ammunition in a joint operation with Jammu & Kashmir Police at Dardssun forest area in Kupwara district. As per a BSF spokesman, the recovery was made by 172 Bn of BSF along with police following a tip off about presence of arms and ammunition in the area.

"On specific info of @BSF\_Kashmir Troops of 172 Bn @BSF\_India & @JmuKmrPolice

launched a joint search Op in general area Dardssun forest, Kupwara & recovered 1 AK 47 Rifle with 790 Rds, 1 Silencer, 8 Detonators, 3 Chinese grenades, 3 Wireless sets with antenna & 1 Compass," a BSF spokesman tweeted.

### SLR rounds recovered

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: The rounds of SLR were recovered during search operation in Mahore area.

According to information, police got information that some suspicious movement has been observed in Khore area. Acting on the same, a search was launched jointly by police and army. During search, 42 SLR rounds were found hidden under a hill.

### Man dies under mysterious circumstances

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man died under mysterious circumstances in Narwal area on Thursday.

As per details, locals on seeing a man lying unconscious in the area informed police which rushed to the spot and shifted him to hospital, where doctors declared him as brought dead. The deceased has been identified as Sita Ram and it is suspected that he died of drug overdose.

### Accident victim succumbs

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An accident victim who was undergoing treatment at hospital died on Thursday.

As per the details, one Dilip Kumar, resident of Dharamkhu got injured in an accident on October 7 and was shifted to hospital where he was under treatment. He failed to recover and succumbed during treatment. His body was handed over to family members after autopsy.

### Man booked for impersonating as cop

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man was booked for impersonating as a cop in Trikuta Nagar area on Thursday.

As per details, Paramjeet Singh, resident of Satwari lodged a complaint with that one Gurdeep Singh, resident of Lower Satwari is impersonating as a cop and tried to threaten him. He further disclosed that earlier he was in police and now he is misusing old identity card. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

### Man attacked by wife, in-laws

#### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man was attacked by his in-laws in Trikuta Nagar area on Thursday.

As per details, one Rajesh Kumar, resident of Narwal Bala lodged a complaint with police that his wife Tanya, Mohan Lal, Raja and Sunita attacked him over an old dispute.

Police has registered a case and started investigation.

