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Expose those justifying...

gaps and take immediate corrective measures. The effective implementation of initiatives under the Back to Village will strengthen the economic growth and social change, added the Lt Governor.

Our focus is on Youth, Skill Development, Self-Employment, Strengthening of PRIs, Nasha-Mukt Panchayat, 100% saturation of welfare schemes for sustainable and inclusive development, he further added.

The Lt Governor directed the visiting officers to identify the youth for Self-employment and Skill development programmes as per their abilities. He further called for taking on board private and government banks for providing financial assistance to youth for Self-employment.

The Lt Governor asked the IT department to create awareness among youth about the online gaming gambling, cyber & information security threats.

On the sidelines of the meetings, the Lt Governor took stock of the situation of Lumpy skin disease in the UT and directed for intensifying fogging and vaccination activities, especially in rural areas.

Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary to the Government, Information Department briefed the meeting about the action-oriented deliverables for the fourth edition of Back to Village.

Over 25,000 government employees at all levels will participate including 4,500 gazetted officers who will be deployed to Panchayats. Around 15-18 lakh people are expected to participate in the Back to Village-IV. Target has been set to issue 2 to 2.50 lakh certificates under various services. As many as 1 lakh Ayushman Bharat Golden Cards and around 10 lakh land passbooks to be issued.

60,000 to 65,000 Youth (15 youth per panchayat) for self employment assistance and One lakh youth (20 youth from every panchayat) for skill training to be identified.

Stalls of Common Service Centres are being set up, besides camps for Specially-abled persons are being held in panchayats. E-shram Cards, Apki Zamin Apki Nigrani, working of Paani Smritis, Painting of Digital J&K in every Panchayat, testing of quality of water, inspection of Amrit Sarovars & Youth clubs; inspection of Patwari and VLW offices; minimum one sports and one cultural activity in every panchayat are among the deliverables of the B2V programme.

The performances of visiting officers to be evaluated and ranking of departments will be done on the basis of feedback received from the people. Data of the Back to Village-IV will be digitized, it was informed.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Administrative Secretaries, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Deputy Commissioners, Head of Departments and other senior officers attended the meeting, in person and through virtual mode, at Civil Secretariat.

MoHUA approves Rs...

Secretary, H&UDD, Dheeraj Gupta, made a presentation on the action plan to the Apex Committee.

The meeting, held under the Chairmanship of Union Secretary MoHUA, Manoj Joshi.

The UTWAP will be covering 99 projects under Water Supply, 4 under Sewerage and Seepage Management besides 50 Water Bodies.

It was informed that out of the total approved allocation of Rs. 1665.00 crore, an amount of Rs. 744.18 has been earmarked under CAPEX Budget of Housing and Urban Development Department for providing round the clock quality water supply, universal households water tap connections to all the urban areas of J&K and coverage of households under Sewerage and Seepage Management in three Mission Cities of AMRUT including Srinagar, Jammu and Anantnag.

Besides, under AMRUT 2.0 about 2.25 lakh new tap household connections would be provided and more than 4 lakh connections would be augmented. Likewise, 72872 sewage connections in three Mission Cities of Srinagar, Jammu and Anantnag shall be provided and 54 MLD capacities of Sewage treatment plants will be augmented under AMRUT 2.0.

Pertinently, AMRUT 2.0 has been designed to provide universal coverage of water supply through functional taps to all households in all the statutory towns of the country and coverage of sewerage/seepage management in AMRUT cities by 2025-26. The meeting was also attended by the Commissioners of Jammu Municipal Corporation and Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers.

Woman dies after...

Doda, where doctors declared one of them as brought dead," the SSP added. Reportedly, the women fell out of the vehicle as it rolled down and plunged into the river. The other woman has been identified as Sumaira Begum (35), they said.

Union Government working...

coverage of government schemes," he told the new recruits.

Modi credited the new industrial policy of Gujarat for creating job opportunities and praised reforms like the abolition of interview process for Class 3 and 4 government posts. Our goal is to make India a developed nation by 2047. Next 25 years are very critical for the country. We need a lot of development and you should fulfil your duty to society and the country, he said.

He was informed that in 2022 the Gujarat government has almost met its target of giving 35,000 government jobs in a year, the prime minister said.

CRIME REPORT

Woman among three arrested with 23 Kg poppy straw, 650 gm cannabis

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Police on Saturday nabbed three drug peddlers including a woman and recovered 23 Kg poppy straw, 650 gm

Qazigund Anantnag and the accomplice disclosed his name as Aabid Hussain Shah, son of Abdul Rashid Shah, resident of Seherpora Tehsil Dooru District Anantnag. Upon weighing, the weight of charas like substance came out to be 650 grams. Both accused persons were arrested and FIR no 247/2022 under section 8/20/29 NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Banihal. The overall recovery was carried out by police party headed by Insp Mohd Afzal Wani SHO Banihal under the supervision of Nisar Ahmed Khoja.

Drug peddler arrested, contraband recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace from the society, Police on Saturday arrested a drug peddler in Kulgam and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

As per the details, a party of Police Post Frisal at a check-point established at Tengbal crossing intercepted a Truck (JK08E-1795) driven by Saleem Mohd Fakir son of Liyaqat Ali Faqeer resident of Basoli. During search, officers were able to recover 10 kgs of Poppy Straw from his possession. The driver of the vehicle was arrested and the vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 84/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Yaripora and further investigation has been taken up.

Theft case solved; thief arrested, 5 stolen bikes recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MIRAN SAHIB: Police on Saturday solved a theft case by arresting an accused and recovered 5 stolen motorcycles.

As per the details, a complaint was received on 20th October from Karnaik Singh, son of Gurbachan Singh, resident of Dhinday Kalan regarding theft of Motorcycle (Bullet) bearing Registration No JK02BT-2140. On this information, FIR No. 136/2022 under section 379/IPC was registered at Police Station Miran Sahib and investigation started.

During investigation, a party of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SHO Miran Sahib Insp Zaheer Mushtaq assisted by PSI Mahroof Ahmed under the supervision of SDPO RS Pura Surinder Singh and overall supervision of Sp Hqrs Rammish Gupta did hectic efforts and with the help of technical assistance along with timely human intervention rounded one suspect namely Rashid Ali, son of Nazir Hussain, resident of Chakro R S Pura at present W. No. 4 Simbal Camp. During cross examination, the accused

Bhatnagar expresses displeasure...

and through video conferencing.

During the meeting, the Advisor held detailed assessment of all the ongoing works at these colleges as well as the Associated Hospitals and also took stock financial progress and the expenditure incurred till date on the works being executed.

While reviewing the status of ongoing works and other related matters of these health institutions, Advisor Bhatnagar was informed about the progress made so far with regard to the construction of main building of colleges, hostels, residential quarters and other facilities for the students and the faculty at each of these colleges.

Addressing the officers, the Advisor asked them to gear up their men and machinery at each project so that desired works are sped up and completed on time.

While reviewing college wise status report of works done, Advisor Bhatnagar delved upon the officers that all the required furniture and other equipments should be procured beforehand so that the labs and other classrooms are made functional properly. During the meeting, Director Coordination new GMCs gave a detailed presentation on the progress of works on these projects.

1 killed, 5...

landslide at the Ratle power project site.

"The JCB driver unfortunately died on the spot. The rescue team of about six persons, deputed to that the site after the incident, has also got unfortunately trapped under the debris," Singh said in a tweet.

All efforts are being made to rescue those trapped, he said.

"Further assistance, as required, (is) being provided. I am in constant touch with the district administration," he said.

Twitter, Facebook, other...

his USD 44-billion takeover of Twitter, placing the world's richest man at the helm of one of the most influential social media apps in the world. Incidentally, the microblogging platform has had multiple run-ins with the government in the past.

India's tweaking of IT rules allow formation of Centre-appointed panels, that will settle often-ignored user grievances against content decision of social media companies, Minister of State for IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar said, adding that this was necessitated due to the "casual" and "tokenism" approach of digital platforms towards user complaints so far.

"That is not acceptable," Chandrasekhar said at a media briefing explaining the amended rules.

The minister said that lakhs of messages around unresolved user complaints reflected the "broken" grievance redressal mechanism currently being offered by platforms, and added that while it will partner with social media companies towards common goal of ensuring Internet remains open, safe and trusted for Indians, the government will not hesitate to act, crackdown, where public interest is compromised.

On whether penalties will be imposed on platforms for not complying, he said the government would not like to bring punitive action at this stage but warned that if the situation demands in future, that could be considered too. The internet is evolving, as will the laws.

"We are not getting to the business of purity, but there is an opinion that there should be punitive penalties for those platforms not following rules...it is an area we have steered clear of, but that is not to say it is not on our mind," he cautioned.

The tighter IT norms raise due diligence and accountability of platforms to fight illegal content proactively (government has added deliberate misinformation to that list too), with 72-hour window to take down flagged content. So far, intermediaries were only required to inform users about not uploading certain categories of harmful or unlawful content.

"The obligations of intermediaries earlier was limited to notifying users of the rules but now there will be much more definite obligation on platforms. Intermediaries have to make efforts that no unlawful content is posted on platform," the minister said.

These amendments impose a legal obligation on intermediaries to take reasonable efforts to prevent users from uploading such content, an official release said.

Simply put, the new provision will ensure that the intermediary's obligation is not a "mere formality".

"In the category of obligation we have added misinformation...intermediary should not be party to not just illegal content, but they can't be party to any deliberate misinformation as content on platforms. Misinformation not just about media it is about advertising...illegal products and services, online betting, misinformation can be in fintech community, misrepresenting products and services. Misinformation also refers to false information about person or entity," the minister said.

For effective outreach, communication of the rules and regulations will have to be done in regional Indian languages by platforms.

The government has, in the new rules, added objectionable religious content (with intent to incite violence) alongside pornography, trademark infringements, fake information and something that could be a threat to sovereignty of the nation that users can flag to social media platforms.

The words 'defamatory' and 'libellous' have been removed; whether any content is defamatory or libellous will be determined through judicial review.

Some of the content categories have been rephrased to deal particularly with misinformation, and content that could incite violence between different reli-

gious/caste groups (that is information promoting enmity between different groups on the grounds of religion or caste with the intent to incite violence).

The rules come in the backdrop of complaints regarding the action/inaction on the part of the intermediaries on user grievances regarding objectionable content or suspension of their accounts.

"The intermediaries now will be expected to ensure that there is no uploading of content that intentionally communicates any misinformation or information that is patently false or untrue hence entrusting an important responsibility on intermediaries," the official release said.

The rules also have made it explicit for the intermediary to respect the rights accorded to the Indian citizens under the Articles 14 (non-discrimination), 19 (freedom of speech, subject to certain restrictions) and 21 (right to privacy) of the Indian Constitution.

In a strong message to Big Tech companies, the minister asserted that community guidelines of platforms - regardless of whether they are headquartered in the US, Europe, or elsewhere - cannot undermine constitutional rights of Indians, when such platforms operate in India.

Chandrasekhar said platforms will have obligation to remove within 72 hours of flagging, any "misinformation" or illegal content or content that promotes enmity between different groups on the grounds of religion or caste with the intent to incite violence.

The modalities defining the structure and scope of Grievance Appellate Committees will be worked out soon, he promised adding that the process will start with 1-2 such panels, which will be expanded based on requirements. The panels will not have sun moto powers.

"Government is not interested in playing role of ombudsman. It is a responsibility we are taking reluctantly, because the grievance mechanism is not functioning properly," the minister said. The idea is not to target any company or intermediary or make things difficult for them. The government sees internet and online safety as a shared responsibility of all, the minister noted.

It is pertinent to mention that big social media platforms have drawn flak in the past over hate speech, misinformation and fake news circulating on their platforms, and there have been persistent calls to make them more accountable. Microblogging platform Twitter has had several confrontations with the government over a slew of issues.

The government, in February 2021, notified IT rules that provided for social media platforms to appoint a grievance officer. Non compliance with IT rules result in these social media companies losing their intermediary status that provides them exemptions from liabilities for any third party information and data hosted by them.

2003 Nadimarg massacre...

Koul after hearing both the sides observed that counsel for the petitioner stated that the court below has not appreciated the difficulty of the prosecution in procuring the presence of the witnesses and that endeavour of the court below in a case of heinous nature like one on hand should be to examine all the witnesses on commission so as to unveil the truth.

Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul further observed that legal position laid down by the Supreme Court, this Court is of the view that the court below has dismissed the application of the prosecution-State for examining the witness on commission on the irrelevant consideration while overlooking the material and relevant aspects of the case. The said application of the prosecution for recording statement of witnesses on commission deserved to be allowed.

With these observations, High Court allowed the revision petition and order dated 09.02.2011, passed by the court below is set-aside, and the application for issuance of commission for examination of witnesses moved by the prosecution-State/petitioner is allowed. The court below shall now take all the necessary measures for ensuring the examination of the witnesses concerned by issuing commission and/or recording their statement videoconferencing and shall ensure expeditious proceedings so as to conclude the matter at the earliest.

Hope for return...

exodus of Kashmiri Pandits from the Valley, he said.

"The sadness expressed in the book is the tension between religious communities," Abdullah said while referring to the situation before and after the eruption of militancy in Jammu and Kashmir in the 1990s.

Abdullah said Kashmiri Muslims were silent spectators at the time of the exodus of Pandits "because we were scared ourselves".

"Those relations have not been restored yet. When these will be restored, I don't know. We pray for the return of those days when we all lived without fear," he said.

Abdullah also referred to author Salman Rushdie's controversial book 'The Satanic Verses'.

He said he could barely read a dozen pages of 'The Satanic Verses' before he abandoned it and that he never finished it.

But Dr Kaul's book, he said, was engrossing and he finished it in one-and-a-half days.

Iconic Youth Festival 'Sangam' to resume after 2 years



CO 4RR Col Rajat Parmar and PRO Bhaderwah Campus Arif Khateeb at a joint press conference.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH: To inculcate sense of belonging for the nation and promote communal harmony among youth beside to give boost to the potential of adventure tourism in Chenab region, Indian Army's 4 Rashtriya Rifles in collaboration with Bhaderwah Campus is organising a Mega youth Festival 'Sangam 2022' at Bhaderwah.

"This year Army and Jammu University has decided to organise 'Sangam' on a larger scale than ever before and we have been receiving overwhelming response from the youth," Khateeb added saying "our focus is to promote National Integration and communal harmony among youth beside we will also make the participating youth as ambassadors of adventure tourism in Chenab region."

CO 4RR Col Rajat Parmar informed that adventure activities like paragliding, white water rafting in Chenab, trekking, rock climbing and rappelling will be the main USP for the youth during Sangam.

Commanding officer 4RR also released the teaser of the festival on the occasion.

"Sangam" is the iconic youth festival of Jammu and Kashmir and this used to be the most important

