

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

J&K at forefront...

district Anantnag's path to economic and social progress. A slew of projects dedicated to the people today in the Health, Education, Water Supply, and Urban Development sectors will empower all sections of the society," the Lt Governor said, adding that our focus on health and education will prepare the people for future challenges and revitalize the growth story of the district.

The Lt Governor said the foundation stone laid for projects in Rural Development, PW (R&B), Jal Shakti, Fisheries and Tourism sectors will bring visible impact on the quality of lives of the people.

The 37 projects worth Rs 124.17 crore inaugurated by Lt Governor include 29 projects of Jal Shakti; Beautification of main market Pahalgam; Multi-storied building in Boys Degree College Khanabal and Academic Block and additional class room at Degree College Bijbehara; office complex at Town hall premises, MC Qazigund; Block office building at Ruhoo and Footbridge at Kanganhall; NTPHC Kehribal under Languishing Project and upgradation of roads in the district.

The 39 projects at a cost of Rs 166.56 crore for which foundation stones were laid by Lt Governor include 20 projects of Rural Development Department; 9 projects of PWD (R&B); 4 projects of Fisheries; development of recreation spot on River Bank at Pahalgam; Nagar Van (City Forest), Munjahan, Mahind and Water Supply Schemes at Siligam Tantraypora, Imoo Sundoo, Brad Ikhraypora and Shumhall Hassanoor.

Ch Mohammad Yousuf Gors, Chairman DDC Anantnag; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Shailender Kumar, Principal Secretary, Public Works (R&B); Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and senior officers were present.

Make 'Poshan Abhiyan'...

districts to replicate the Anantnag District Administration's unique initiative 'Main Bhi Kisan' to maximise the benefits of Holistic Agriculture Development Programme.

This initiative will lead to greater youth participation in developing agriculture and allied sector and bring a qualitative difference in the sector, he added.

The Lt Governor directed the District Administration to be well prepared for winter season and ensure that the power and road infrastructure is well maintained and suitable for traffic at all times.

Measures of essential items and increased contingency plan for vulnerable areas should be implemented effectively by the district administration and the concerned departments, he said.

He further directed the district officials for special focus on the disbursement of benefits under farmer-oriented, health and education sector schemes.

The Lt Governor also reviewed the progress made in diverse sectors and schemes including Tourism, Youth Empowerment, Infrastructure, Sports, Employment generation, Industries, Cooperatives, PMAY, Jal Jeevan Mission, status of Transit Accommodations and revival, restoration and preservation of Architecture and Heritage.

Syed Fakhrudin Hamid, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag briefed the chair on the overall functioning of the district administration, and progress made under Centrally-sponsored and UT government schemes and infrastructure projects.

The meeting was attended by Ch Mohd. Yousuf Gors, Chairman DDC Anantnag; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Shailender Kumar, Principal Secretary Public Works (R&B) Department; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Vijay Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir and senior officers.

Later, the Lt Governor interacted with various delegations of PRI representatives, Traders, fruit growers, Civil Society members and beneficiaries of various welfare schemes and assured them of appropriate redressal of their issues and demands on merit. The members of the delegations expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor-led UT Administration for addressing the developmental needs of the people of

Anantnag district.

Amit Shah hails...

temple of Sharda is one of the 18 Maha Shakti Peethas and lies in ruins in the Neelam Valley of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. The temple is devoted to the Hindu goddess Maa Sharda, often considered an incarnation of Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge and wisdom. According to legend, the temple was originally built by the Pandavas during their period of exile. It is also believed that King Lalitaditya Muktapada, who governed the region during the 8th century, later undertook the renovation of the temple.

The Maa Sharda Devi Temple holds significant religious importance for Hindus, particularly within the Kashmiri Pandit community. Devotees from various parts of India visit the temple to seek blessings and offer their prayers to the Goddess. It is believed that it represents the spiritual location of the goddess Sati's fallen right hand.

Father-son duo...

existed in the name of one Nazia Bano, daughter of Naseer Ahmed as such the school leaving certificate produced by Mukhtyar Ahmed in the Power Development department is fake, thereby cheating the PDD J&K by obtaining government job in that department.

On the basis of relevant records and other evidences, it has been found that the accused, in connivance with his father, hatched the criminal conspiracy, he said, adding that offences under sections 420/467/468/471/120-B/RPC were proved/established against the accused and charge- sheet produced in the Court of law for judicial determination.

CS launches DigiDost...

The Chief Secretary noted that J&K has come a long way in transforming itself from a laggard to leader when it comes to bringing governance at the doorsteps of people. He hoped that the UT should be seen as a model to replicate by other States/UTs in the country. He underscored that J&K has the requisite capacity, capability, drive and desire to be best in the nation without falling into the rat race to showcase only. He called it the commitment that is acting as a force behind this administration.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta acknowledged the efforts of the J&K IT Department in enhancing transparency, efficiency, and smart governance. He stressed the importance of Jammu and Kashmir maintaining a leadership position in IT services, ensuring that the region continues to deliver high-quality digital services to its citizens. Among others the meeting was attended by Perna Puri, Commissioner Secretary, Information Technology, Anuradha Gupta, CEO JaKeGA, State Informatics Officer, NIC Saleem Khan, and several other officers.

No one can...

have to be made to the system to get rid of corruption. Only Narendra Modi has been able to take on corruption in the country, he added. Referring to central government's schemes, Singh said financial assistance was now directly reaching beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer.

Targeting the BRS government in Telangana over alleged corruption and family rule, the Minister urged the voters to elect the BJP in the November 30 assembly polls in the state.

SC to deliver...

arguments in the matter on April 18. While hearing the matter on May 11, the bench had observed it cannot give a declaration on same-sex unions on the anticipation as to how Parliament is likely to respond to it.

The bench made the observation after one of the advocates appearing for the petitioners referred to judicial verdicts, including in the instant triple talaq case, and said once the top court gave a declaration to pass a law penalising the practice, it

was a matter for "fairly easy legislative consensus".

The bench had made it clear during the arguments that it will not go into personal laws governing marriages while deciding the pleas seeking judicial validation for same-sex marriages and said the very notion of a man and a woman, as referred to in the Special Marriage Act, is not "an absolute based on genitals".

Some of the petitioners had urged the apex court to use its plenary power; "prestige and moral authority" to push the society to acknowledge such a union which would ensure LGBTQIA++ lead a "dignified" life like heterosexuals.

LGBTQIA++ stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, pansexual, two-spirit, asexual and ally persons.

On May 3, the Centre had told the court it will constitute a committee headed by the cabinet secretary to examine the administrative steps that could be taken for addressing "genuine humane concerns" of same-sex couples without going into the issue of legalising their marriage.

The Centre's submission was pursuant to the apex court asking it on April 27 whether social welfare benefits like opening joint bank accounts, nominating life partner in provident funds, gratuity and pension schemes can be extended to same-sex couples without going into the issue of legal sanction to their marriage.

Union minister expresses..

such types of things, which have spread from Punjab to Jammu and now to this place (Katra). We get disappointed. Drug addiction has started in this holy land," Singh told reporters on the sidelines of a programme in Katra, the base camp for the Mata Vaishno Devi pilgrimage.

He said it is a matter of concern for the entire society.

Expressing deep concern over increasing substance abuse, Singh appealed to parents and the local administration to shield children from the clutches of drugs, emphasizing that their potential should be harnessed to realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious vision of transforming India into a developed nation by 2047. He also stressed the importance of preserving the sanctity of the holy town of Katra.

Singh said a strategic plan is in the works at both administrative and societal levels to combat the menace of drug addiction.

Identifying hotspots and fostering social awareness are key components in curbing this menace, he said.

The minister inaugurated a multimedia exhibition organised by the Central Bureau of Communication in Katra.

Singh emphasized that the region's development remains a priority for the Narendra Modi government.

Philosophy of Vasudhaiva...

breakdowns, it was advised to proactively organise an adequate number of repair teams to restore power supply. Complaints received through toll-free numbers should also be resolved promptly," he said.

Officers have been directed to conduct on-site inspections in areas where processions or gatherings for idol immersion are anticipated to enhance the entire electrical system, and to minimise the risk of accidents.

Mughal road blocked...

she is enjoying the cool weather of Kashmir. "It is hot back home (in Andhra Pradesh). The weather is very good here and we are enjoying," she said.

Hybrid terrorist arrested...

his possession.

During preliminary investigation, he revealed that he has received the arms and ammunition from an active terrorist in order to carry out terrorist attack in District Shopian.

In this regard, a case FIR NO. 54/2023 under sections 7/25 IAA, 18,20,23 UA(P) has been registered in PS Inamsahib and investigation has been taken up.

CRIME REPORT

Drug peddler arrested; contraband substance recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

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

As per details, a police party headed by SHO Police Station Qazigund at a checkpoint established on NHW at Bonigam Crossing Qazigund intercepted a person carrying a nylon bag, who after noticing the police party tried to flee from the spot but was apprehended tactfully. He has been identified as Abdul Rashid Rather alias Mathur son of Ghulam Hassan Rather resident of Bonigam. During search, 3.2Kgs of Poppy Straw like contraband substance concealed in nylon bag was recovered. He has been arrested and shifted to police station where he remains in custody. Accordingly, a case FIR No. 227/2023 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Qazigund and investigation has been initiated.

18 vehicles seized, 11 arrested for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Acting tough against the persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, police have arrested 11 persons and seized 11 vehicles in Kulgam.



Kulgam Police along with officers of Geology and Mining Department seized 11 vehicles (02 JCB, 05 tractors and 04 dumpers) and arrested 11 persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals from Vishaw river at Ashmuji Bhan, Matalhama and other areas.

Accordingly, a case with FIR No. 176/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Kulgam and investigation has been set into motion.

Samba Police also seized seven vehicles which were being used for illegal mining in district.

Police teams comprising of SHO Police Station Samba Daljit Singh, SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana Sumit Sharma, Incharge Police Post RakhAmbTali PSI Davinder Singh and ASI Balbir Kumar of PP Supwal under the supervision of DySPGaru Ram and SDPO Bari Brahmana Rahul Nagar have seized seven (07) more vehicles being used for illegal mining at different locations in Samba district. The seized vehicles are : Three (03) Dumpers bearing registration Nos. JK02CG-7986, JK21G-3434 & JK21G-7607, four (04) tractor trolleys bearing registration Nos. JK21J-5198, JK21F-7793, JK21J-0920 & one tractor trolley without registration No.

DPAP braces up for mega rally in Batamaloo Saroori reviews preparations, holds meeting of office bearers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) senior leader, Vice Chairman G.M. Saroori on Monday held a meeting of office bearers from Central Kashmir at party head office Sonwar to gauge the present political scenario in the valley and to discuss various issues pertaining to the party affairs.

The meeting was attended by a number of party office bearers, who held thorough discussions over certain party affairs and outlined a strategy to strengthen the party further.

He urged party leaders to be vibrantly active in order to remain in touch with the



DPAP Vice Chairman G.M. Saroori chairing a meeting.

masses and to make people well aware of the party's people-friendly agenda and its vision for a better future for Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the upcoming public rally of Chairman DPAP Ghulam Nabi Azad at Batamaloo scheduled on

21st October was also discussed and the party workers were directed to ensure maximum participation of workers so that the rally becomes a mega event. Azad is planning to address a rally of thousands of workers at Batamaloo and the

preparations are in full swing.

Senior Leaders Chief Spokesperson Salman Nizami, Shoaib Nabi Lone Distt President Baramulla, Mohd Altaf Dar, Zonal President Peer Bilal, Distt President Sgr Aamir Bhat, Shafat Gafar, Haleem Khan, Dr G M Rather, M Y Dar, Javid Iqbal, Mushtaq Lodhi, Yusuf Sultan, Mushtaq Sogami, Farooq Ahmad and others also attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, the party leaders expressed grief and shock over the sad demise of Treasurer Taj Mohiuddin and Working Committee Member Mohd Aslam Goni' sister.

Rebel employees of 'Neha Snacks' get Rs 40k after approaching Labour Court

■ TSEWANG RIGZIN

LEH: Nine employees of 'Neha Snacks' - one of the popular restaurant in Leh Bazaar - who had gone rebellious against their owner and sought shelter at labour office got Rs 40,000 from the restaurant owner after the intervention of the labour Office on Moday.

The rebel employees, hailing from Bihar, including chefs and waiters went rebellious, left the restaurant on 12th of October in the morning and sought shelter at the Assistant Labour Commissioner's office in Leh alleging that the owners of the restaurant had not been treating them with dignity. Talking to STATE TIMES, some of the employees made serious allegations includ-

ing physical assaults by the owners of the restaurant besides torturing them with verbal abuses and making them work overtime without extra payments. The employees demanded that their salaries for one month and 11 days be released so that they can go back home.

"We settled the case for a minimum about of Rs 40,000 against a pending liabilities of more than Rs 2:00 lakh at Neha Snacks against our salaries just because we wanted to get back home at the earliest. We are going back home by road via Srinagar this evening," Anil Kumer, one of the rebel employees claimed.

Four labour agencies in Leh have helped these

labourers with some money just to make sure that they didn't go hungry.

They were provided temporary shelter at the Labour Sarai and the office of the Assistant Labour Commissioner Leh intervened to resolve the dispute between the restaurant owners and its employees.

Owners at the 'Neha Snacks' denied all charges and said that these employees have signed an agreement to work till the 14th of November. "We have not delayed the release of anyone's salary. I have the salary receipts with me," one of the owners of the restaurant said.

Uday, Surinder inaugurate Ram Leela in Jammu North Assembly

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Uday Bhanu Chib, In-charge Youth Congress,

Maharashtra, along with Surinder Kumar, Youth Leader from Ward No 34, today inaugurated the Ram Leela event held at Jammu North Assembly. This remarkable event was organ-

ized by the enthusiastic members of the Youth Ram Leela Club Old Janipur.

The Ram Leela, a traditional cultural extravaganza, is celebrated with great enthusiasm and fervor throughout India.

Addressing the gathering, Uday Chib threw light on the

significance of Ram Leela in the present era. He emphasized the dire need to acquaint the younger generation with the profound values and characters depicted in Ram Leela, which are relevant even in contemporary times. Uday expressed, "Ram Leela serves as a time-

less source of inspiration, teaching us values of righteousness, devotion, and the triumph of good over evil. It is crucial that we bridge the generational gap by educating today's youth about the cultural and moral lessons embedded in Ram Leela."

He also appreciated the

efforts of Sunil Kumar, Ashwani Kumar and Ashu members of Youth Ram Leela Club Old Janipur for organizing the Ram Leela which holds very much significance in the Hindu community as well as present's era. The inauguration of the Ram Leela in Jammu North

Assembly was a resounding success, fostering a sense of unity and cultural pride within the community. The event, organized by the Youth Ram Leela Club Old Janipur, promises to be a cultural extravaganza that will captivate and educate audiences of all ages.