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China building villages...

The Indian soldiers do get leave to go home from the positions on LAC at least twice a year if not thrice, he said, adding that the Chinese soldiers do not have this luxury.

"They are building this infrastructure, this kind of so-called villages, which are well within their side of the LAC. They have not transgressed anywhere on our perception of the LAC," he said.

He said there are different perceptions of the LAC but the Indian armed forces know where the LAC lies because they have been told that this is your alignment of the LAC and this is the territory you are expected to defend.

"Chinese have a perception and in some areas, we know about it, and in some areas, we don't know about it. Because they have never really explained where the LAC lies according to their perception," he noted.

When asked if he thinks such village development is muscle-flexing on their part, he replied: "Certainly not, I won't call it muscle-flexing. With the development of these villages, they are trying to make sure that they reach out to their border areas, and it is something we should also be doing."

India was also concerned about its border area development and the government has released funds for BADP (Border Area Development Programme) projects, he mentioned.

"In fact, we are encouraging people to go there and stay back in those villages because a large number of villages along the LAC are being vacated. Why are they being vacated? Because people find job opportunities, education, health infrastructure, more in the inner areas," he explained.

Last month, India and China failed to make any headway in resolving the 18-month standoff in the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh during the 13th round of military talks between the two countries.

Each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the LAC in the sensitive sector of eastern Ladakh.

Modi to launch...

Direct Scheme is aimed at enhancing access to the government securities market for retail investors.

It offers them a new avenue for directly investing in the securities issued by the Centre and the state governments. The investors will be able to easily open and maintain their government securities accounts online with the RBI for free, it added.

The Reserve Bank-Integrated Ombudsman Scheme aims to further improve the grievance redress mechanism for resolving customer complaints against entities regulated by the central bank.

The PMO said the central theme of the scheme is based on "One Nation-One Ombudsman" with one portal, one e-mail address and one postal address for the customers to lodge their complaints.

There will be a single point of reference for the customers to file their complaints, submit documents, track the status of their complaints and provide feedback. A multi-lingual toll-free phone number will provide all the relevant information on grievance redress and assistance for filing complaints.

Five Under Secys...

Higher Education Department has been posted as Under Secretary, Higher Education Department; Rajinder Kumar, Incharge Under Secretary awaiting orders of adjustment in the Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs has been posted as Under Secretary, Department of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs; Abid Khan, I/e Under Secretary awaiting orders of adjustment in the Industries and Commerce Department has been posted as Under Secretary to the Government, Industries and Commerce Department; Mohammad Rajab Malik, I/e Under Secretary awaiting orders of adjustment in the Department of

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has been posted as Under Secretary, Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; and Hamid Hameed, I/e Under Secretary awaiting orders of adjustment in the Public Works (R&B) Department has been posted as Under Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department.

As per another order, Vikas Dhar Bagati, JKAS, Deputy Secretary, Higher Education Department has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Thanamandi. He shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Thanamandi, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

Muddasir Latif Tasir, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been posted as Deputy Secretary, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department, with immediate effect.

As per another order, Shakeel Hussain, Private Secretary of the J&K Secretariat (Gazetted) Service-II, awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department, has been transferred and posted in the Planning, Development & Monitoring Department to work with the Administrative Secretary; and Sunny Dogra, Senior Stenographer of the J&K Secretariat Subordinate Service has been transferred from the Office of the Chief Executive Officer, JaKeGA and posted in the Planning, Development & Monitoring Department to work with the Administrative Secretary.

No pre or...

positive for COVID-19 on re-testing, they will immediately self isolate and report to their nearest health facility or call national helpline number (1075)/ state helpline number.

On arrival deboarding should be done ensuring physical distancing and thermal screening would be carried out in respect of all the passengers by the health officials present at the airport.

The self-declaration form filled online shall be shown to the airport health staff.

The passengers found to be symptomatic during screening shall be immediately isolated and taken to medical facility according to health protocol. If tested positive, their contacts shall be identified and managed according to laid down protocol.

Contacts of the suspect case are the co-passengers seated in the same row, three rows in front and three rows behind along with identified cabin crew. Also, all the community contacts of those travellers who have tested positive (during home quarantine period) would be subjected to quarantine for 14 days and tested as per ICMR protocol, the guidelines stated.

DB issues directives...

to the reliefs claimed in the present petition. DB directed AAG Aseem Sawhney, Additional Advocate General to convene a meeting of officers and to ensure that the issues raised in this petition are taken up, discussed and if possible, resolved therein with intimation to the Court.

J&K reports 177...

of 16664822 test results available, 333667 samples have tested positive and 16331155 samples have been tested as negative till date. Besides, 54,501 COVID tests have been conducted in last 24 hours.

Till date 4012019 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 5150 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 1311 in isolation and 439333 in home surveillance. Besides, 3561777 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded 15 fresh Covid cases, taking the infection tally in the Union territory to 21,087, while the active cases went up to 129, officials said.

The region has registered 209 Covid-related deaths -- 151 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

Eleven patients were cured and discharged from hospitals in Leh. The total number of cured patients is 20,749, they said.

Of the total 15 fresh cases, all of these cases were reported in Leh, they said.

A total of 425 sample reports in Ladakh were found negative, they said.

There was no death reported due to Covid in Ladakh on Wednesday.

with cash, groceries & some quantity of Saffron. On this, FIR No. 226/2021 under sections 457/380 of IPC was registered and investigation started. A Special team was constituted by SSP Kishtwar Shafqat Hussain Batt led by SHO Kishtwar Insp Abid Bukhari under supervision of Dy.SP Hqrs Kishtwar Satish Kumar. During investigation, police rounded up many suspects for questioning and with help of technical assistance, CCTV footages of area and analysis of CDR /tower location, dump data etc, the team nabbed the accused, who was put to sustained interrogation. During investigation, he confessed his involvement in theft and on his disclosure, stolen property was recovered from his house. The accused was identified as Chetak Sharma, son of Shiv Raj Sharma, resident of Doori Sarthal Kishtwar.

It is pertinent to mention here that the accused was wearing a Khaki jacket and trouser which looked like police uniform in CCTV footages obtained from the premises, to dodge and malign image of police in society. The stolen items recovered included Kesar valuing Rs 50,000; cash Rs 6,000; 2 mobile phones; a police-type uniform; an iron-rod and motorcycle (Pulsar) JK03B 1575.

Rs 12,200 fine recovered from SoPs violators in Ramban

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN: Continuing the drive to implement COVID protocol across the district Ramban, Enforcement teams on Thursday fined scores of violators for roaming without wearing face masks and not maintaining physical distance. The enforcement teams, during inspection in their respective jurisdictions, recovered a fine of Rs 12,200. The Enforcement officers urged people to wear face masks and maintain physical distance besides taking COVID vaccination doses at their nearest CVC.

District Immunization Officer, Ramban, Dr Suresh informed that as many as 2,408 persons were administered first and second COVID vaccine doses across Ramban district on Thursday.

As per daily bulletin issued by Chief Medical Officer, Ramban, Dr Mohammad Fareed Bhat, Health Department has collected 1,697 samples including 378 RT-PCR and 1,318 RAT samples besides administering COVID vaccine to 2,408 persons at dedicated Vaccination Centres in the district.

Eight vehicles seized for illegal mining

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which police team of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli, Police Posts Chatha and Chinore acted stringently on specific inputs and raided at different locations in their respective areas and seized eight different vehicles found involved in illegal mining.

The seized vehicles include a tipper (JK20 4175), a tipper and a tractor-trolley without registration numbers seized by Jhajjar Kotli police; 1 tipper (JK14B 8692), 2 tractors and 1 dumper without registration numbers seized by Chatha police and a tractor bearing temporary number seized by Chinore police. The vehicles were seized by SHO Jhajjar Kotli Insp Devinder Singh, Incharge Police Post Chatha Insp Rakesh Roshan and Incharge Police Post Chinore PSI Avtar Krishan in their respective jurisdictions.

ARTO Rajouri suspends 10 route permits for various violations

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Assistant Regional Transport Officer Rajouri, Shami Kumar Sharma has suspended route permits of 10 tempo for violating different traffic rules during a special drive. The drive was conducted on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Rajesh K Shavan.

Pertinently, several complaints of overcharging are being received from the passengers. The checking squad of Motor Vehicle Department Rajouri, headed by ARTO conducted checking on various routes and found that the passengers were being overcharged, which is a serious offence under MVA norms.

Acting tough against violators, ARTO suspended the route permits of 10 tempos for two months. The ARTO has made it clear that such drives shall continue in near future to keep a check on over-charging, overloading and other traffic offences and strict action as per MVA norms would be initiated against violators. He also appealed to the public to follow traffic norms in letter and spirit and avoid using mobile phones, stunting, use of beams during night, avoiding seat-belts etc. He said these are common offences which can be easily avoided. The ARTO urged the drivers to be mindful of duties and responsibilities while driving.

Absconding drug-peddler arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Thursday arrested a drug peddler who was absconding for last 2 months.

As per details, a drug peddler cum absconder namely Irfan Rashid Rather, son of Abdul Rasheed Rather, resident of Khanpora Dayalgam, Anantnag who was wanted in FIR No 364/2021 under sections 8/15 of NDPS Act since August 28, 2021, has finally been arrested.

Jammu Police was looking for the accused and finally intelligence was generated and on a tip-off, dedicated police teams of Police Station Nagrota constituted under supervision of SDPO Nagrota Parupkar Singh and led by SHO Nagrota Insp Mohd

The total number of active cases in Ladakh has gone up to 129, including 126 in Leh and 3 in Kargil district.

Disciplinary authority should...

Act clearly indicates that the authorities are empowered to award punishment of suspension or dismissal to a member of the force who is found guilty.

The apex court's judgement came on an appeal filed by the Centre against an order of the Delhi High Court which substituted the penalty of removal from service inflicted on the employee after holding disciplinary inquiry with confinement from 1 pm to 10 pm in quarter guard jail.

The constable was accused of misbehaving and abusing and injuring a doctor while on official duty and instituting false criminal charges of sexual harassment against him.

The apex court said that the nature of allegations against the constable are indeed grave as the respondent not only threatened the Doctor complainant but has misbehaved and abused and injured him and made false allegations against him of sexual harassment to his wife.

"Such nature of misconduct which has been committed by the respondent once stand proved is unpardonable and if the authority has considered it appropriate to punish him with the penalty of removal from service by an Order dated July 14, 2004, and confirmed by the appellate/revisial authority and by the High Court in the impugned judgement leaves no sympathy for retention in service and that too in a disciplined force like CRPF," the bench said.

Neither accepted China's...

diplomatic means and will continue to do so in the future.

"Further, as conveyed earlier the government has also stepped up border infrastructure including the construction of roads, bridges etc, which has provided much-needed connectivity to the local population along the border," he said.

Bagehi said the government remained committed to the objective of creating infrastructure along the border areas for the improvement of the livelihood of its citizens including in Arunachal Pradesh.

"The government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all the necessary measures to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

In its recent report, the US Department of Defence said China built a large 100-home civilian village inside disputed territory between its Tibet Autonomous Region and India's Arunachal Pradesh in the eastern sector of the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Sources in the security establishment on Tuesday said the village along the disputed border in the upper Subansiri district is in an area that was occupied by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) after overrunning an Assam Rifles post in 1959.

Following the eastern Ladakh standoff last year, India has bolstered its overall military preparedness along the LAC in the Arunachal Pradesh sector as well.

Eastern Army Commander Lt Gen Manoj Pande said last month that China has increased the intensity of its military exercises and deployment of troops in its depth areas opposite the LAC in the Arunachal Pradesh sector.

He said that India has correspondingly readied contingency plans to deal with any eventualities.

Lt Gen Pande had said new villages have come up on the Chinese side of the border in certain areas and India has taken note of it in its operational strategy.

Over 110.74 crore...

started from February 2.

The next phase of COVID-19 vaccination commenced from March 1 for people over 60 years of age and those aged 45 and above with specified co-morbid conditions. The country launched vaccination for all people aged more than 45 years from April 1.

The government then decided to expand its vaccination drive by allowing everyone above 18 to be vaccinated from May 1.

Showkat assisted by PSI Wasim Bhatti, with strenuous efforts, arrested accused from Dayalgam Anantnag.

2 bootleggers nabbed with 60 bottles of illicit liquor

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Thursday arrested two bootleggers and recovered 60 bottles of illicit liquor from their possession.

As per details, special police teams of Police Post Manwal and Border Police Post Sai Kalan constituted under supervision of Incharge Police Post Manwal PSI Ayub Khan and Incharge Border Police Post Sai Kalan, ASI Parshotam Lal while on patrolling duty in Manwal Majalta and Harapeer Sai Kalan areas rounded up two suspects.

During search, total 60 bottles of illicit liquor i.e., 29 bottles by Manwal police and 31 bottles of 180 ml by Sai Kalan police were recovered from them. The duo was arrested and FIR No 177/2021 under sections 48F of Excise Act was registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and FIR No 80/2021, under Section 48F of Excise Act was registered at Police Station Arnia respectively. The accused were identified as Rajinder Singh, son of Isher Dass, resident of Thalora Manwal Udhampur, arrested by Manwal Police and Roshan Lal, son of Late Ghura Ram, resident of Nekowal Tehsil Suchetgarh, arrested by Sai Kalan Police.

Drug peddler arrested, 67 gm Charas recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 67 gm Charas from a drug peddler during Naka checking near Mandir Masjid Point.

As per details, an active Naka was laid by police team of Police Station Nowabad led by SHO Nowabad Insp Rakesh Khajuria and suspect, who turned suspicious on seeing police Naka, was rounded-up. On search, 67 gm Charas was recovered from his possession. He was identified as Ishwar Giri, son of Manu Giri, resident of UP, presently staying at Bhootnath Temple. He was arrested and FIR 174/21 under sections 8/20 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Nowabad. The overall arrest and recovery was made under the supervision of Dy SP Hqrs Swati Sharma. Further investigation of case is going on.

Man held with intoxicants

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Thursday arrested a man and recovered 100 ampoules of psychotropic substances from his possession.

As per details, a team from Police Post Pounichak led by SHO Domana Insp Mahesh Sharma assisted by Incharge Police Post PSI Nitish Khajuria while on Naka duty in Gola Gujral rounded up a suspect. On search, 100 ampoules of psychotropic substances i.e., 60 Diazelab ampoules, 10 reoxgesic ampoules and 30 phenargan ampoules were recovered from him. He was arrested and FIR No 321/2021 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Domana. Intensive questioning is going on to trace his other accomplices involved in the crime. The overall arrest and recoveries were made under supervision of SDPO Domana Sunil Singh.

19 bovines rescued, 2 smugglers arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBALI: District Police Samba foiled an attempt to smuggle bovines by arresting 2 bovine smugglers and rescued 19 bovines under jurisdiction of Police Station Ghagwal.

As per details, acting on reliable information regarding smuggling of bovines towards Kashmir, a party of Police Station Ghagwal laid a checking Naka at