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### After Art 370...

building the economy such as electricity (were not happening)," she said.

The finance minister said Jammu and Kashmir has a potential capacity of about 20,000 MW electricity generation, and if it realises its full potential, it can do wonders for its economy and development.

The capacity has never been fully exploited, she added.

"Without basic supplies of electricity, for a beautiful state like this, for a potential-ridden state like this, development has always been at its bare minimum," the minister said.

Referring to the revocation of the erstwhile state's special status, she said it is important now for Jammu and Kashmir to get that which has been denied to it in terms of facilities and development.

"There is no point if it is kept like a small oligarchy of people holding every resource and denying ordinary citizens," Sitharaman said.

Common people have aspirations, and every citizen should be given space and that is what is being given post the abrogation of (Article) 370 , she said.

The minister said with the inauguration of the office, there are now 251 principal commissioners of income tax all over the country and 21 in the north-west region.

The Finance Minister reiterated the Government of India's support to Jammu and Kashmir and read out the projects completed under PMDP and those in the pipeline for taking Jammu and Kashmir to new heights of development and prosperity.

Later, in her interaction with tax administrators and stakeholders at SKICC, Sitharaman urged the officers of both CBDT & CBIC to be agents of change and reach out to the industry and business individuals to ascertain their expectations from the Government.

While emphasising that officers of both CBDT & CBIC should work collectively, the Finance Minister also stressed upon the importance of their role as facilitators & educators, making themselves more accessible to the taxpayers of the region to provide better taxpayer services

In his keynote address at the 'Aaykar Bhawan', the Lt Governor said that inauguration of the new income tax and residential building 'The Chinars' is a sign of socio-economic change taking place in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

### Taxpayers most valuable...

worth Rs 28,400 cr has opened up investment opportunities for people from across the world. It will certainly lead to more development and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir. We have already received proposals worth Rs 29,000 cr and we expect to reach the figure of 35,000 cr by ending December, he added.

Reiterating his resolve of bringing transparency in the governance system, the Lt Governor said that more and more technological interventions are being made to ensure a responsible, accountable and corruption free system in J&K. We have developed tools like 'JKBEAMS', through which a person sitting in far flung areas can monitor the spending of each penny on public projects. For the first time in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, physical verification of projects has been made mandatory, the Lt Governor added.

Speaking during the interaction with tax administrators and stakeholders, the Lt Governor termed the taxpayers of the country as the most valuable allies of the Income Tax Department.

Income Tax Department has done massive reforms, incorporating technology to make the tax system faceless and paperless, bringing efficiency and transparency in

tax administration, keeping in mind facilities and ease for taxpayers, he added.

I believe that the taxpayer services of the country have become world class today. This has increased the confidence of the common citizens and the business world, and a new ideal model of the tax system has emerged before the country, the Lt Governor observed.

Congratulating the officers of the tax department on beginning of the new chapter of Income Tax Department in Jammu and Kashmir, the Lt Governor made an appeal to various trade, industry organizations and people associated with the tourism industry for working hand in hand with the tax department for the progress of Jammu and Kashmir and paying tax for providing better facilities and infrastructure to the common citizens.

It is the duty of every citizen, every businessman, to come forward and contribute in the development and prosperity of the UT. It is a collective responsibility of all and not the sole responsibility of the Income Tax Department to earn revenue source for the development of J&K and for Nation building, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor said that after August 2019, constructive reforms have been brought in the economic and social system of Jammu and Kashmir.

In the last 16 months, we have tried to take the benefits of reforms to those important sectors of the economy which remained neglected earlier, so that they too can play their valuable role in nation building, he added.

New markets are being provided to the inherent possibilities in agriculture, horticulture, small scale industries, handicraft and other sectors. Red-tapism and unnecessary government interference in business has been abolished, and priority is being given to proper implementation of policies, the Lt Governor apprised the Hon'ble Finance Minister.

The Lt Governor further informed that in September last year, a stimulus package of Rs 1353 crore was given for the business class suffering from Corona, from which three and a half lakh business institutions were directly benefited.

Tarun Bajaj, Revenue Secretary to the Central Government; J.B. Mohapatra, CBDT Chairman; Ajit Kumar, CBIC Chairman; Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Finance, J&K UT; Principal Secretary, CCIT, Chandigarh; Commissioner Income Tax Department, J&K besides senior officers of CBDT and CBIC, various Banks and the UT administration were present.

### J&K records 160...

far, 3,29,401 patients have recovered from the disease, the officials said.

There were 49 cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) in the union territory. No fresh case has been reported since last evening, they said.

Meanwhile, Ladakh has recorded 16 fresh COVIDeases, taking the tally to 21,327 while the active cases in the Union Territory has come down to 230, officials said.

Ladakh has registered 212 Covid-related deaths -- 154 in Leh and 58 in Kargil - - since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

Ten patients were recovered and discharged from a hospital from Leh. The total number of those recovered is 20,885, they said.

All the 16 fresh cases were reported in Leh, the officials said.

A total of 492 sample reports in Ladakh were found negative, they said.

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

With this, the total number of active COVID-19 cases in Ladakh has gone up to 230, including 219 in Leh and 11 in Kargil district.

### Ahead of Parliament...

with Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, will represent the government at the meeting. On Sunday evening, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has

### Woman among two arrested with narcotics, cash

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 7 gm cocaine and 25 grams of heroin from two drug peddlers.

As per details, a team of Police Station Satwari led by SHO Satwari Inspr Deepak Jasrotia assisted by In-Charge Police Post Gadigarh Inspr Lakvir Singh during Naka checking at Chatha road rounded up two suspects, including a woman, who were traveling on a scooty and turned suspicious on seeing police Naka. On search, 7 gm cocaine was recovered from dickey of the vehicle, along with a weighing machine and 25 gm heroin with cash amounting to Rs 27,600 from possession of suspects later identified as Iqbal Singh alias Vicky Langada, son of Lt Ranjeet Singh and Ravinder Kour alias Neetu, resident of Bhour Pind, near Peer Baba. Duo was arrested and FIR No 268/21 under sections 8/21/22/25 of NDPS Act was registered against them at Police Station Satwari. The overall arrest and recovery was made under the supervision of SDPO City South P K Mengi. Further investigation of the case is going on.

### 8 bovines rescued, 3 smugglers arrested

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: Police on Monday foiled attempts to smuggle bovines by arresting 3 smugglers and rescuing 8 bovines in two separate incidents in. As per details, acting on a reliable information a party of Police Station Ghagwal while performing routine vehicle checking duty in Ghagwal area, signaled a Mahindra Pickup (JK02CS-7066) coming from Border road Rajpura - Ghagwal, to stop. During checking of vehicle, police found 4 cattle laden in it which were rescued. The accused driver namely Sunil Kumar, son of Krishan Lal, residnet of Deoli, Bishnah alongwith his associate Anil Choudhary, son of Tarsem Singh, resident of Nekowal, Suchetgarh were arrested on the spot and FIR No. 199/2021 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 of PCA Act was registered against them at Police Station Ghagwal.

Similarly in another incident, a party from Police Station Ghagwal arrested a bovine smuggler namely Harpreet Singh, son of Satnam Singh, resident of Bhopalpur, Pathankot and rescued 4 bovines which were being transported in a Mahindra Bolero (JK02CQ-8806). All bovines were rescued and shifted to safer place. The vehicle used for transportation of bovines was also seized on spot. In this connection, FIR No. 200/2021 under sections 188 of IPC, 11 of PCA Act was registered at Police Station Ghagwal.

### Grenade blast near Pathankot Army cantonment, alert sounded

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

PATHANKOT: A grenade blast occurred near gate of Army cantonment here following which an alert has been sounded in the border district, police said on Monday. No casualty was reported in the blast that took place on Sunday night, they said. Some unidentified persons on a motorcycle hurled a grenade in front of Triveni Dwar of the military area near Dheerapul, police said, adding they were verifying CCTV footage of area.

The CCTV footage is being analysed, Pathankot Senior Superintendent of Police Surendra Lamba said. Some parts of the hand grenade have been recovered from the site and a forensic team has collected samples, the SSP said. After the blast, an alert has been sounded in the district and vehicles were being checked at various points in and around Pathankot. Punjab Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa on Monday said he has called a meeting of senior officers of the Amritsar border zone and Jalandhar zone on Tuesday to review the law and order situation and security in the state. Pathankot Air Force base was attacked by terrorists five years ago.

### Infants' deaths due to spurious drugs: Govt releases compensation in favour of bereaved families

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Over 11 months after NHRC recommended compensations in a case related to infant deaths due to consumption of spurious drugs in Udhampur district, Jammu & Kashmir administration has released Rs 3 lakh each for 12 bereaved families.

Early this year, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) ordered the payment compensation to the families who lost their children in Ramnagar block between December 2019 and January 2020, observing that there is no denial of lapse in the case though the drugs department of Jammu and Kashmir does not want to "own the responsibility" for it. The complaint about the infant deaths due to the consumption of spurious drugs was lodged before the Commission by prominent Jammu-based social activist Sukesh C Khajuria.

In an order issued on November 16, the Health and Medical Education Department said in compliance to order passed by NHR, a sanction was being accorded to the release of Rs 36 lakh for 12 infant victims of spurious drugs in Ramnagar following approval by Administrative Council headed by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha in its meeting held on October 7. The department has ordered the release of the compensation amount to the State Drug Controller for further payment as a special and exceptional infant mortality case subject to the outcome of the Special Leave Petition (SLP) pending before the Supreme Court, the order issued by Additional Chief Secretary, Vivek Bharadwaj read.

Sharing the copy of the Government order here on Monday, Khajuria who fought for the victim families, said that it is only a small step in direction of providing succour to them and also a victory of common masses who suffer

called a meeting of the floor leaders of the Upper House of Parliament.

Similarly, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla is expected to call a meeting of the floor leaders in the Lower House on November 27.

### ANTF conducts raids...

to various parts including J&K UT." SSP Vinay said adding that pharmaceutical drugs like Codeine Phosphate, Spasmo Proxyvon, Tremadol are fast replacing traditional drugs like Heroin, Cocaine etc and their abuse has seen a rising trend amongst the innocent youths.

With the arrest of these two main suppliers and distributors, he said, ANTF has been able to break the main supply network of these kinds of drugs to J&K UT.

SSP ANTF appealed to general public particularly to youth to keep away from any kind of abuse of such kind of drugs. He further appealed to general public to share any kind of information regarding drug related activities with ANTF so that strict legal actions are taken against such drug dealers.

### One complex, 2...

Nagar under the Associated Hospitals GMC Jammu, superintended by the Medical Education Department. Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar GMC Jammu (Medical Education) has 200 bed four Operation Theatres and Labour Rooms, 14 bedded Emergency, Maternal ICU, NICU and PICU); new building (two basement, ground plus 4 floors), no OPD, diagnostics lacking (No CT scan, ultrasound, laboratories, only portable X Rays available), no Blood Bank; no Ambulances; space shortage for all services. Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar cannot run as independent comprehensive Hospital until and unless all the services are not provided in same complex..

Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar (Health) has 160 beds but not all functional, Old Building with dilapidated blocks, which need to be dismantled; connectivity problem, no scope of expansion; separate OPD complex (OPD Rooms, CT Scan, Laboratory, Digital X Rays Ultrasound etc); separate Eye Complex; there is least connectivity within the existing blocks; Insufficient circulation of public / traffic; useless thoroughfare of public from emergency to inside the hospital to cross over the roads; insufficient and improper parking; insufficient green space etc. The staff posted there is less and the hospital manpower is underutilized. A report submitted by experts had suggested to the government that by revising architectural plans, it can be converted into a future 500 to 1000 bedded Gandhi Nagar Hospital, in a phased manner.

The report had also proposed the old hospital buildings to be dismantled in phased manner; except for the OPD Complex, to built single horizontal multi- storied building with 2 basements for parking in extension to present 200 bedded Maternity Hospital Gandhi Nagar GMC Jammu.

The report further suggested that to run the present hospital till expansion in phases goes on, utilization of present OPD Complex can be ensured by mild renovations of the present complex, use of multi storied 200 beds of Maternity Hospital; present manpower --doctors, nurses and other staff--can be pooled and utilized.

With expansion, the problems of old and dilapidated buildings, insufficient circulation of public and traffic; useless thoroughfare of public from inside the hospital; insufficient and improper parking could be resolved.

The expert report also recommended, "Connectivity within the new single horizontal multi Storied blocks will be well established with the help of lifts, ramps and direct connectivity of all floors; there will be a large-scale increase in green space in front of the horizontal hospital building."

due to lack of medical care and official negligence day-in-and-day-out throughout the country. He said that J-K administration was forced to pay compensation following orders by the NHRC on January 18 and July 19 after the government challenged the initial order in the J-K High Court which, however, upheld the NHRC recommendations in the case. The case is a landmark in the history of judicial activism where the government has been ordered to pay compensation for the utter neglect and alleged callous connivance of the state drug authorities in checking the sale of spurious drugs in the remote mountainous areas, he said. The release of compensation amount has a rider of outcome of SLP of the J&K government in Supreme Court but I am confident that the apex court will also provide justice to infant victims, he added.

### 11 tourists injured in highway accident at Ramsu

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BANIHAL/JAMMU: Eleven tourists were injured on Monday when a private passenger vehicle overturned on Jammu-Srinagar national highway, police said.

The tourists from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh were returning from Kashmir when driver of their vehicle lost control over the vehicle due to a tyre-burst on reaching Ramsu in Ramban district, they said.

The vehicle turned upside down, resulting in injuries to tourists. They were rushed to a nearby hospital, the police said, adding that their condition was stated to be stable.

### Youth murdered over dispute in Samba

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

SAMBA: A youth was murdered over a dispute in Samba on Monday.

As per details, Ashu, resident of Ward No 7 Samba had an verbal dual with two brothers namely Sunil Khajuria and Anil Khajuria, sons of Kewal Khajuria, resident of Ward No 2, Samba following which he attacked both the brothers with sharp-edged weapon and fled away from the spot. The duo was shifted to hospital where Sunil Khajuria succumbed to injuries. Police has registered a case and launched manhunt to nab the accused. The incident happened near Samba police Station. The deceased was running a fast-food shop at Maharaja Hari Singh Chowk.

### Vaishno Devi pilgrim dies of cardiac arrest

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

KATRA: A Vaishno Devi pilgrim died of cardiac arrest near Bhawan on Monday.

As per details, Rajesh Kumar, son of Mahavir Prasad, resident of Kanpur, UP who came to Vaishno Devi shrine along with his wife to pay obeisance on his 25th wedding anniversary, fell unconscious at Adhkuwari temple premises and was shifted to nearby dispensary, where doctors declared him as brought dead. After autopsy, his body was handed-over to his wife.

### Man found dead in mysterious circumstances

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: A man was found dead in mysterious circumstances in Mendhar on Monday.

As per details, Riyaz Ahmed, son of Mohd Hussain, resident of Haramullah was found dead in his house under mysterious circumstances. His body was shifted to morgue and after autopsy, handed-over to family members. Police is investigating the matter.

### Two women among three killed in road mishaps

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Three persons including a girl and a woman were killed in separate mishaps on Monday.

As per details, Prem Kumar, son of Chajju Ram, resident of Sargal who was riding a bike, got hit by a car in Dyani area of Samba due to which he got injured and was shifted to hospital, where doctors declared him as brought dead.

In another mishap, a scooty rider was killed after she got hit by a truck in Digiana area. The deceased was identified as Rupali Soni, daughter of Ravi Kumar, resident of Bari Brahmana. Her mom was also got injured in the mishap, who was identified as Rekha Rani.

Meanwhile, Mangwal Devi, wife of Thoru Ram, resident of Swankha Morh also died after she got hit by a scooty in Gurha Morh area.

### Three inspectors transferred

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

POONCH: SSP Poonch on Monday transferred three inspectors.

As per an order, Insp Jitender Singh, SHO Surankote has been transferred and posted as Reader in SSP Office; Insp Farooq Ahmed from DPL to SHO Gursai and Niyyat Ahmed, SHO Gursai to SHO Surankote.

### Phone records of JeM associates under scrutiny

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Phone records of three persons, who were arrested by SoG in Nagrota with a cash amount of Rs 42 lakh on Tuesday last week, are being scrutinized as more than half a dozen phones were recovered from them.

It is pertinent to mention here SoG had arrested three persons with huge cash in Nagrota. Earlier, they said that they are apple traders and were bringing money from Punjab, but later it was ascertained that trio work for Jaish and their link with Nagru was also revealed. During interrogation, all three told that they are in touch with Jaish commander, who is currently in Pakistan through social sites and assigned them a task of bringing money from Punjab to help terrorists in Kashmir, as there was a shortage of money with terrorists active in Kashmir.



### Rs 22,500 fine recovered from SoPs violators in Ramban

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

RAMBAN: Continuing the enforcement drive to implement COVID protocol across the district Ramban, the Enforcement teams on Monday fined scores of violators for roaming without wearing face masks and not maintaining physical distance. The enforcement teams, during the inspection in their respective jurisdictions, recovered a fine of Rs 22,500 taking the total amount fined since April 1, 2021 to Rs. 66,81,500. The Enforcement officers urged the 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 915 persons were administered first and second COVID vaccine doses across Ramban district. As per daily bulletin issued by the Chief Medical Officer, Ramban, Dr. Mohammad Fareed Bhat, the Health Department has collected 1,630 samples including 362 RT-PCR and 1,268 RAT samples besides administering COVID vaccine to 915 persons at dedicated Vaccination Centres in the district.

### 3 drug peddlers arrested; huge quantity of contraband recovered

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

PULWAMA: Continuing its efforts to curb menace of drugs, Police in a series of actions have arrested 3 drug peddlers in Pulwama and recovered huge quantity of contraband substance from their possession.

Officers from Police Station Pulwama arrested 2 drug peddlers and recovered 130 Kg Poppy straw, 10 Kg Bhang Patri and a grinding machine from their possession. They were identified as Wasim Ahmad Ganaie, son of Mohd Rajab Ganaie, resident of Badriwan and Reyaz Ahmad Wani, son of Gh Ahmad Wani, resident of Bunagam Koiyal. Both arrested persons are notorious drug peddlers of the area and were shifted to Police Station where they remained in custody. Accordingly, FIR No. 318/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Pulwama and investigation started.

Meanwhile in another incident, officers from Police Station Pulwama arrested a drug peddler from Gudoora, Pulwama. He was identified as Ab Qayoom Mir son of Wali Mohd Mir resident of Gudoora. During checking, 16 Kg Poppy straw was recovered from his possession. He has shifted to Police Station where he remained in custody. Accordingly, FIR No. 317/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Pulwama and investigation started.

### Bootlegger arrested with illicit liquor

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BARAMULLA: Acting tough against social crimes, Police on Monday arrested a bootlegger and recovered 20 bottles of illicit liquor from his possession.

As per details, a party of Police Station Baramulla under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Baramulla at a checkpoint established at NH Khawajabagh intercepted a suspicious person, who tried to escape from the spot however, alert Police party tactfully apprehended him. He was identified as Harjeet Singh, son of Suraj Singh, resident of Singhbagh Baramulla. On checking, 20 bottles of illicit liquor were recovered from his possession. He was arrested and shifted to police station where he remained in custody. Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station and investigation started.

### 3 vehicles seized for illegal extraction & transportation of minerals

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

BARAMULLA: Police on Monday have seized 3 vehicles for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals.

As per details, a party led by SHO Police Station Pattan under the supervision of SDPO Pattan Mohammad Nawaz Khanday seized 3 vehicles (2 Tractors and a JCB) for illegal extractions & transportation of minerals at Aglar Pattan area of District Baramulla.

### Drug peddler nabbed with over 1.5 Kg Charas

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Jammu Police achieved major success by recovering 1 Kg 552 gm Charas from a drug peddler.

As per details, a team of Police Station Bahu Fort led by SHO Bahu Fort Insp Deepak Pathania assisted by In-Charge Police Post Bathindi PSI Mohd Ilyas during Naka checking at Sunjwan Morh, Bathindi rounded up a suspect who tried to run away on seeing police. He was chased and subsequently overpowered by alert cops on duty. On search, 1 Kg 552 gm Charas was recovered from the possession of suspect, later identified as Zakir Hussain, son of Muzaffir Hussain, resident of Satrang Maidan Tehsil Mattan, District Anantnag at present Safa Valley, Bathindi Jammu. He was arrested and FIR No 376/2021 under sections 8/20 NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Bahu Fort. The overall arrest and recovery was made under the supervision of SP City South Deepak Digra. Further investigation of case is going on.

