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J&K's economy growing...

has quickened recently followed by recommendations of Apex Committee on holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors.

Structural and attitudinal changes are reflecting in productivity performance, adaptation of new technologies, expansion of public extension services and strengthening of infrastructure and operations, he added.

We have huge potential for processing, comparative advantage in several Agri-commodities and scope for mobilizing farmers through FPOs and SHGs to monetize produce, secure livelihood and standard of living for farmers and workers, said the Lt Governor.

Congratulating Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO) for developing Liquid Nano Urea aimed at reducing pollution and increasing crop production, the Lt Governor said Liquid Nano Urea is making a positive impact in J&K's agriculture sector.

IFFCO's initiatives, like training on the use of Nano Urea, battery-operated sprayers & spray-drones and declaring villages -Akalpur in Jammu and Y.K Pora in Kashmir Valley- as IFFCO Nano Fertilizer Model Villages, will surely complement the government's efforts in protecting and improving fertility of agricultural fields, he added.

Sinha observed that Dr Mangala Rai-led Apex Committee on Agriculture provides a futuristic roadmap for upliftment of the farming community and making agriculture sustainable and productive for the coming generations, especially for those involved in traditional and high-value crops.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor distributed incentives and awards to the progressive farmers. Exhibition and stalls were installed for extending information on various agriculture schemes and benefits to farmers.

Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, in his address said that 140 PM Kisan Samridhii Kendras will be established in phase-I in J&K in collaboration with IFFCO and fertilizer companies which will provide information, advisories and equipment required for farming, besides increasing interactions between agricultural scientists and farmers.

Prof JP Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu highlighted the steps taken and initiatives initiated for increasing farmers' income through increased production and reducing input cost.

Dr. U.S. Awasthi, Managing Director & CEO, IFFCO, threw light on the key features and benefits of Nano Urea in increasing farm productivity. He said that IFFCO is committed towards the service and welfare of farming community.

KK Sharma, Director, Agriculture, Jammu; Members of Jammu & Kashmir Advisory Board for Development of Kisans; representatives from IFFCO; farmers from different districts, besides officers and scientists of Agriculture department were present on the occasion.

13-member panel...

and Kashmir," reads an order issued by Piyush Singla, Secretary, General Administration Department.

According to order, the 13-member committee will be headed by Financial Secretary Home Department.

The other members in the committee include Administrative Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department; Administrative Secretary, Public Works (R&B) Department; Administrative Secretary Information Technology Department; Administrative Secretary Planning Development & Monitoring Department; Administrative Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department; Representative of Administrative Secretary Industries and Commerce Department; Representative of Administrative Secretary Revenue Department; Representative of Administrative Secretary Science and Technology Department; Special/Additional Secretary to Government, Housing and Urban Development Department; Sr. DDG, License Service Area, DoT, J&K; Chief Town Planner, Jammu/Kashmir; and Representative Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

Contract committee constituted...

awarding contract for execution of the project 'Construction Work of Government Medical College, Udhampur'," reads an order issued by Piyush Singla, Secretary, General Administration Department.

As per order, Administrative Secretary Health and Medical Education will be chairman of the committee.

The other members of the committee include Representative of the Finance Department; Development Commissioner, Works; Chief Engineer PWD (R&B) /Jal Shakti /PDD Jammu; Chief Engineer of Inspections, Quality Control and Designs; Chief Engineer, Mechanical Engineering Department, Jammu; Director Finance/ Financial Advisor, Health and Medical Education Department; Director/Joint- Director, (Planning), Planning Development and Monitoring Department; and representative from Industries and Commerce Department (not below the rank of Additional Secretary).

Counter-drone equipment...

platinum jubilee of the historic 'Poonch Link-up Day'.

The platinum jubilee of the Poonch Link-Up Day, commemorating the "Operation Easy" conducted by the Indian Army in 1948 to defend the border district from the invading Pakistani raiders, was celebrated with traditional gaiety and fervour by the people of Poonch and Army personnel.

Lt Gen. Dwivedi said terrorists are present in Jammu and Kashmir but despite planning to carry out an operation, they are not able to strike due to a shortage of weapons.

"We have installed counter-drone equipment at different places and are also looking at those places where drones were used to drop weapons. We have earmarked those places and are taking appropriate action so that terrorists cannot get the weapons," he said.

Sending a strong message to youngsters in the valley, Lt Gen. Dwivedi said they have to come forward and support the Army, which is doing its best to ensure a bright future for them.

"I want to tell the Kashmiri youth that whatever is here is meant for them and we will continue with our efforts for your bright future. You have to come forward and extend your support in this endeavour," the Army commander said.

He added that nobody benefitted by joining terror ranks over the last 30 years.

"There is no development across the border and see for yourself how India is marching ahead and is going to head G20," Lt Gen. Dwivedi said.

He said 35 per cent of those recruited by terror outfits are below the age of 20 years and 55 per cent are aged between 20 and 30 years.

"We have to focus on the education and upbringing of the youngsters, provide them an opportunity to move out and see the development in different parts of the country," he added.

The Army has already sent 1,800 students from Jammu and Kashmir to different states for education, Lt Gen. Dwivedi pointed out.

Earlier, remembering the supreme sacrifice of the soldiers and citizens of the region while defending Poonch, Lt Gen. Dwivedi, Lt Gen. Manjinder Singh, GOC, White Knight Corps, and other senior military and civil dignitaries laid a wreath at the Namansthal War Memorial.

The residents of the area, including a large number of serving and retired Army personnel, members of the civil administration and students, were present on the occasion.

"Poonch withstood a siege by Pakistanis from November 1947 till relieved by the Indian Army. The day marks the historic link-up carried out by Brigadier Pritam Singh's forces with Brigadier Yadunath's forces from Rajouri at Danna Ka Pir on November 21, 1948," a defence spokesperson said.

'300 terrorists active...

jubilee of historic 'Poonch Link-up Day' here.

Asked about the number of terrorists present on the launch pads in Pakistan, Lt Gen Dwivedi said around 160 terrorists are present across the Line of Control -- 130 in north of Pir Panchal (Kashmir valley) and 30 in south of Pir Panchal.

"As per our data, 82 Pakistani terrorists and 53 local terrorists are active in the hinterland, while the area of the concern is the criminal activities of 170 others who are not identified," he said.

Reacting to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's recent statement hinting at retrieving Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), Lt Gen Dwivedi said a parliamentary resolution exists on the subject, therefore it is nothing new.

"As far as the Indian Army is concerned, it will carry out any order given by the government of India. We are always ready for it," he said.

On the security situation in Kashmir, the army commander said it has undergone a major change after the abrogation of Article 370 and the civil administration is doing a great job to ensure peace and development and making sure terrorism is put on back seat.

"All the trend lines which were there, are coming down (post abrogation of Article 370), to the extent, and today peace and development has taken the central stage and there is a great space to meet the people's aspirations. The civil administration is doing a great job in occupying that space and making sure that terrorism is put on a back seat," he said.

Asked whether the terrorism has been controlled, he said, "Yes, to a large extent."

However, he denounced the targeted and selective killings and said it shows the frustration of Pakistan.

"The people from outside, the neighbouring country, are adopting other means like smuggling pistols, grenades and drugs to carry out minor actions -- targeting innocent and unarmed persons who have come here to earn their livelihood and support the Kashmiris," he said.

The army commander said it is very sad that such incidents are taking place but police, security forces and the civilians have come together and decided that they will not allow such acts to happen.

"Whatever is happening is very less and efforts are on to further reduce such types of incidents. Anyone who indulges in such types of misdeeds is getting appropriate responses," Lt Gen Dwivedi said.

HC Disciplinary Committee's...

to UNMOGIP Hqrs, at Srinagar. He was solely responsible for making High Court Bar Association as a constituent part of All Party Hurriyat Conference and drafting constitution of Bar Association, wherein it was provided in the aims and objectives to secure secession of J&K from Union of India. While recording his statement as witness in contempt petition No.11/2010 against Superintendent Kot Bhalwal Jail and others in High Court Srinagar on April 07, 2010, Qayoom challenged the Indian constitution and said, "I do not believe in the Constitution of India." A detailed investigation carried out the law enforcement agencies has said that in April 2005 Qayoom made a public statement openly supporting terrorists and said that armed struggle should continue till goal of Azadi is achieved.

In December 2007, he attended a seminar titled Qaid-e-Azam organised by Muslim league to commemorate birth of Mohammed Ali Jinnah. "In June 2008 Qayoom played a key role in instigating the people against the government during Amarnath Land row. In October 2008, he led a procession up to Lal Chowk raising slogans in support of freedom. In March, 2009, he said that Kashmiri people should be proud of 18 'Mujahideen' who sacrificed their lives at Kupwara.

Mia Qayoom and J&K High Court Bar Association in the name of free legal aid used to defend cases of all the terrorist and stone-pelters. Qayoom claimed that the assistance is given free of cost, however; reports contrarily suggested that Qayoom drew huge sums from Pakistan and terrorist organizations for fighting their cases. "Heading legal cell established and funded by Pakistan ISI, he along with battery of lawyers including Late Advocate Shafiqat Hussain he pleaded and secured favourable decisions in all cases pertaining to entities involved in terrorism and secessionism since 1990," Law enforcement agencies investigation had revealed.

The report had further observed that Ghulam Nabi Thoker alias Shaheen is known secessionist element.

"In February 2009, Ghulam Nabi Thoker alias Shaheen while speaking in a seminar asked self-styled separatist leadership to shun their differences and fight unitedly for seceding J&K from Union of India," the investigation has revealed.

Similarly, the investigators have unearthed wrongdoings of Advocate Nazir Ronga.

"Nazir Ronga openly expressed sympathies towards the terrorists and defended individuals accused of terror actions. During 2008 Amarnath Shrine Board land row, Ronga played an active role in provoking people. He had also threatened Advocates for appearing before courts during the Hartal call given by illegal bar association," the investigation has revealed.

Congress left no...

those votes. I hope you understand which votes I am talking about. But their time is now over and PM Modi's time has started. Rahul Baba (Gandhi), book a ticket to Ayodhya because a grand temple is going to be inaugurated on January 1, 2024," said Shah.

LeT module busted...

resident of Wangipora Sumbal and Suraya Rashid Wani alias Senty alias Tabish, resident of Wahab Parray Mohalla Hajin.

Two hand grenades and other incriminating materials were recovered from their possession.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the busted terrorist module was being handled by LeT terrorist commander Sanama alias Babar from PoK. The module was directed to carry out substantial attacks on civilians and security forces to instil fear in the minds of general public," the spokesman said.

They were also tasked to carry out a powerful IED blast at any crowded public place to cause maximum civilian casualties, he said, adding the arrests have thereby averted a major tragedy.

Additional Director General of Police Kashmir congratulated the joint forces for busting the terror module and averting a major tragedy. He also termed it as a big success in demolishing the terror infrastructure of North Kashmir.

Govt constitutes DLC...

Committee (DLBC) (Manager of Lead Bank; District Co-coordinator CSC e-Governance; Senior-Most District level officer of Nodal Department (For Aadhaar); Senior-Most District level officers of all the Government Registrars of UIDAI (One member each from School Education Department, Social Welfare Department, Health Department etc.); District Heads of India Post and India Post Payments Bank; Representative from UIDAI (appointed by Member DDG of concerned Regional Office of UIDAI); and Representative of District Magistrate (Not Member below the rank of Additional District Magistrate).

"The committee to assess requirement of additional enrollment and update centres and ensuring availability of enrollment centres in uncovered areas," reads an order.

It added, "The committee has been also tasked with to ensure Aadhaar saturation in all age groups and mandatory biometric updation of children; to ensure establishment of District/Sub-District/Block level ASKs by UIDAI, State/UT Registrar and CSC e-Gov; to ensure Implementation of Aadhaar linked Birth Registration (ALBR); to ensure progress in mobile update in Aadhaar; to enhance usage of Aadhaar in various Schemes and related issues and to monitor fraudulent activities related to Aadhaar."

Besides, the committee has been tasked with to monitor activities at Aadhaar

Enrollment Centres and compliance of related CRMs and grievances as well as any other issues as approved by the Chairman, it added.

Fate of J&K...

and it is the responsibility of the government to address their fear. They are our own people. The government should look at their issues on humanitarian grounds rather than administratively as their families are suffering," he said.

He said the assembly elections should have been conducted earlier and alleged that the BJP is enjoying a "proxy rule without any accountability."

"The prime minister and the home minister have made it clear several times that elections will be held in J-K, but it is BJP's J-K unit which is creating an obstacle and thus keeping the people away from a popular government," he alleged.

On the terror threat to journalists in Kashmir, he said those associated with the fourth estate should not be cowed down by such threats.

"I want to ask them not to be afraid. They (terrorists) are not going to harm you but you should report the truth," he said.

He said the G20 presidency is a proud moment for the country. "I am a citizen of this nation and it is a proud moment for every Indian as our country is marching ahead." Earlier, addressing the party workers, Bukhari reiterated his demand for the restoration of statehood to J-K and the holding of early assembly elections.

Union Ministers hand...

to enhance their knowledge, skills and competencies.

The 'Rozgar Mela' is expected to act as a catalyst in furthering employment generation and providing meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment as well as direct participation in national development.

Meanwhile, during this 2nd tranche of drive, around 71000 appointment letters (OOAs) including 7045 candidates of BSF were distributed across 45 locations all over India, including P'tr HQ BSF & STC BSF, Kashmir.

Union Minister of State for Finance, Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad presided over the function organized at BSF Campus Humhama. He was welcomed and received by Raja Babu Singh, Inspector General, BSF Kashmir followed by guard of honour and wreath laying ceremony at Martyrs Memorial.

More than 700 candidates have been appointed in the Kashmir region by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) including BSF, CISF and SSB. Out of these, 110 appointees were present in person to receive the appointment letters from Dr Karad. The 'Rozgar Mela' culminated with plantation of tree by Minister signifying the divine duty towards Mother Nature.

All Ministries and Departments have been directed to work towards filling up existing vacancies against sanctioned posts in Mission Mode. As part of the Mission Mode Recruitment Drive, a significant number of posts are being filled by the Ministry of Home Affairs in various CAPFs.

Incidents of drone...

has been developed on the border, along with security and surveillance gadgets, we are confident that we will not allow cross-border infiltration," the IG said.

He also said an anti-tunneling exercise is on and the force has got gadgets that will help it detect tunnels or any attempt to dig tunnels. The officer said peace is prevailing along the border with Pakistan for a long period. "For a long period, there has been peace on the border (in Jammu). There are no reports of any untoward incident," he said. The IG also said the force has got the full support of police and intelligence agencies. A Pakistani intruder was killed and another arrested as the BSF foiled their separate infiltration attempts from across the IB. The infiltration attempts were scuttled by alert troops in the Arnia sector of Jammu and the Ramgarh sector of Samba district in the early hours.

Infiltration bids foiled...

times not to move forward but he didn't pay any heed and kept aggressively moving toward the fence. "On this, BSF troops fired and neutralised the intruder and thwarted the infiltration attempt", he said. In the second incident, BSF troops observed suspicious movement along the IB in Indreshwar Nagar around 4.30 am.

"In this case, when the intruder tried to cross IB and come near the border fence, he was challenged. He raised his hands to surrender and was nabbed", he said.

Both incidents shows that attempts to engineer infiltration from across the border are on, he said. "They keep trying to see whether terrorists can be penetrated through into Indian territory by sending guides from across the border..But we will not allow any infiltration to take place", he said. Boora said the BSF is committed to safeguard the borders and will defeat the designs of the enemy to commit terror activities in the country.

Pakistan national held...

The Pakistan Rangers confirmed that the arrested person is mentally unfit and accordingly a flag meeting was held and he was handed over to them after completion of necessary formalities, the official said.

India among top...

Network International based in Germany.

The CCPI aims to enhance transparency in international climate politics and enables comparison of climate protection efforts and progress made by individual countries.

"India has been ranked amongst top 5 countries in the world, and the best among the G20 countries, based on its Climate Change performance," a power ministry statement said.

India jumped two spots, and is now ranked 8th as per the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI, 2023), it stated.

The latest report of CCPI, released at COP27 in November 2022, shows Denmark, Sweden, Chile and Morocco as the only four small countries that were ranked above India at fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh, respectively.

The first, second and third ranks were not awarded to any country. In effect, therefore, India's rank is the best amongst all large economies, it said.

e-office, Biometric...

Executive Engineer R&B Division III, Chief Accounts Officer, Anish Singh, Tehsildar/Camp Commandant Jagti Inran Naik, AEE, JE R&B, TO Relief and other technical staff was also present on the occasion.

Secretary inaugurated the e-office by forwarding a file to the office of RRCM, J&K from Camp officer portal and termed it a big achievement as the process of shifting from manual to e-mode has proved to be quite hassle free medium with quick disposal in a time bound manner. He added that process of roll over to e-mode will be completed in all the zones and camps of the department shortly and thereafter no manual file shall be accepted. He also witnessed the installation of Aadhaar based biometric attendance system in the camp office and said that it will be a revolutionary step in bringing the officers/officials of the department under the ambit of single window attendance checking system. Secretary also inspected various ongoing works at Jagti township along with their physical and financial status. He inaugurated the black topped newly constructed road from jagti to cremation ground.

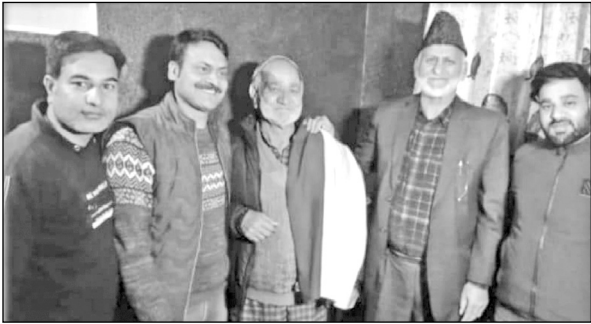
He directed the concerned department to expedite the pending works with in fixed time frame. He directed to check the quality of work on regular basis and said no compromise shall be tolerated on quality parameters besides the pace of work.

Directions were also passed with regard to removing encroachment on public places, cleanliness of the township, maintenance of parks, renovation of office building besides many other works of prime importance.

Secretary and RRCM interacted with the public, listened to their grievances and directed the concerned officers present there to resolve the issues on priority.

Later, the officers visited Nagrota Camp and had a brief review of the status of works going on alongwith reviewing the condition of the quarters.

Azad party will emerge victorious in J&K: Saroori



Former Minister G.M Saroori along with new entrants of Azad Party at Kishtwar.

want to work for political stability, unity between various religions and peace and progress in Jammu and Kashmir". Saroori said with the joining of political activists

into the party across the J&K, our party will be further strengthened at the grassroot level and play its designated role towards the well-being of the people and heralding

a new era of hope.

Saroori said that Azad party will emerge victorious in the J&K and win majority of seats whenever Assembly election will be held. He appealed the people to support Azad party for the betterment of the far flung areas,

urging the people to support Azad party for their secured future, added that only Azad party has a vision for development that in real sense will open new opportunities of employments for this region.

Saroori was flanked by Shabir Ahmed Lone and others.

PM Modi constantly seeks to create new avenues of livelihood for youth: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has constantly sought to create new avenues of livelihood and government jobs for the country's youth, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said Tuesday.

In his welcome address at the 'Rozgar Mela' at the Chhawla BSF camp here, he said, the welfare of the youth, women, the backward classes and deprived sections of the society always remained the top priority for the prime minister.

Prime Minister Modi on Tuesday distributed 71,056 appointment letters to new

recruits via video conferencing. Physical copies of appointment letters were handed over at 45 locations across the country, except Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh where the Model Code of Conduct is in force.

"Right from the beginning, PM Modi has given the highest priority to the related to the youth and has constantly sought to create new avenues for livelihood, government jobs and income for them," said Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel.

Expressing satisfaction that after the distribution of 75,000 appointment letters on October 22, as many as

71,000 appointment letters were given on Tuesday under the Rozgar Mela, he promised that very soon his department will come out with the next instalment of appointment letters to meet the target of 10 lakh government jobs in next few months.

Following the prime minister's directions, all ministries and departments are working towards filling up existing vacancies against sanctioned posts in mission mode, the minister said.

It was Prime Minister Modi who had, a few months ago, promised the nation that he would soon provide 10 lakh government jobs for

the youth, he said, adding, "Once again, it is evident the prime minister does what he says and has the capacity to make everything possible."

Singh hoped these young recruits in the government will have the opportunity to contribute to the process of national building over the next 25 years.

The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in furthering employment generation and providing meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment as well as direct participation in national development, said a statement issued by the Personnel Ministry.

