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LG calls for...

industry-academia connect and building new partnership with corporate. The meeting also discussed the comprehensive strategy for the seamless integration of entrepreneurship into academic curriculum and creation of progressive entrepreneurship ecosystem spearheaded by Design Your Degree programme. Pioneers in the industry including Piyush N Singh, Senior Managing Director Accenture; Vinod Sood, Co-Founder Hughes Systique Corporation; Sanjay Salil, MD Media Guru; Dr Subi Chaturvedi, Global SVP Chief Corporate Affairs & Public Policy Officer InMobi and young entrepreneurs Aditi Kakar and Garima Sipani- Co-founders Timoniyo Design also attended the meeting and shared their valuable suggestions and inputs on promotion of startups and entrepreneurship in Jammu Kashmir.

Ram Temple consecration...

will be closed for half day till 1430 hours on 22nd January 2024," it said in the order issued to all central government ministries/ departments. When contacted, Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh told PTI that the decision has been taken in view of the "overwhelming" public sentiments. "There was a huge public demand across the country regarding this. Decision on half-day closure of central government offices on January 22 has been taken in view of overwhelming public sentiments," he said.

BJP Core Group...

to the dream of Prime Minister of forming BJP govt in Centre with improved number than last elections . Party is thankful that it is led in elections by tallest leader not only of India but whole world who has put India in position of World leader by his untiring efforts and Visionary politics . Elections being fought in Modi Era has put Party workers to elated position and leadership of JK BJP was called upon to remain focused on winning all seats "Time has come for people of Jammu and Kashmir to come out of dividing politics of NC , PDP and Congress which has misled and politically blackmailed people of Jammu and Kashmir for their pity political gains . Time for people to stand with Modi and Bharatiya Janata Party and be part of National movement of development and well being ,said official head note released to press by Chief Spokesperson of J&K Bharatiya Janata Party Sunil Sethi.

Police attaches property...

working as a terrorist associate (OGW) and was providing food, shelter and other logistic support to terrorists identified as Asif Reshi @ Khubaib, son of Mohd Yaseen Reshi, resident of Sheikhpora Marhama and Wakeel Ahmad Bhat, @ Talha, son of Abdul Ahad Bhat, resident of Nai Basti Marhama (both killed in encounter) at his residential house and thus it falls within ambit of 'proceeds of terrorism' under section 2(g) r/w section 25 of UAP(P) Act 1967," he said.

He said the attachment of property was sanctioned by the competent authority.

Threat to INDIA...

still time," he said. Abdullah said parties should seek seats only where they are dominant and it was wrong to seek seats where they are not. He said not only is democracy in danger, the future generation will also not forgive us. "That challenge is before us. If we do not leave our ego aside to join hands to think how to save this country, I think that will be the biggest error on our part," he said. The NC chief said the alliance members recently met in a hotel in Delhi where it was agreed that not much time is left. "We discussed that one such person should be there who can bring everybody on board by sidelining our differences. If we have to save the country, we will have to forget differences and think about the country," he said. Abdullah said last time TMC leader Mamata Banerjee was not ready to share seats with the Left but this time she offered that the Left can contest from where it can win. People issuing statements against her are widening the differences, he said. "Why are you seeking seats where you cannot win," he said. Sibal asked that "these people (BJP) take the name of Lord Ram but do not follow his ideals" to which Abdullah said "Ram Rajya means equality for all. We are

also waiting for Ram Rajiya to come". "Lord Ram was 'vishwa ka Ram' and I hope that Ram Rajya will come one day," the NC chief said.

CS for ensuring...

in our approach. The meeting was attended by Secretary, RDD; DG, Rural Sanitation besides other concerned officers of the Department. He advised to conduct a study of all the assets created across the villages of the UT to evaluate their utilisation in their respective areas. He stressed on their proper upkeep and maintenance for their operational readiness round the year. He urged the department to evolve a roadmap to receive the real time information about the utility of these assets in these villages.

Dulloo assured the concerned that the LG administration would extend all possible assistance for maintenance of these rural assets. He asked them to come up with a suitable plan for their optimum use and operation to make sanitation a hallmark of our villages here.

Regarding the promulgation and execution of carbon neutral plan for the Panchayats of the UT as envisioned by the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary upheld that interdepartmental coordination and synergy should be shown to make it successful. He also encouraged them to conduct the survey of the villages by experts to estimate the carbon these villages produce and the possible remedial measures to be taken there.

In his presentation the Secretary, Rural Development Department, Shahid Iqbal Choudhury gave an in-depth description of the measures and achievements registered by the department in implementation of the mission. He revealed that all the 6650 villages of the UT have been declared ODF+ in August last year after complying with the guidelines for the same.

He further apprised the meeting that both the Solid Waste and Liquid Waste Management in these villages have been upgraded and drainage facilities provided to the villages either: It was revealed that a total of 2,36,137 SWM assets, 923331 assets for Grey Water Management (GWM), 80 Plastic Waste Management Units (PWMU), 7 Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants and 3 Gobar Dhan Plants including 17,20,765 individual household latrines (IHHLs) have been raised by the department in rural areas.

Moreover it was given out that the department has created 28,077 IHHLs and 565 CSCs as per the demand from districts during current financial year. It was informed in the meeting that the department is in a process of establishing 8 Gobar Dhan Biogas plants in the UT besides completing 76 more PWMUs which would take the tally to 218 blocks for taking care of the plastic waste generated there.

While discussing the carbon neutral Panchayat project it was said that the energy emission format was prepared in coordination with the Department of Environment, Ecology and Remote Sensing with inputs from IIT Delhi, IIT Jammu, Kashmir University, and Jammu University. In addition the pilot project for declaring Palli in district Samba a Carbon Neutral Panchayat was also discussed.

It was said that this Panchayat has been provided with 10 Biogas plants, 1 Govardhan plant, distribution of solar cookers, planting 25000 trees, introduction of organic farming, constructing an Amrit Sarovar, organising catch the rain campaign, crop diversification and other clean energy measures had been initiated by the department there in convergence with others.

Further the finalization of Energy Emission Template for other Panchayats, development of an online portal for conducting surveys based on energy Emission format, Capacity Building of field functionaries under RGSA for conducting the surveys, calculations of Emissions and formulations of Panchayat wise carbon neutral plans were also discussed in this meeting.

J&K insurance ‘scam’...

between August 23, 2018, and October 30, 2019. It was found during investigation that the finance department of J&K "deliberately" awarded the tender for engagement of Intermediary (insurance broker) for designing and floating the tender for and implementation of the said health scheme for government employees and pensioners by "dubious or questionable" selection/shortlisting process to TRBL without holding the essential eligibility criteria, the ED alleged. "Moreover, the tender for engagement of IRDAI registered insurance company was awarded through TRBL to the said insurance company (RGIPL) which was

already blacklisted by the Chhattisgarh government by modification and deletion of essential eligibility criteria even though the said company had less presence in the (erstwhile) state of J&K and bare minimum experience, as pre requirement of the said tender, during the stipulated period," it said.

This way, the agency claimed, an amount of Rs 63.53 crore was "fraudulently" disbursed to the above companies.

Out of this amount, the medical claims of about Rs 17 crore have been disbursed by RGIPL, it said.

The agency has attached fixed deposits valued at Rs 32.53 crore of RGIPL and a land worth Rs 4.04 crore in the name Globus Trade Links Pvt. Ltd., a subsidiary of the TRBL as part of this probe. The total value of these attachments is Rs 36.57 crore, the ED said.

Light diyas, celebrate...

new idol of Lord Ram was placed Thursday afternoon in the sanctum sanctorum of Ayodhya's Ram Jambhoomi temple, ahead of the consecration ceremony set to take place on January 22.

The 51-inch Ram Lalla idol, sculpted by Mysuru-based sculptor Arun Yogiraj, was brought to the temple the previous night.

On Thursday afternoon, it was placed in the grabha griha, Arun Dixit, a priest associated with the consecration ceremony, told PTI.

This was done amid the chanting of prayers, according to the Shri Ram Jambhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the January 22 'pran pratishtha' ceremony at the temple, which is expected to be opened to the public the next day.

Rituals leading up the consecration ceremony have already begun at the temple, constructed at what many devout believe marks the spot where Lord Ram was born.

In 1992, kar sevaks demolished the Babri Masjid that stood there.

A historic Supreme Court judgment in 2019 on the temple-mosque dispute paved the way for the construction of the temple.

AC extends several...

generation. Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor; Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Mandeeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to LG attended the meeting.

The policy envisages incentives in the form of reimbursement of 100% 'Stamp Duty' on the purchase of land, reimbursement of 100% of 'Change of Land Use (CLU) Charges' and 100% reimbursement of 'Registration Charges' on sale deed.

The same is going to provide a level playing field to genuine private developers and upcoming unit holders in such estates in comparison to incentives given to unit holders allotted land in government run Industrial Estates (IE). Besides, it will improve the business environment in the UT of J&K.

Approximately 2000 kanals (250 acres)of land shall be developed per year through private industrial estates. Timelines for issuance of documents by the revenue authorities and notification of procedural guidelines for reimbursement of incentives have been incorporated in this policy.

In such Private Industrial Estates where Government Land is involved, the allotment of said land shall be subject to terms and conditions mentioned in the J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy 2021-30.

Transfers land for...

Development of industrial infrastructures has been the focus of special attention during the last few years. In the perspective of industrial growth, Industries & Commerce Department has been established with a system for carrying its activities effectively to attract investment in the UT of J&K.

More than 31000 Kanals of State/Shamilat land has been transferred to Industries and Commerce Department w.e.f October 31, 2019 till date for setting up of Industrial Estates in UT of J&K.

Man injured by...

System (AIOS) and sustained injuries on Wednesday, it said. The army troops rescued the deer from barbed wires in injured condition, they said. The deer was provided necessary medical aid and later handed over to the wildlife protection department for further necessary procedure that include it's release in natural habitat.

SKUAST-J demonstrates drone technology for agriculture

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technologies Jammu (SKUAST-J) conducted demonstration and educated farmers on drone technology in agriculture here today at Sirah village of Reasi district of J&K which was attended by a number of farmers of the area. The programme was organized under the dynamic stewardship of Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.N. Tripathi and guidance of Director Extension, Prof.Amrish Vaid of SKUAST-J.

The programme was coordinated by the Principal Investigator (PI) of the project, Dr.Sanjay Khajuria, Sr.Scientist & Head KVK, Samba and Sr.Scientist, Directorate of Extension,

SKUAST-J, Dr.Pawan Sharma. The major objective of the programme was to create awareness among the farmers and guide them on the agri-drone technology. Sr. Scientist & Head of KVK, Reasi, Dr.Banarsi Lal warmly welcomed the participants and said that smart farming is the need of the era and urged them to adopt the new innovations in agriculture. He informed that drone technology is beneficial for the farmers as it can spray chemicals within a short time in maximum area. He further said that agri-drones sprays uniformly and saves about 80-90% of water and pesticide cost .He explained the benefits of spraying chemicals and their dosages with the drones. He added that drone technology is very effi-

cient and useful technology as it 80 per cent of labour and chemicals cost. He also discussed on natural farming and stressed on the cluster based approach for the adoption of natural farming in the area. DDM NABARD Reasi, Adarsh Gupta spoke on various banking schemes for the farmers and appreciated the efforts of KVK, Reasi for welfare of farming community. Dr.Lalit Upadhyay said that drone technology is helpful to minimize the inputs cost on various crops. He expressed that drone can revolutionize the agriculture and horticulture industry. Sh. Avinash Jha guided farmers on the importance of drone technology and explained the features of drones. He said that with drone farmers can use the

minimum chemicals and save time. Jeet Singh CEO, Maa Vaishno Devi Lemon Grass Farmers Producers Organization Ltd. stressed on the commercial cultivation of lemon grass for more profits in monkey affected areas. Experts demonstrated the drone technology in the farmers' fields. Farmers were highly impressed by the demonstration of technology and they were convinced to adopt it. Tilak Raj, an awardee farmer of KVK Reasi was also present during the programme. Farmers appreciated KVK, Reasi for organizing such a useful programme. Programme was concluded by Manohar Lal with formal vote of thanks.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: A three-day National Workshop on Research Methodology and Current Research Trends has been inaugurated at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The workshop is being organized by the School of Languages and Literature in collaboration with the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University. The workshop has been designed to meet the academic requirement of the research community with the intention of knowledge-building on the fundamentals of research concepts, methodology and research process, particularly for the researchers working in



Participants during the workshop at SMVDU.

the area of humanities and social sciences. Dr. Anurag Kumar, Head, School of Languages and Literature delivered the opening remarks in the inauguration session.

Chief Guest of the occasion, Prof. Paragati Kumar, Honourable Vice Chancellor;

in his address, emphasised that the researcher must follow the research ethics while conducting the research and must not compromise on the quality of the research and research ethics. While, keeping in mind the time constraints to finish the research.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Prof. Supran Kumar Sharma, Director, Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, SMVDU, who highlighted the need to follow the NEP 2020 guidelines.Prof. A. K. Das, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Guest of Honour advised the participants in his address to make appropriate use of the available resources.

The workshop is being convened and coordinated by Dr. Amitabh Vikram Dwivedi and Dr. Isha Malhotra respectively.The Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of the School of Languages and Literature in conducting this workshop.

DC Rajouri lays foundation stone for Jhulla Bridge at Argi in Dhangri Block



DC Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat laying foundation stone for the much-anticipated Jhulla Bridge.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In a significant development for the region, Deputy Commissioner Rajouri, Om Prakash Bhagat, laid foundation stone for the much-anticipated Jhulla Bridge at Argi, spanning over Dalhori Nallah. This vital infrastructure project, estimated at a cost of 9.5 lakh, aims to enhance connectivity and accessibility in the area.

Executive Engineer of the Rural Engineering Wing (REW), Zahir Khan, shared insightful details about the project. Notably, the construction is anticipated to be concluded by 31st March, marking a milestone towards the development of

local infrastructure.

The significance of this initiative extends beyond the construction itself, as it is poised to bring about a transformative impact on the lives of residents in seven villages located in the vicinity. The completion of the bridge promises to facilitate smoother commutes and improved connectivity, fostering economic and social development in the adjoining areas.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed optimism about the positive impact this development will have on the lives of the local population, ushering in a new era of connectivity and accessibility for the region. He highlight-

ed the significance of the bridge in improving connectivity and accessibility for the local residents and stressed the commitment of the administration to meeting the infrastructural needs of the community for inclusive growth in the region.

Deputy Commissioner emphasized the importance of completing the Jhulla Bridge project well before the set deadlines. He directed the concerned officer to expedite the construction process in order to provide necessary benefits to the public as soon as possible.

As the wheels of progress set in motion, the Jhulla Bridge project stands as a testament to the dedication of the administration to foster inclusive growth and addressing the infrastructural needs of the community.

Among others, the Executive Engineer Rural Engineering Wing, Zahir Khan; Block Development Officer Dhangri, Heena Kouser; concerned officers and locals were present on the occasion.

Man held for posting derogatory remark on social media

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A man has been arrested for allegedly posting derogatory remarks on social media in Kishtwar district, officials said.

The action was taken by police in response to a complaint filed by a journalist, they said.

Acting promptly, an FIR has been registered at Kishtwar Police Station under relevant sections of the law, they said.

The Cyber cell conducted a raid and arrested the accused, they said.

SSP Khalil Poswal issued a warning to the public urging them to refrain from engaging in illegal activities on social media platforms.

He emphasised that legal actions will be taken against those violating the digital code of conduct.

Delegation of SS Jain Sabha calls on Lt Governor

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of S S Jain Sabha, Jammu led by its



Sabha members calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

President Pankaj Jain called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, ON Thursday.

A delegation of Jewellers Association Jammu also called on the Lt Governor.

DDC Reasi finalises arrangements for R-Day celebration

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: District Administration Reasi finalized the arrangements for the celebration of Republic Day 2024, here at a meeting chaired by District development Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan held in the Conference Hall of DC office complex.

The meeting decided that the main function will be held at the General Zorawar Singh Sports Stadium, where the chief guest will unfurl the National Flag, while similar functions would be held at sub-division and Tehsil levels also.

The celebration of the National Day event will start with the playing of 'Shehnai Vadan' at Mini Secretariat Complex by District Information Centre Reasi.

The DC issued directions with regard to the arrangements viz security, traffic management, cleanliness and sanitation, seating arrangement, drinking water, power supply, Medicare facilities, refreshment, arrangement of prizes, road clearance, arrangement of fire tenders, distribution of invitation cards etc.

The Chief Education Officer was directed to ensure arrangements for the March Past, cultural programme for the Day.

Security agencies were instructed to ensure fool-proof security arrangements at all the venues where functions in this regard will be held across the district. Heads of departments were also instructed to organise march past / rally of their respective departments showcasing their schemes and allied

activities for the general public.

It was also given out that the contingents of JKP, CRPE, NCC, students from educational institutions will participate in the march past parade. Besides various cultural programmes would also be part of the celebrations

The Municipal Committee was entrusted with cleanliness in and around the venue and in the town as well and Tricolour illuminating of key areas viz Main Market, prominent Chowks, Bhim Ghar Fort along with their official Building. ADC Reasi Abdul Star, CPO Sumita Kanchan, ACR Anshumali Sharma, PO Poshan Mohd. Anwar Bandyar, CEO, ARTO, DIO (info), Dy:SP Hqrs, Neeraj Padyar and officers of line departments were also present.