

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! J&K creates record...

Panchayats of J&K UT and J&K Bank will provide Rs. 1384 Crore to set up new units and Startups, the Lt Governor observed. We will provide training and supportive infrastructure to create sustainable employment for more youth in these units, he said.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the achievements registered in saturation of Kisan Credit Card across the Union Territory.

"Under Ghar-Ghar KCC Abhiyaan, about 2 Lakh farmers provided with Kisan Credit Card to ensure they have access to reliable, adequate and affordable credit. I see a new revolution is under way in Agriculture and Allied Sector that will construct new pathways for prosperity of Jammu Kashmir," the Lt Governor said.

While appreciating the Bank's contribution towards social development projects in the UT under its CSR initiatives, Lt Governor underscored the scope for input credit in Agriculture and MSME sectors to help farmers and youth for creating employment opportunities besides attaining self-sufficiency.

He directed the J&K Bank to achieve saturation in Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyaan, Stand-Up India and Startups.

We have a lot of expectations from J&K Bank and I expect Bank to devise campaigns to take Financial Literacy programs to a vast portion of the population. Under Back to Village and My Town My Pride programs, the banks must strive to achieve the envisaged target for extension of financial assistance to enterprising youth, he observed.

"As we embark on a path of renewed economic and social development in UT, Banks, especially J&K Bank, will have to ensure economic needs of farmers, youth and women are catered to with people-friendly schemes aimed at creation of employment and livelihood opportunities not only for the beneficiaries but those associated with them as well," the Lt Governor said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor handed over Insurance Claim Settlement cheques to the legal heirs of the deceased Government Employees covered under the Bank's Group Personal Accidental Insurance. He also felicitated successful entrepreneurs and farmers financed by the Bank.

The Lt Governor launched the Kisan Sathi Chatbot, an AI-based farmer-friendly application of the Agriculture Production Department. Pertinently, J&K bank has also contributed Rs 40.27 Lakh under its CSR initiative for the chatbot application.

Two cheques worth Rs 3.35 Cr and Rs 3.84 Cr under J&K Bank CSR Programme were handed over to representatives of Jammu Smart City and Srinagar Smart City, respectively, for construction of e-bus bays/passenger sheds for the convenience of commuters. J&K Bank's other CSR initiatives also include commitment letter to the Administrative Secretary, Department of Health and Medical Education for providing 120 Patient trolleys and 120 wheelchairs to all the district hospitals of J&K UT, handing over of cheque worth Rs 26 Lakh for two transport ambulances to Principal Government Medical College Jammu and Rs 34 Lakh for one critical care ambulance to Director SKIMS. A cheque of Rs 24 Lakh was presented to the Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare; Rs 69.73 Lakh cheque to Seva Bharati representative; a cheque worth Rs 11 Lakh to Vice-Chancellor Central University of Jammu and Rs 12 Lakh to Vice-Chancellor University of Jammu under various heads. Two corporate movies themed upon Bank's 'Ghar-Ghar KCC Abhiyaan & Swarozgar Utsav' and CSR Initiatives were also screened on the occasion.

Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary; Shailendra Kumar Principal Secretary Agriculture Production Department; B. Sridhar, CGM NABARD; Baldev Prakash, MD and CEO J&K Bank and other senior officials were present.

SC gets new...

apex court following the retirement of Justice S K Kaul last month.

Justice Varale's appointment came within a week of the SC Collegium recommending his name. "In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Prasanna Bhalachandra Varale, Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, to be a Judge of the Supreme Court of India, with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office," a law ministry notification read.

Republic Day 2024...

Sport Council. The cultural items depicted, national integration, unity in diversity, harmony and composite culture of Jammu Kashmir UT, Government initiatives besides featured patriotic songs, folk music and dance.

Tableaux on themes Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, Aajeevika se Atma Nirbharta, Har Ghar Nal Se Jal, Khelo India, Vimalam Gramam- Swachhata aur Vikas ka Sankalp and PM SHRI highlighted initiatives and achievements of the Government.

Senior officers from UT administration, Nodal officers and the In charges were also present.

Jammu people urged to pay water Tax by March 31, 2024

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: PHE City Division No.1 Jammu has urged the people to deposit Water Tax Dues before online or through J&K Bank Deposit by March 31, 2024. "It is for the information of general public (i.e. area falling under the jurisdiction of PHE City Division No.1 Jammu) that please ensure to deposit their water tax dues before 31.03-2024 online or by J&K bank deposit. The online deposits can be made on our portal www.jkphedwaterbilling.com" a communiqué issues here stated. It further stated that the consumers can get the computerized bills from the respective sub-divisions i.e Dhouthly, Bakshi Nagar, Muthi (New Plot) and Sitlee.

Farooq, Omar leave for Saudi Arabia for Umrah

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar Abdullah, both former chief ministers of Jammu and Kashmir, have departed for Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah, also known as the "minor Haj". Omar Abdullah, the National Conference vice president, posted a picture of his father with him in a flight on various social media platforms. "O Allah, I intend to perform Umrah, so make it easy for me and accept it from me," posted Omar. Both NC leaders were draped in 'ehraam', two pieces of unstitched cloth draped by Muslim pilgrims while performing Haj and Umrah.

Tennis talent series in Jammu from Feb 5

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Part of the initiatives of the J&K Lawn Tennis Association to revive the game in the Union Territory, an All India Tennis Association (AITA) Talent Series Under-16 (TS7) shall be held at MA Stadium, here.

The event shall take place from February 5 to 9, 2024 at the MA Stadium tennis courts. Those interested AITA registered players can submit their entries by 2 pm on February four; a handout issued by the Association here today informed.

Wanted drug supplier among five arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Five criminals, including a wanted drug supplier, were arrested with heroin worth Rs 28,000 and weapons in Samba district on Wednesday, police said.

While the drug peddler, Farman Ali alias Munna, is wanted in several cases, the other four criminals allegedly aided heroin smugglers in their business, they said.

Acting on specific information, a police team conducted a raid and arrested Ali for transferring Rs 4.5 lakh to a Punjab-based drug smuggler in exchange for heroin, they said. Police said they also recovered cash amounting to Rs 1,29,000 and heroin worth Rs 28,000 from him.

Ali was operating from Balole Khad in Jammu and Kashmir and supplied heroin to small drug peddlers. Several cases are registered against him, they said.

Four hardcore Punjab-based criminals, who aided heroin smugglers, were also arrested in Samba with sharp-edged weapons and cash worth Rs 1.15 lakh, according to police.

A separate case has been registered against them under the Arms Act, police said.

They said the accused have been identified as Shubham alias Shubi, Sukhchain Singh alias Bobi, Bablu alias Rocky, and Mohit Sharma, all from Amritsar.

Chugh slams Farooq...

development and progress in J&K which has brought about basic transformation in the culture. It is time Muftis and Abdullahs are cast into oblivion and the people start seeing a new sunrise in J&K," he said.

The BJP leader emphasized the need for the people to recognise and reject those driven by personal interests.

Former legislator and BJP spokesperson Girdhari Lal Raina mocked National Conference leader Omar Abdullah's statement equating Jammu and Kashmir with the party, deeming it laughable and indicative of entitlement over merit.

"Indira (Gandhi) is India syndrome that defines sycophancy on one side and arrogance of entitlement on other seems to have badly hit the National Conference like its alliance partner Congress party these days," Raina told reporters here.

Reacting to Abdullah's remarks in Jammu last week, Raina said, "We feel astonished over the statement equating J&K with the National Conference. It is laughable and smacks of the sense of entitlement instead of any merit."

He highlighted the disconnect between the National Conference and the evolving aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Raina urged the citizens to comprehend the language of conceit, duplicity and fickleness displayed by the political parties.

"Citizens of J&K are mature enough to understand the language of conceit, duplicity and fickleness of the political parties that change their stance on even serious issues without any hesitation or remorse. The NC is disconnected with people," he said. Raina reminded the public of the National Conference's numerous transformations and suggested that equating the future of Jammu and Kashmir with the outdated party was a gross mistake. He called upon the people to reject dynasts, sycophants and opportunists, advocating support for the BJP under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

Pakistan making continuous...

desperation of handlers from across the border to create disruption here, the DGP emphasized on the field formations to have a serious look into the inputs shared by different agencies and take all the necessary measures accordingly ensuring that subversive attempts are foiled. He stressed for revisiting the security measures in place at vulnerable places and persons.

The DGP directed for further strengthening the human intelligence system besides effective use of modern tools in tracking down the terrorists. He also directed to identify the technology being used by terrorists and prepare the counter strategies accordingly. He directed for identifying and smashing new forms of terror modules with simultaneous actions within the parameters of law.

He directed officers to go through a detailed review of all the threat scenarios in their respective areas. He emphasised on fixing responsibility in a detailed manner by the senior officers to the on-field personnel in order to ensure peaceful conduct of republic celebrations.

The DGP stressed on strict monitoring and subsequent action against the terror support system. He directed for creating special monitoring to identify each and every element providing any support to terrorists.

He also directed the officers to ensure optimum security arrangements at all the venues across Kashmir by making effective use of all the available resources.

The meeting was held at the Police Control Room Kashmir in which officers from Police, Army, CRPF, BSF, SSB, CISF and other sister agencies participated.

Threadbare discussions were held on security of vulnerable areas, persons and places during the meeting. Intelligence gathering, area domination, Naka checking, and security of sensitive places/venues remained the central focus of the meeting.

The participating officers gave feedback regarding the security scenario in their respective jurisdictions besides, the security measures being adopted and implemented for the Republic Day. ADGP CRPF J&K Nalin Prabhat, ADGP L&O J&K Vijay Kumar, GOC Kilo Force Major General Mohit Seth, GOC Victor Force Maj General Balbir Singh, IG CRPF (SOS) Srinagar Ajay Kumar Yadav, IG CRPF (KOS) Srinagar GK Verma, IG BSF Kashmir Ashok Yadav, IGP Kashmir VK Birdi, DIG SSB Kashmir Intiaz Ismail Parry, DIG CKR/NKR Vivek Gupta, DIG SKR Rayees Mohammad Bhat, DIG CID Altaf Ahmad Khan, DIG IRP Kashmir Abdul Qayoom, DIG Armed Kashmir Shahid Mehrab, DIG Traffic Kashmir Javaid Ahmad Koul, BGS (Ops) 15 Corps Brig Manoj Joshi, SSP Srinagar Ashish Mishra, SSP PCR Kashmir Showket Ahmad Shah, Security Kashmir Sheikh Faisal Qayoom, SP SOG Srinagar Talib Ifitkhar, Second in Commandant ITBP Manohar Singh Rawat attended the meeting in person while ADGP Armed J&K SJM Gillani, AIG CISF Shri Anoop Sinha, all district SSSP of Kashmir zone attended the meeting through Video conferencing.

Scheam India signs...

the development of rural areas in the Union territory, JKDCF Chairman Vikrant Dogra said. "The MOU will explore opportunities for creating dairy start-ups in

areas like Rajouri-Poonch, Reasi-Udhampur, Kishtwar-doda, Baramulla-Kupwara and other distant locations and help encourage startup culture in rural parts of Union territory," he said. The fund will be utilised by cooperatives (FPOs) to build projects for switching over from conventional methods of farming to smart farming by introducing Artificial Intelligence, Greenhouse farming, drone technology and solutions, he added. Scheam India Chairman Ajay Chowdhary emphasized that the current MOU will serve as a platform and hand-holding support for the emerging Farmer Producers Organizations (FPO) ecosystem in JKUT, fostering a robust rural economy.

Union Cabinet hails...

the new era," the resolution said.

A Union Minister, who attended the meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said it was an emotional moment for the entire cabinet as they felt blessed to be part of the council of ministers that was witness to the Pran Pratishtha ceremony of the Ram Temple at Ayodhya.

"This temple has been built to last for 1,000 years. The work has been done to give a direction for a new India for 1,000 years. It would not be an exaggeration if we term this Union Cabinet as the Cabinet of the Millennium," read the resolution that was adopted at the meeting.

It noted that the tide of emotions reflected by the sea of humanity witnessed across the country on the day of Pran Pratishtha was unprecedented.

"We had seen this kind of unity among the people during the Emergency. But, that was a movement against a dictator. The people's movement witnessed for Lord Ram is heralding a new era," the resolution said.

It said the people of the country had to wait for several centuries and with the Pran Pratishtha of Lord Ram at the grand temple, this people's movement became one that heralded a new era.

"This people's movement has emerged as one that sets a new narrative," it read. It said for members of the Union Cabinet, this was not just a once-in-a-lifetime moment, but an opportunity that comes once in several lives.

"We are fortunate to be part of the country's highest committee -- the Cabinet -- at this moment in time," the resolution read.

"We, the Cabinet ministers, thank Prime Minister Modi under whose leadership Ram Mandir Pran Pratishtha took place.

"The dream that Indian civilisation was seeing for the past many centuries has been fulfilled now," the resolution read.

GoC 15 Corps...

Director General of Police R R Swain on Tuesday said cross-border infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir remains a challenge for the forces, but the security situation is under control. "Yes, it is a challenge for us that a few terrorists are coming in from outside. They are infiltrating and then along with some people here, they try to vitiate the atmosphere. It is a challenge - one which we see with a different perspective.

"We see it the way that our own boys are not joining them, or a smaller number of them are. A few people can be with them, but a majority of the public is not. We keep that in mind when we say that we have control over the security (situation)," Swain said.

Cold wave intensifies...

which serves as one of the base camps for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a minimum temperature of minus 6.3 degrees Celsius.

They said Qazigund town in south Kashmir recorded a low of minus 5.4 degrees Celsius and the ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 4.8 degrees Celsius.

The minimum temperature in Kokernag town settled at minus 2.3 degrees Celsius and in Kupwara at minus 5.3 degrees Celsius.

A dry and largely snowless winter in Kashmir has resulted in freezing nights and warmer than usual days as Srinagar day temperatures were over eight degrees above the normal temperature for this time of the year, officials said here.

Kashmir has been going through a prolonged dry spell and a 79 per cent deficit in rainfall was recorded for December while there has been no precipitation in most parts of the valley in the first three weeks of January.

There has been no snowfall in most plain areas of Kashmir, while the upper reaches of the valley have received lesser than usual amount of snow.

The weather office, however, has forecast the possibility of light snowfall at places in the valley from January 25 to January 31.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of 'Chilla-i-Kalan', a 40-day harsh winter period, when a cold wave sweeps the region and temperatures drop considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies as well as water in pipes.

The chances of snowfall are the highest during this period and most areas, particularly the higher reaches, receive heavy snowfall. 'Chilla-i-Kalan' will end on January 31. However, the cold conditions will continue after that with a 20-day 'Chilla-i-Khurid' (small cold) and a 10-day 'Chilla-i-Bachha' (baby cold).

Yasha Mudgal joins Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra at Bari Brahmana

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Commissioner Secretary Tourism, Yasha Mudgal, led the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' on Wednesday at Municipal Park, Bari Brahmana, Samba.

The event commenced with inspection of stalls set up by various departments by the Commissioner Secretary. She interacted with the officers and locals to assess the showcased initiatives at these stalls.

An important aspect of the yatra, the IEC Van disseminated awareness about the diverse government schemes, followed by screening of Prime Minister's visionary message for Viksit Bharat.

Commissioner Secretary administered Sankalp pledge to all the participants who vowed to contribute diligent-



Commissioner Secretary Tourism, Yasha Mudgal participating in 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' at Samba.

ly towards India's development. Under the 'Meri Kahani Meri Zubani' segment, the beneficiaries shared success stories of benefits availed by them under schemes like PM KISAN, KCC, PMAY, PM-JAY. A special emphasis was laid on availing benefit under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) and using Daksh

Kisan Portal. Later, the School girls of the Government institutions presented captivating cultural performances on the theme of 'Dharti Kahe Pukaar ke'. Commissioner Secretary felicitated outstanding female sportspersons, quiz champions winners and cultural performers. She also handed over Home stay registration certificate to the

eligible citizens besides felicitating the beneficiaries of HADP.

In her address, Commissioner Secretary emphasized that "Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra aims to ensure the benefits of flagship schemes reach all eligible citizens, focusing on their saturation. By creating awareness through the IEC Van, the government is aiming to provide services to the citizens at their doorsteps, she added.

Speaking on National Girl Child Day, Commissioner Secretary said that essence of the event lies in empowering girls, providing them equal opportunities for independent decision making.

The event concluded on a note of empowerment and commitment towards a developed India.

DGP visits Victor Force; lauds synergy between forces

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police R.R Swain on Wednesday appreciated the efforts of forces and the synergy between them, emphasizing on improving it further by taking it to next level at the staff as well as on the operational front.

During his visit to Victor Force Awantipora in South Kashmir, the DGP said that the peace achieved in Jammu and Kashmir after the sacrifices of hundreds of officers and jawans of all forces need to be protected, improved and established forever.

He was received by the GoC Victor Force Maj General Balbir Singh and other army officers.

The DGP, J&K was accompanied by ADGP Law & Order J&K Vijay Kumar, DIG South Kashmir Range Rayees Mohammad Bhat

and AIG Training & Policy Manoj Kumar Pandith.

During the visit, security scenario, challenges and measures to maintain the prevailing peaceful atmosphere in South Kashmir was discussed.

GOC Victor Force Maj General Balbir Singh on this occasion gave a detailed presentation regarding the present security situation of his area. He highlighted the teamwork of Army, Police and CAPFs in maintaining the peace & order. He also shared measures to counter any attempt of reviving the terrorism or terror eco-system by means of area domination and conducting operations on a regular basis.

The DGP also visited the Police Training Centre, Lethpora, in Awantipora and addressed the darbar of the trainees, faculty and other

staff of the training centre.

He also conducted a comprehensive inspection and expressed appreciation for the progress made at the facility.

He was received by Principal SSP Tanveer Jeelani and was presented a guard of honour on his arrival.

Addressing the Darbar, the DGP appreciated the efforts of the Principal Training Centre and his team in providing quality training. He appreciated the instructors for their unwavering service of transforming a raw persons into best personnel.

Emphasizing the importance of endurance, knowledge, and attitude in the field, the DGP urged trainees to work towards building steady peace and ensuring public safety wherever they perform their duties after

completion of training. He said that there is no better force than JKP for performing duties here as no one knows the topography and demography better than JKP.

Urging for sustained efforts to make the Lethpora Training Centre one of the best in the country, the DGP said that providing best training facilities to its officers and jawans is a top priority of the Police Headquarters and for that every necessary support will be provided to the training institutes. ADG L&O Vijay Kumar stressed on the importance of teamwork within the force as well as with other forces. Success often relies on collaborative efforts and effective communication among team members.

He advised the trainees to

reinforce the importance of maintaining a high level of professionalism at all times, both on and off duty that includes appearance, conduct, and communication.

He encouraged trainees to learn new good things when they go on field from other forces as learning is a continuous process especially for personnel who have to perform their duties according to the situations. He stressed for quality policing service so as to further strengthen the bond with people.

Principal Lethpora Training Centre Tanveer Jeelani in his welcome address gave the details of the training programs being offered to the trainees, underscoring the institute's dedication to maintaining high standards.

During the visit, DGP J&K took a thorough tour of the

training centre, acknowledging the development achieved and issued directives for increased support to elevate it to one of the premier training centres.

The DGP also distributed cash rewards among trainees, staff and instructors during the interaction.

NOTICE

Disputed Land

The Land 5 Kanal 9 Marla under Kharsa No. 2006/708 situated at Kilam Bozgam Tehsil Devsar District Kulgam, Kashmir belongs to 'Shiv Ram' S/o Gulab Ram, Prathvi Nath S/o 'Shedhar' and others is disputed among these partners. So it is informed to general public not to purchase or sale the said land.

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