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Barriers to businesses...

for Housing & Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri for revolutionizing the real estate sector in J&K.

The multiplier effect of the first-ever Real Estate Summit in J&K will be felt across the entire UT in coming years, added the Lt Governor.

Highlighting the key features of the Model Tenancy Act which was adopted today by the government, the Lt Governor said that the Act has been prepared with the objective of balancing the interests and rights of both, the landlord and tenant, and to create an accountable and transparent ecosystem for renting the premises in an efficient manner.

Owning a house is the dream for everyone and we are making a committed effort to bring it into reality. The launch of many portals including RERA portal, Housing Portal, integrated auction portal will facilitate a transparent and accountable framework in Real Estate Sector. Such initiatives will help both Developers and Homebuyers as one-stop portal for all their needs, said the Lt Governor.

We have also launched three Housing Schemes today under which about 1000 EWS apartments (under PMAY) and another 150 MIG and HIG apartments are being launched. Many more would be launched in the coming months, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said that the regressive land laws were amended providing relief to many sectors from farming to industries, education, real estate, hospitals and IT. Several progressive policies and procedural reforms have been implemented on the ground. The best single-window Clearance System and every possible support of the government will be ensured to facilitate the investors, he added.

Recently, we have made changes in the Land Use Policy so that the companies eager to set up industries do not face the problem of land, said the Lt Governor.

Despite being endowed with immense natural wealth, business opportunities and excellent human capital, the progress of the industries in J&K were stalled. Since, 5th August 2019, J&K is undergoing a massive transformation, and Industries from all over the country are seeing Jammu and Kashmir as their preferred destination for investments and business ventures, observed the Lt Governor.

Efforts of Prime Minister and Home Minister are yielding favorable results with the new Industrial Development Scheme attracting huge investments in J&K. Within a year, we have received the proposals for investment worth Rs 44,000 crore. By March 2022, we will be able to bring an investment of Rs 60,000 crore to Jammu and Kashmir, said the Lt Governor.

In Jammu and Kashmir alone, Rs 1 lakh crore is being spent on highways, tunnels, and related infrastructure, due to which the nature of urban infrastructure will be completely transformed within two-three years, added the Lt Governor.

Union MoS (I/e), Ministry of Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Atomic Energy & Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, in his address, said that J&K is now entering the mainstream journey of PM Modi's New India & the first-ever 'Real Estate Summit' today is one of the important links to connect it to mainstream India.

Speaking on the occasion, Durga Shanker Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), said that a paradigm shift in terms of development has been witnessed in every sector in J&K. The real estate sector will create a plethora of opportunities for the people of the UT in terms of employment, investment etc, he added.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K, during his address, said "Good connectivity, clean air, robust infrastructure, and lowest crime rate makes J&K an ideal investment destination".

Niranjan Hiranandani, Vice Chairman NAREDCO India noted that - Incentivization by the Central and the UT Government will go a long way in accelerating the real estate growth in Jammu & Kashmir.

Signing of MoUs will help in exploring new opportunities in untapped locations which hold huge potential for future real estate development in the UT, said Rajan Bandekar, President, NAREDCO.

In his welcome address, Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary, HUDD, J&K highlighted the growth potential of real estate in J&K.

On the occasion, the Government of J&K signed an MoU on skilling with the National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) under which NAREDCO will 10,000 thousand workers in various skills of the construction industry-electrical, plumbing, masonry, carpentry, and the likes.

A coffee table book capturing the true essence of the new J&K was also released.

The Real Estate Summit- 2021 is organized by the Department of Housing & Urban Development Department, Government of Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

Chander Mohan Gupta, Mayor JMC; Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor SMC; Surendra Kumar Bagde, Additional Secretary, MoHUA, Advisors to Lt Governor, Administrative Secretaries, Divisional Commissioners, senior officers, investors and real estate developers from across the country attended the summit at Convention Centre.

MHA issues fresh...

already been reported in 116 countries. Further, surge in cases is also being reported across various countries, especially in the US, the UK, Europe (France, Italy, Spain), Russia, South Africa, Vietnam, Australia, etc.

In the MoHFW advisory of December 21, Bhalla said a normative framework has been provided and with distinct presence of the Delta variant and detection of Omicron cases in many States, there is need for greater foresight, data analysis, dynamic decision making, and strict and prompt containment actions at the local and district levels, based on the assessment of the situation.

The home secretary said on December 23, Prime Minister Narendra Modi reviewed the status of COVID-19, Omicron VOC and preparedness of health systems across the country. After review, the prime minister has directed that everyone should maintain a high level of vigil and alertness.

After review, the prime minister has directed that everyone should maintain a high level of vigil and alertness. The state governments should ensure that the health systems in the States are strengthened to meet any challenge posed by the new variant, Bhalla said.

State governments and UT administrations should ensure that oxygen supply equipment are installed and are fully functional and the buffer stock of essential drugs maintained, he said.

"I would like to reiterate that all the States and UTs must observe all precautions,

Rathkhade Mela remains low key affair



Devotees in queue to pay obeisance at Narsingh Temple.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBAA: Due to Corona infection, the people who came to the Rathkhade Mela which organized in the famous Shri Narsingh temple, returned disappointed. The Rathkhade Mela held every year in the historic Shri

Narsingh temple of Ghagwal in Sambaa district was affected for the second consecutive year due to the corona epidemic.

Due to corona restrictions, people who reached fair in mini buses from the hilly area of Bani, Basohli, Himachal,

stood in the lines for hours wearing masks and had Darshan of Shri Narsingh Bhagwan. At the same time, traders selling hot clothes from the hilly area in the market were not allowed by the administration this time.

DDC Ghagwal Suresh Kumar, who is also the head of the business circle, said that the safety of people's life and property is our priority, in such a situation, people have made purchases in the fair following all the rules. SDRM Ghagwal Ramkesh Sharma, SHO Ghagwal, Inspector Rakesh Sharma and admin officials made elaborate arrangements for the fair.

Bravery of Sahaibadas, sacrifices of Sikh Gurus unparalleled in history: Ravinder

STATE TIMES NEWS
SUNDERBANI: Former MLC and Chief Spokesperson JK Congress Ravinder Sharma said that the bravery of Sahaibadas and sacrifices of Sikh Gurus is unparalleled in the history of mankind.

Addressing a religious con-

gregation to commemorate the supreme sacrifices of Sahaibadas of Guru

Govind Singh at Gurudwara Sahib Thandapani, Sharma said that the great sacrifices of Sikh Gurus while fighting against tyranny of rulers, saved the multi religious character and established freedom of religion in our country.

The bravery of Sahaibadas and sacrifices of Sikh Gurus in the fight against injustice and tyr-

any of cruel rulers of the times, has no parallel in the history of mankind. Our head bows before the martyred Sahaibadas and Sikh Gurus for their supreme sacrifices and the entire mankind is indebted to them for generations to come, who draw a lesson of fighting against religious injustice and for freedom to profess your own religion, he added.

Army organises short skill development course for mobile repairing



STATE TIMES NEWS
NOWSHERA: Rumlihdara battalion under the aegis of Nowshera Brigade started a short skill development course for mobile repairing under Op Sadhbhavana for the local youth. The 21 days long course aims to arm the youth to be self employed and

explore opportunities in future. Total 15 local youths of five remote villages from Nowshera have enrolled for the course. The course will arm this youth for self-employment by providing training, kit and certification from National Computer Education Institute (NCEI).

patient-care and many related problems. Patients coming from remote areas of Kashmir as well as from Jammu division are facing many unavoidable problems due to shortage of essential medical items and medicines in this reputed hospital. A proper notice in this regard was issued by the administration of the Institute,

"As conveyed by the concerned employees, some of the items are not available in the central store and the pharmacy sections for supply to the patients. The patients and the attendants are advised to buy these items from the open market to avoid any inconveniences to the patients."

The items not available in the hospital included urine bags, 10ml syringe, drip sets, surgical gloves and some medicines as well.

"All items from tablets to syringes are to be purchased from the open market. Even some small items required during surgery are not available in the hospital. The Institute is facing such crises for the first time and reason is simple the Director SKIMS Dr AG Ahangar is in his chair without powers," sources told STATE TIMES

The STATE TIMES correspondent visited the hospital and found that patients were really suffering due to dearth of some medicines. The X-ray machine in the OPD block was non-functional, thousands of patients were suffering due to some issues while Director Finance SKIMS contradicted the allegations and said those claiming that SKIMS is in a very bad situation have their own interests and the allegations are completely wrong.

However, the ground reality was totally different and patients were in deep pain.

Ethnic cleansing of...

decades, saying silence of convenience by activists and self proclaimed liberals explodes their duplicity and double standards. He even questioned the selective silence of the UNHRC which remains at tenterhooks on each and every issue. He also took on the people, attributing the exodus to, what they say, conspiracy hatched by a former Governor, asking why Pandit Prem Nath Bhat was martyred on this day in 1989 when Jagmoahan was not in the scene at all. He said such allegations unfortunately provide shield to Pakistan and her lackeys who perpetrated the exodus under a well-knit strategy rolled out by General Zia-ul-Haq in his notorious and infamous Operation Topaz.

Subjecting Kashmiri Pandits to acquisitions is like sprinkling salt to their wounds, he observed, lamenting this should not have happened to the civilised community whose contribution to intellectual and educational emancipation to societies and generations has been immense.

The BJP leader lauded the grit and determination of the Kashmiri Pandits, saying they showed the entire world how pessimism in the wake of their engineered wilderness can be transformed into optimism by achieving excellence in the most competitive world. It is heartening that the enterprising boys and girls of the community have made their intellect and presence felt in the corporate sector globally.

However, he agreed that the situation is not so rosy as many KP youth are struggling for sustenance even now. The society and the government at large have to chalk out a strategy to ensure better living conditions for these hapless youth and the displaced families. He said the Centre seems to be taking several initiatives in this regard, adding that socio-economic empowerment of the community is impossible without political empowerment. He hoped this would merit consideration by the designated authorities.

Paying his homage to the martyr, Pt Prem Nath Bhat, the BJP leader said his supreme sacrifice will serve as an inspiration for the younger generations to love the land of Rishis and Munnis, which was a peaceful abode and beautiful vase of flowers of different colours. He exhorted the community to unite for getting their redressal of their legitimate concerns.

Other prominent persons who were present were Justice (Retd) BK Bhat, Chairman, Roshan Lal Pandita, Vice-Chairman, S.K. Kabri, Secretary, S.L. Koul, A.K. Raina, B.L. Bhat, K.L. Bhat, Prof. Thrisal, Prof. A.N. Sadhu, P.K. Raina, Kiran Watal, Som Nath Khajuria, Dharamveer Singh Jamwal and Sucha Singh.

Eight PDD officials...

AE, TLMD-I, Janipur, Jammu; Hakim-ud-Din, AE, JKSPDC, Srinagar; Mohd Ali, AE, JKSPDC, Srinagar; Mohd Khan, AE, JKSPDC, Srinagar; and Gurmeet Singh, AE (Civil), JKPDC, UHEP Plant have been deputed to Union territory of Ladakh.

"These officials shall report in the General Administration Department, Union territory of Ladakh for further posting and shall be entitled for incentives, which may be made available to such employees," the order added.

Slight respite from...

of 2.2 degrees Celsius Sunday night up nearly four degrees from the previous night's minus 1.8 degrees Celsius.

They said Qazigund, the gateway town to the valley, recorded the minimum of 1.2 degrees Celsius.

The nearby south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of minus 2.3 degrees Celsius.

The mercury in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Paahalgam, which serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath yatra, recorded a low of minus 4.1 degrees Celsius down from minus 3.8 degrees Celsius the previous night.

The mercury in Gulmarg settled at a low of minus 6.0 degrees Celsius -- 1.5 degrees up from the previous night.

Moderate to light snowfall has been reported from most parts of north Kashmir and south Kashmir including Gulmarg, Sonamarg and Paahalgam tourist resorts.

Kashmir valley is currently under the grip of the 40-day harshest winter period known as 'Chilla-i-Kalan' which began on Tuesday.

'Chilla-i-Kalan' is a period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies including the famous Dal Lake here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley.

The chances of snowfall are the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy to very heavy snowfall.

The 'Chilla-i-Kalan' will end on January 31, but the cold wave continues even after that in Kashmir with a 20-day-long 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) and a 10-day-long 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

YSS Kishtwar hosts Folk dance competition ahead of 25th National Youth Festival

STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: A Folk dance competition was organized on Monday by the Sports Department Kishtwar here at BVM School wherein students from different zones participated.

Talented folk dance group from zone Padder under the supervision of I/c ZPEO Ram Loki, was selected by the judges Madam Avani, Incharge Cultural Officer, Sanjeet Sharma (renowned musician), Bharti ji (PEM) and Susheel Kumar (PET).

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest, District Youth Services

and Sports Officer Kharati Lal Sharma congratulated the winner team & said that team will now participate in inter District UT level competition to be held at Jammu.

The team, if it qualified the UT level competition, will represent the J&K UT in the 25th National Youth festival-2022 which is schedule to be held at Pondicherry from 12th January 2022 to 16th Jan 2022, he informed. He further said that the National Youth Festival will be organised across the UT to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. He said an

annual gathering of youth featuring string of activities will be held to promote national integration, communal harmony, brotherhood & encourage the youth to take part in activities.

The DYSSO Kishtwar thanked the judges & Principal BVM for their cooperation.

Later, Javed Iqbal Sheik, anchor of the event thanked all participants and sports fraternity present on the occasion.

Others present were I/c ZPEOs, Suresh Parihar, Om Parkash, Kelash Kumar and Shahnawaz Hussain.

He further threw the light on the objectives of this special NSS camp and asked the volunteers to be in selfless services towards the society spreading more and more awareness regarding social welfare.

On the occasion Prof. Zaheer Abas Zia, NSS Programme officer along with NSS Volunteers formally welcomed the worthy principal and also briefed about the various activities to be executed in this special NSS camp. The formal vote of thanks was presented by Palk Tara student of BA V semester.

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