

# 90,000 jobs created by KVIB across J&K in 2021-22: LG



Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha chairing a meeting of J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the performance achieved under various schemes being implemented by the J&K Khadi and Village Industries Board, at the Civil Secretariat.

During the meeting, the Lt Governor also discussed the future course of action of KVIB and the Industries department to exploit the full potential of the micro industries sector, besides creating a host of employment opportunities for youths in rural areas.

The Lt Governor called upon the functionaries of the Board to enhance the impact of demand driven programmes for maximum benefits to the citizens, besides

revising targets under different schemes as per the response received from public. 'It is our responsibility to make the Board a valuable contributor to the overall progress of the J&K UT', he added.

It was informed that KVIB has recorded its highest ever performance in job creation under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

In FY 2021-22, till 25th Dec, KVIB against the target of 26,000 jobs generated 90,000 jobs across J&K, providing impetus to Aatma-Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan & Vocal for Local, the Lt Governor remarked.

The Lt Governor noted that the UT administration is taking steps for the upgradation of products manufac-

tured by KVIB Units.

"Our thrust is to support Cottage and Village industry, strengthening traditional art and creating sustainable employment for artisans", he added.

The Lt Governor called for further strengthening the efforts to improve entrepreneurial ecosystem among women, weaker and marginalized section. He issued instructions for onboarding maximum nationalized banks for extending benefits under J&K Rural Employment Generation Programme (JKREGP).

Explicit directions were also passed to ensure Aadhaar seeding of the beneficiaries, issuance of Artisan Credit Card to eligible beneficiaries, besides taking regular feedback from the bene-

ficiaries of various schemes.

The Lt Governor instructed the officials for conducting an Information, Education & Communication campaign to reach out to the maximum population with the working of Khadi & Village Industries Board and the Industries department to showcase how the initiatives and schemes are transforming the lives of ordinary citizens.

Earlier, Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, VC, J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board gave a detailed presentation on the programmes/schemes being implemented by the

Board to provide continuous and sustainable employment to a large segment of traditional and prospective artisans, rural and urban unemployed youth for their better livelihood, besides the future activities of J&K KVIB.

The chair was also briefed about the efforts made by the KVIB for facilitating ex-Servicemen and Veer Naris.

Discussion was also held on establishment of Scheme of Funds for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) Clusters; Khadi Plaza; besides implementation of J&K Urban Employment Generation Programme, and other important issues.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor; RK Chhibber, Chairman J&K Bank; Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary; Anoo Malhotra, Director Industries & Commerce Jammu, besides other concerned officers were present during the meeting.



## Anti-terror operations would continue with more intensity to consolidate peace in UT: DGP

*Dedicates upgraded Operations Command vehicles to Jammu Zone*



DGP J&K, Dilbag Singh flagging off operations command vehicles.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Director General of Police J&K, Dilbag Singh on Tuesday said that anti-terror operations would continue with more intensity to consolidate the peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

This was stated by the Director General of Police while dedicating operations command vehicles, equipped with upgraded modern technology and with additional safety features to Jammu and Kashmir Police in a flag off ceremony held at District Police Lines Jammu. These vehicles named as 'Black Panthers' will be used in operations.

"To fight the terrorism and secure the peace and tranquility in J&K is a continuous process and anti-terror operations would continue with more intensity to consolidate the peace in Jammu and Kashmir," police chief said adding that back to back successful anti-terror operations have been conducted in south

Kashmir in last few days.

Speaking to the media, the DGP said that the modified and upgraded version of command vehicles is equipped with all modern gadgets with additional safety features and surveillance systems.

"With the help of the surveillance system installed in these vehicles we would be able to monitor the whole area to a large extent and activities around it during any emergent situation," he said.

Citing the example of Nagrota encounter, the DGP said that the command vehicle used during the encounter proved extremely useful in neutralizing the terrorists efficiently.

"To augment the efficiency and capabilities of our dedicated force, the vehicles have been provided to all ranges of Kashmir Zone," The DGP said adding that in Jammu zone, the vehicles have been provided to Jammu District and in future the vehicles would be

provided to other Ranges of Jammu zone as well so that any emergent situation is dealt with firmly.

He said that J&K Police is planning to provide these vehicles to all districts in both Kashmir and Jammu Zone.

The DGP also inspected the upgraded version of the Operation Command vehicles which have been upgraded with additional safety features and surveillance systems.

The vehicles are fully Air-conditioned, equipped with 14 CCTV cameras, PTZ Camera, 360 degrees view camera, Public address system, flashlights, advanced medical kit, power backup and other security systems.

ADGsP M.K Sinha, Danesh Rana, IGP CIV PHQ Alok Kumar, SSP PCR Jammu Dr Haseeb Mughal, SSP Jammu Chandan Kholi, AISG of PHQ, Commandants of Jammu Based Battalions and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

## Crackdown over encroachers by forest team, 2 structures demolished

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A team of Jammu Forest Division with the assistance of police and district administration in an anti encroachment drive, demolished two Pucca structures on forest land in Forest Compartment No. 04/Bathindi and retrieved back four 150 kanal of forest land.

The operation was conducted by forest team under the supervision of Anup Kumar Soni, DFO Jammu.

The team of forest officials was led by Rakeshwar Singh Rana, Range Officer Bahu, along with Salamat Ali Block Officer Chowadhi, Rakeshwar Singh Kurhan Block Officer, Bahu, Maqbool Hussain Block Officer, Bajalta and anti-encroachment team.

Anup Kumar Soni said that the encroachers raised illegal structures on forest land in Compartment No. 04/Bathindi of village Bathindi.

Further, upon the



Forest employees demolishing illegal structure on forest land.

request of Forest Department, Shridhar Patil, SSP Jammu deployed a police party headed by SDPO East, Sajjad Sarwar and SHO Trikuta Nagar who provided assistance for the operation.

Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Anshul Garg also deputed Duty Magistrate to supervise the law and order situation. During operation, two illegal Pucca structures constructed on forest land were demolished and 150 Kanal of forest land vacated.

He added that evicted forest area was properly fenced to save it from any further encroachment. Moreover, despite resistance from the encroachers the operation was conducted smoothly.

Meanwhile, senior forest officials including PCCF J&K, Dr Mohit Gera, CCF Jammu Ramesh Kumar and CF East Circle Jammu, B. Mohan Dass appreciated the efforts of the staff and directed to take all the measures to prevent encroachment on Forest land.

## Congress celebrates 137th Foundation Day

## Bhalla cautions party workers about challenges of time



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla hoisting party flag during Foundation Day function.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: PCC Working President Raman Bhalla has urged the party leaders and workers to unite in fighting dictatorship and protecting the country's democracy, Constitution and the countrymen. Cautioning the party workers about the challenges of the time before the nation, Bhalla said that Congress Party has to play a bigger role to foster brotherhood and unity amongst the people of different faiths and religions in view of certain political opportunists forces creating hatred and division in the society, which is detrimental to the unity and integrity of our country.

Bhalla was speaking in the function to celebrate the 137th Foundation Day of the Congress party at PCC headquarters, Shaheedi Chowk, here. Bhalla also hoisted the party flag in the presence of senior leaders and large number of party workers.

The function was organized by Congress Seva Dal led by its Chief Shri Vijay Sharma in coordination with PCC and DCC Jammu Urban. The tra-

ditional salute and the National Anthem was sung by all Congress leaders and workers present on the occasion including Corporators, functionaries of PCC, DCC, Block and Frontal Wings like Youth Congress, NSUI, prominent among them include Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma; General Secretaries PCC Yogesh Sawhney Incharge DCC Jammu Urban, Th. Mamohan Singh, Shahnaawaj Choudhary, Kuldeep Raj Verma, Uday Bhanu Chib and others.

"But Congressmen have not fallen behind in achieving their goals of getting India's freedom and in the service of the country, despite taking lathis, going to jail and giving their supreme sacrifices," he said, adding that the grand old party has helped lay the country's strong foundations. "Congress party will rise to every occasion when there is a challenge to the Constitution of India and any effort to derail the country from its path of progress amidst unemployment and fall of economic gloom," Bhalla said. "Today, once again the circumstances are similar to

those existing before independence. The rights of people are being crushed, there is dictatorship everywhere, democratic and constitutional institutions are being finished. Unemployment is at its peak, farms and fields are being attacked. In such circumstances, it is our responsibility to save the country from such dictatorship and fight it. This is true patriotism," Bhalla said. He marked the occasion by highlighting his party's pledge for "truth and equality" and said that "Congress has been committed from the beginning to raise the voice of the nation".

On Congress Foundation Day let us celebrate & acknowledge the selfless service & contributions of millions of Congress workers, men & women, who have helped build & sustain the Congress party over the ages. We owe these unsung heroes our gratitude & respect, observed Bhalla. He referred to the historical role of the Congress party, said that it is the sole party which is a unifying force and can ensure equitable development and balanced treatment to all three regions of the state and meet the challenge posed by the communal and divisive forces.

He said that the Congress party shall continue its struggle for early restoration of statehood and democracy in Jammu and Kashmir and to safeguard the right to lands and jobs for the youth. He appealed to the party workers to expose the false and malicious propaganda of the opposition parties and strengthen the Congress party for the better future of youths.

## BJP welcomes real estate summit, criticises NC-PDP for 'misleading' people

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Welcoming signing of 39 MoUs by the Jammu and Kashmir administration with the country's real estate investors, the BJP on Tuesday accused the National Conference and the PDP of issuing misleading and baseless statements linking the productive initiatives with attempts to alter the demography of the union territory.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday opened the union territory to the country's real estate investors by signing 39 MoUs worth nearly Rs 19,000 crore for the development of housing, hotel and commercial projects.

Senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta welcomed the maiden J-K Real Estate Conference in Jammu.

There is a dire need to create an optimum congenial atmosphere in this terrorism-infested region for the bright future of our youth, he said.

Gupta said the most positive aspect is that investors from across the country and even abroad are evincing keen interest to invest in a variety of sectors in Jammu and Kashmir.

It is after the abrogation of Article 370 that J-K is on the path of unprecedented development

after decades of turmoil, he said, appealing to the people to come forward and support the development policies of the administration.

The J-K BJP leader said while the administration is initiating productive measures inviting investors with the sole aim of development, creating multiple job avenues for the youth in various sectors including the real estate, the NC and the PDP have started misleading the people by issuing baseless statements terming these result oriented and productive initiatives as attempts to alter the demography of the UT. Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minis-

ters Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti on Monday hit out at the administration for opening the union territory to real estate investors, alleging that it is being done to change the demography of the region. Reacting to the statements of the former chief ministers, Gupta claimed that these leaders have always misled the gullible masses for their petty vested interests. He said, If NC government took initiatives in the past to settle down the Pakistan residents then why are they today objecting to the so-called settlement of people of the nation who are likely to come and invest in Jammu and Kashmir, he asked.

## Dr Darakhshan conferred Kishore Kumar Memorial Annual National Award for social contribution

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Annual Kishore Kumar Memorial Awards were presented to luminaries from different walks of life today at a glittering function held at India Islamic Cultural Center, New Delhi.

KJ Alphons, former Union Minister, Padmashri Prof Mahesh Verma, and Vice Chancellor of GGSIU University among others presented the Honours.

Padmashri Prof Mahesh Sharma was awarded for his contribution to education while Dr Darakhshan Andrabi was awarded for her social & political contribution, Sanjeev Upadhyay of Doordarshan was awarded for his journalistic contribution; Padmashri Professor Dr Ashok Rajgopal was also felicitated for his role in medical research.

Other awardees included Tejaswi Mohan (Classical singer), Inderpal



Former Union Minister K J Alphons and others presenting Kishore Kumar Memorial Award to Dr Darakhshan Andrabi.

(Film Actor).

After giving away award for extraordinary social contribution to Dr Darakhshan Andrabi, former Union Minister K J Alphons said that her national presence in the field of minority welfare initiatives since past more than six

years now is so impactful that this award is presented to her in recognition of her inspiring contribution.

He said that in contemporary Jammu & Kashmir and beyond in the rest of India, her role in communal harmony & peace is worth cele-

bration. While reading out the citation for her award, the President of the organization, Parveen Sharma said that a multifaceted personality Dr Andrabi being a celebrated communicator, social activist, politician, writer, poet and a passionate humane and this award was just a public acceptance on behalf of the people of India of her abilities and impactful contribution in these spheres of life.

The jury headed by Shripad Yesso Nayak, Union Minister of State for Tourism and Santosh Gangwar Chairperson of Committee on Public Undertakings, Lok Sabha shortlisted the names for the Awards.

A book on Madhubala written by famous writer Kamal Dhiman was also released. A musical tribute to singer Kishore Kumar by nationally acclaimed artists was the attraction of the event. The event was organized by Kishore Kumar Memorial National Club.