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Anti-terror ops...

marginalised groups and to ensure that prosperity brings bright future for youth," he added.

Sinha said due to the efforts of the government farmers are receiving better prices, with implementation of path breaking schemes for the vulnerable section.

During 'Back to Village-IV programme,' efforts were made to identify 15 youths from each panchayat for self-employment generation assistance.

As part of the scheme, the administration has issued 27,000 sanction letters by the end of December, Sinha said.

"We have improved public service delivery and ensured higher financial outlays for district development. Health, education, industry, agriculture, handicraft is being given special attention as part of our strategy for inclusive and higher economic growth," he added.

The LG also observed that the administration has taken various steps to implement e-service delivery of public services but some people are facing difficulties in certain areas.

"We are making efforts to establish a mechanism, in the coming three months wherein if the services are not provided within a set timeline, officials will be held responsible," said Sinha.

Referring to the developmental scenario in Reasi district, the Lt Governor informed that in the last financial year, 1012 projects were completed in Reasi under the District Capex scheme while the target for this year is to complete more than 1500 projects. Last year, under District Capex, Rs 1125 crore was allocated to Reasi district for development works and this year the amount has been increased to Rs 1183 crore, he further added.

Param Poojya Sant Shri Balak Yogeshwar Das Ji Maharaj in his address shared the vision of developing Pouni as a Tirth Sthal. He also highlighted the activities of Ati Vishnu Mahayagya Samiti for the welfare of the martyrs' families.

Earlier, the Lt Governor honoured the Parents of Param Vir Chakra Awardee Captain Vikram Batra; Veer Naris and families of the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the security of the country.

The Lt Governor also inaugurated Yagyashala and felicitated ex-servicemen and organisations for their selfless service towards the welfare of the families of the martyr soldiers. Students participating in various national integration competitions and rallies were also felicitated.

A publication on Param Poojya Sant Shri Balak Yogeshwar Das Ji Maharaj was also released.

Brigadier Harcharan Singh; PRI members; Army veterans; Families of the martyrs, Veer Naris, office bearers of Ati Vishnu Mahayagya Samiti and prominent citizens from all walks of life were present on the occasion.

Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Babila Rakwal, Deputy Commissioner Reasi, senior officials of police, defence and civil administration were also present.

Three of family...

'nullah' in Mangiar near Bani, the police said.

While three members of the family died on the spot, two others were seriously injured. The injured were rescued by the Bani administration with the help of locals, they said.

Police said the injured were referred to the Government Medical College in Kathua.

The deceased have been identified as Monika Gupta (40) wife of Sanjay, Sheikher Gupta (45) son of Ram Lal and Sidharth Gupta (11) son of Sanjay, residents of R S Pura, Jammu.

However, two of the injured namely Parbhat Gupta (18) son of Pawan Gupta and Rubi Gupta (40) wife of Rajesh Gupta are under treatment at a hospital.

J&K: Smuggling via...

force's endeavour is to keep the borders protected and foil any efforts of infiltration or smuggling.

"Smuggling of arms and drugs through drones is a new challenge and to overcome it, the BSF has taken several measures, including using anti-drone technology. We are improving our technology and we will thwart all such efforts," Yadav said.

"We are alert and will give a very strong response to such attempts," he added.

He said, the security forces are also engaging youth in border areas so that they stay away from drugs.

"It is our long-term programme to make the youth stakeholders in Kashmir's development," he said.

Delimitation Commission empowered...

March 6, 2020, Union Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) had issued a notification in exercise of power under Section 3 of the Delimitation Act, 2002, constituting a Delimitation Commission, with former Supreme Court judge (Retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai as the chairperson.

The Solicitor General also opposed the submission of the petitioners that Article 170 of the Constitution barred delimitation exercise on the basis of the 2011 census.

He said petitioners are wrong in their submission that delimitation exercise had to either happen on the basis of 2001 census or await "the first census after the year 2026."

"The idea was that last delimitation under the old regime took place in 1995. It was also the government's idea to immediately give democracy to the newly-formed Union Territory... For that to wait till 2026 or to do it as per 2002 was found to be legislatively unwise.

The reorganisation provided for Section 59 recognising that commission would be more apt," Mehta told the top court.

The counsel appearing for the two petitioners, Haji Abdul Gani Khan and Mohammad Ayub Mattoo, had argued that the delimitation exercise was carried out in contravention of the scheme of the Constitution and alteration of boundaries and inclusion of extended areas should not have been done.

The plea had sought declaration that the increase in the number of seats from 107 to 114 (including 24 seats in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir) in Jammu and

Kashmir is ultra vires constitutional provisions and statutory provisions, particularly under section 63 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

It had said the last delimitation commission was set up on July 12, 2002 in exercise of powers conferred by section 3 of the Delimitation Act, 2002 after the 2001 census to carry out the exercise throughout the country.

The plea had said the commission had issued guidelines and methodology for the delimitation of assembly and parliamentary constituencies vide letter dated July 5, 2004 along with the constitutional and legal provisions.

"It clearly stated that the total number of existing seats in the Legislative Assemblies of all states, including UTs of the National Capital Region and Pondicherry, as fixed based on the 1971 census shall remain unaltered till the first census to be taken after the year 2026," the plea had said.

It had sought to declare as unconstitutional the notification dated March 6, 2020 constituting the delimitation commission to take up delimitation in the UT of J&K and states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, and Nagaland by the Centre.

The plea had also challenged the consequential omission of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland from the process of delimitation vide notification dated March 3, 2021, claiming that it amounts to classification and violates Article 14 (equality before law) of the Constitution.

AC approves subsidized...

at a projected cost of Rs 104 Crore. These Rooftop Solar Power Plants will be connected with the Grid on Net Metering basis.

Besides, providing a clean and green environment through reduction of carbon emission, the generation of solar energy through Rooftop Solar Programme shall also offset power requirements of domestic consumers in Jammu and Kashmir.

Under the new progressive and investor-friendly policy, the government would extend subsidy contribution equivalent to 25% of the project, for the installation of Grid Tied Roof top Solar Power Plants on residential buildings across all districts of UT of J&K. The project is to be completed by the end of November 2023 and shall be maintained free of cost for a period of five years by JAKEDA through the empanelled vendors.

Ensure 100 pc...

Secretary exhorted upon the senior officers of the department to visit all the works themselves either physically or virtually to have better idea about the overall progress. He directed them to take feedback from Panchayat representatives and public about these works. He asked them to give due priority to the water quality and sustainability of source of each scheme.

Dr Mehta further urged the department to constitute the District PMUs forthwith for quality monitoring of the execution of works. He also told them to train the persons in these PMUs for effective implementation of this Mission as per its objectives.

The need repackaging the irresponsible tenders was discussed at length. He complimented the department for adopting a professional management technique like Critical Path Method (CPM) to have insights about their weak areas and thereby formulation of suitable action plan. He said that the officers should be made aware about its proper use and understanding. He asked the department to implement online bidding by executing agencies immediately. He suggested them to see for analogies in other government departments and customize the same to meet their requirements.

The Principal Secretary informed the meeting that the department is looking into the possibility of allotting nearly 328 works of laying pipe networks simultaneously.

He further elucidated that nearly 70000 Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) had been provided under this Mission. It was said that out of 2504 allotted works 1409 are under various stages of completion. It was also revealed that 168 works stands completed and up to December end all the works of the Mission would be allotted for execution and timely completion.

Retrieved in 2020...

A retired revenue official said that mere installation of sign board is not enough to save state land. Proper demarcation should have been done with fencing or boundary wall around the retrieved state land with directions to concerned revenue officials and police to look after it regularly to prevent re-encroachment in future.

STATE TIMES is in possession of photographs taken before the 'second edition' of the re-encroachment also, which shows the sign board missing and plots having been carved out, like in any colony. The illegal construction of houses is going on in double shifts-day and night.

Some local residents revealed that during January--February 2022, the construction re-started which is still going on with full swing. All concerned officials are hand in glove with encroachers, who are highly influential and powerful due to the active involvement of a land-grabber turned politician.

"No one dares to touch them despite several kanals of State/JDA/Forest land encroached by them. The same encroacher was recently booked under PSA, which was eventually quashed. Again, he resorted to land grabbing through his well-knit gang.

Mostly the State land retrieved in Tehsil Bahu area is without proper demarcation. The installation of sign boards is perhaps a signal for the chronic grabbers to lay hands on these plots, obviously for a consideration.

The retrieval of state land without demarcation and fencing clearly indicates that option is kept open to re-grab it with mutual understanding with the revenue officials.

Will continue fight...

power after elections. "As long as employment and economic opportunities are not created, the youth will continue to feel dejected. We have substantial youth population and we need to tap their energy positively for the growth of the country," he said while interacting with the people in Udhyanpur, Doda.

"We can only engage with the youth when we offer them better employment opportunities since unemployment is soaring problem in the UT and present regime have no roadmap available to tackle it," he said.

Azad, however, urged the Union government to fulfill its commitment of restoring the statehood of Jammu and Kashmir besides ensuring the jobs and restocking for local populace.

producing all necessary documents and even wearing uniform, police impose a penalty of Rs 500. When he asked reason, the officials started beating him, after which he stated protesting against police due to which the vehicular movement got affected. But SHO Farid Ahmed informed that police was checking vehicles at Naka but the accused driver named blocked the road and later started protest, accusing the police of assault. Police has lodged an FIR against driver and his associate and took them into custody.

Two cases of fraudulent withdrawal solved, accused arrested

STATE TIMES NEWS

PULWAMA/ R S PURA: Police has claimed to solve two cases of fraudulent withdrawal of money from bank accounts, arrested two accused and recovered money from their possession.

As per details, Police in Pulwama has solved a case by arresting an accused person involved in crime and recovered withdrawn cash. As per details, Police Station Rajpora received a written complaint from one Mohd Younsif Dar of Tujan stating therein that an amount of Rs 28,000 has been withdrawn from his account by some unknown person. Accordingly, FIR 100/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Rajpora and investigation started. During investigation, a special team was constituted which after putting in hectic efforts, rounded up a suspect who was identified as Shabir Ahmad Poswal (ATM Guard at Pakherpora ATM) son of Mohd Qasim Poswal, resident of Sonabanj, Rajpora. Subsequently, he was arrested and during questioning stolen money amounting to Rs 28,000 and four other ATM cards belonging to different people was recovered. Further investigation into the matter is going on.

Meanwhile, a complaint was lodged at Police Station Miran Sahib regarding unauthorized/fraudulent withdrawal of money from complainant account through ATM which was stolen by some unknown person. In this regard, FIR 145/2022 under sections 379/420 of IPC was registered at Police Station Miran Sahib and investigation started. After this special police teams of Police Station Miran Sahib under supervision of SDPO R S Pura Subinder Singh were constituted. A team led by SHO Miran Sahib Insp. Zaheer Mushtaq

assisted by Incharge BPP Nari Vinay Kumar, after putting in strenuous efforts, rounded-up a suspect namely Kawaljeet Kour, wife of Raghbir Singh, residence of Simbal Morh, Tehsil R S Pura. During questioning, the woman confessed her involvement in crime and on her disclosure, stolen cash amounting to Rs 84,000 was recovered. Further investigation of the case is going on.

Drug peddler arrested, psychotropic substances recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

SOPORE: Continuing its efforts to eradicate menace of drugs, Police in Sopore arrested a notorious drug peddler and recovered psychotropic substances from his possession. As per details, a party from Police Station Sopore during patrolling arrested a notorious drug peddler identified as Abdul Qayoom Paray alias Seeba, son of Nazir Ahmad, resident of Hygam Sopore. During search, 12 bottles of Codeine (Otodril) and 48 capsules of Spasmoproxyton Plus were recovered from his possession. Accordingly, FIR No. 266/2022 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Sopore and investigation has been initiated.

Five shops including Bank, restaurant targeted by thieves in Samba

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Crime Rate in Samba is increasing day by day as 5 theft cases were reported in Samba on Friday. In the 5 theft



He said his party is committed to stand for the legal and genuine rights of the people of UT.

"Our agenda is pro-people and we will ensure the people of Jammu and Kashmir are empowered with socioeconomic rights," he said.

Azad concluded the three day Chenab valley tour. During his tour of the Valley he met hundreds of people and apprised them about the party agenda. Hundreds of people joined his party in Chenab Valley.

He assured the people of Chenab Valley that he will not ignore them and the region will emerge as an epicentre of economic activities if his party secures the win in elections whenever they take place.

"We all know that Chenab valley was overlooked by successive regimes. The region has immense economic crisis with poor job opportunities for the local educated youth. I hail from the region and I know its potential and challenges," he said.

Azad said that he has a clear vision for the Chenab Valley in which not only the fresh economic opportunities will be created but the infrastructure will be developed at par with international standards. "Chenab valley is living in my heart and it is my home. It will emerge as a role model for the whole country if my party comes into power", he maintained.

Among others who addressed the public meeting were former Minister G.M. Saroori, former Minister Ab Majid Wani, Former MLC Naresh Gupta, DAP Senior leader Aslam Goni and others.

J&K Bank highest...

the occasion for paying the highest amount of income tax in Chandigarh Circle, Gulzar Ali Akhtar told the participants, "I am happy to inform that J&K Bank is the highest tax payer not only in J&K but in the entire Amritsar circle which covers Jalandhar, Shimla, J&K besides Amritsar. It speaks volumes about the great success story this financial institution has become. The strong KYC culture of your organisation is very appreciable and I hope J&K Bank continues to keep improving on every functioning front."

Bank's CFO Pratik D Punjabi, on the occasion, stated that with Bank on its growth path of prosperity, the tax paying numbers are only going to increase in times to come.

Meanwhile Bank's General Manager/Group Compliance Officer (GCO) Peer Masood Ahmad highlighted Bank's commitment to further improve its KYC culture. "We have a strong and robust KYC culture in place and we are committed to improve it further. Any action warranted by rule of law in case of deviations in tax paying will be taken immediately."

Notably, on the occasion, the income tax department extended hearty congratulations to the Bank for being number one corporate tax payer of not only circle and range but as number one tax payer of PCIT Srinagar and CCIT Amritsar.

JKP SI paper...

medical grounds or on the basis of parity," the court observed.

CJM Jammu further observed that the offence involved in the case impact the whole society and the public interest factor is to be taken into consideration and such socio-economic offences need to be considered with a different approach at least at the time when the application for bail is to be decided by the courts. The applicant along with co-accused are involved in recruitments seem as such the case in hand is socio-economic in nature and further investigation of the case is going on which may reveal more facts about the involvement of accused persons in like other cases. Beside this, the involvement of more accused is yet to be ascertained by the investigating agency as such the release of accused at this stage will hamper the investigation as he may tamper the witnesses and other evidence of the case. In the backdrop of observations made above, in view of the facts and circumstances of the case, the larger interest of public/state and the case law relied upon by the non-applicant/CBI, the accused is not found entitled for any leniency of bail at this stage," the Court observed and rejected the plea.

Sufficient funds to...

be drawn. There is no truth in it and is far from the facts," the police said in a statement.

The police's clarification came after some news reports suggested that the salaries of a section of police personnel covered under the NPS were on hold for the last two months due to non-availability of the budget.

Rebutting the "false information", the Jammu and Kashmir Police said the police headquarters has made available adequate funds to all its units for salary of its employees including those covered under the NPS.

Earlier, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Kashmir, Vijay Kumar, also said the report was fake.

"Regarding a #fake news doing rounds on social media that the salary of Police personnel hadn't been paid for past 2 months. It's hereby clarified that every DDO has got sufficient funds in salary heads," the ADGP Kashmir said in a tweet.

Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti had also raised the issue on Twitter.

"Sad that salaries of those who serve on the frontline have been withheld since two months. One can well empathise with the plight & pain