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19 Azad joins Christmas celebrations, Uu appreciates India's unity in diversity

Anti-encroachment drive: Attempt to encroach 296 Kanal prime Land foiled at Gurha Salathia

Yashpal Memorial Volleyball meet from Jan 11

Website: www.statetimes.in. Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

LG calls for constant upgradation of grievance disposal mechanism Mock drill for COVID preparedness conducted across J&K grievance disposal mechanism

Regd. No. L-29/JK-346/22-24



Hearing in Jammu on Tuesday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Stressing the need for upgrading grievance disposal mechanism constantly with the help of technology to fulfill aspirations of people and to resolve issues within a Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday said: "We have been realizing very satisfactory results and need to work with

complete dedication to provide the necessary services to the citizens equitably with

Hearing grievances of people during "LG's Mulaqaat"-Live Public Grievance Hearing programme, at the Civil Secretariat, Sinha issued direction for their appropriate redressal.

The Lt Governor sought

details of complaints received on JKIGRAM portal from the concerned deputy commissioners, senior officials and directed for prompt redressal of grievances in a

He instructed all the Administration Secretaries and DCs to ensure that all the online services are func-

transparent and effective

fits of the services reaching to the common man.

"We must utilize the potential of e-Governance to provide seamless, quality services any time anywhere. Senior officials should also ensure timely and quality disposal of complaints and nodal officers to strictly monitor disposal of complaints, especially the quality aspect of disposal," the Lt Governor said.

On the grievance of Yawer Mohi-ud-Din of Bandipora pertaining to the sanctioning of Education assistance in favour of his son, the Lt Governor directed the School and Higher Education departments to ensure that no eligible beneficiary is deprived of the benefits of education assistance.

While addressing a grievance of Sofyan Ahmed from Doda concerning incomplete School Building at village Trankhal of Doda.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Keeping pace with other parts of the country, healthcare institutions of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday conducted mock drill regarding Covid preparedness to assess the key facilities and logistics requisite to deal with any emerging situation due to the pandemic.

Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department, Bhupinder Kumar, monitored and supervised the conduct of Mock Drill exercises conducted across the UT to check the functionality in respect of key facilities and logistics for COVID management in healthcare institutions.

After reviewing the status of activities carried out at different healthcare institutions and assessing the data uploaded on the national portal, Secretary expressed satisfaction over



Mock drill being carried out in Gandhi Nagar hospital.

Mock drills held in hospitals across country

NEW DELHI/MUMBAI: Mock drills were held at health facilities across India on Tuesday to check operational readiness to deal with any spurt in COVID-19 infection, with Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya saying the country has to remain alert and prepared as cases are rising in the

Mandaviya oversaw the exercise at the Centre-run Safdarjung Hospital here, while health ministers took stock in their respective states and gave information on available beds, oxygen support and other equipment, medicines, vaccines, etc. The Centre had asked states ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

VOK/12/2010

ACB Jammu,

ACB Srinagar,

ACB Jammu,

3/2020

Udhampur, 2/2017 VOJ.

20/2017 VOK, 12/2020 ACB

Jammu, 11/2014 VOJ,

16/2018 VOK, 6/2020 ACB

Srinagar, 17/2018 VOJ,

14/2018 VOJ, 1/2020 ACB

Srinagar and 9/2019 ACB

successful completion of mock drills carried out by the healthcare institutions and their preparedness for the COVID.

The exercise included checking of Oxygen General Plants installed at different locations, availability of machinery and equipments, availability of drugs, diagnostics and other COVID logistics. All the healthcare institutions were found to be in the state of preparedness to tackle any upsurge of COVID cases in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Head of Departments and Chief Medical Officers of the all the districts were issued instructions to ensure that the equipments which were found non-functional should be got repaired immediately and all unavailable logistics are arranged and kept in suffi-

J&K achieves milestone of providing over 440 services online

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Continuing its march on the path of providing e-governance to its citizens, Jammu and Kashmir has been successful in providing nearly 444 services online, including all the major services commonly availed by the people.

In a meeting with the Administrative Secretaries of all the departments on Tuesday, Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta commended the IT Department tirelessly for working towards 'Digital J&K'.

He impressed upon them to continue the momentum and make each and every service provided to the citizens in digital mode for ease of living

Eight SIs promoted

as Inspectors

Headquarters on Tuesday

promoted Eight Sub-

Inspectors of the Ministerial

Executive Cadre to the rank

Vide PHQ's order No 4324

of 2022, Sub-Inspectors

Mohi din, Bashir Ahmad, Gh

Nabi Bhat, Naseer ud Din

Shah, Reyaz Ahmad,

Bhagwan Singh, Nazir

Ahmad Malla and Mulkh Raj

were promoted to the rank of

Promotion Committee meet-

ing was convened under the

chairmanship of the Director

General of Police J&K

Dilbag Singh at Police

Headquarters J&K. After a

thorough scrutiny of the

service records, promotion in

respect of these officers has

The DGP congratulated

the promoted officers and

their families. He expressed

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hope that the promotion

Departmental

Jammu

Police

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:

of Inspectors.

Inspectors

been ordered.

Kashmir

and eradication of corruption. He told them to usher the UT into an environment where its citizens would carry offices in their pockets and avail any services with-

He maintained that the contactless administration not only ensures transparency and accountability but swiftness also. He observed that the technology happens to be panacea for all the evils and J&K envisages to utilize the IT/ITes for optimum empowerment of its population as per the vision of LG

out having to physically visit

any of the office.

It was given out that the number of online

administration.

PIL highlighting non-grant of prosecution sanction in corruption cases

DB directs Govt to file latest ATR in cases awaiting prosecution sanction against bureaucrats

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant order, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and High Court Comprising Chief Justice (A) Tashi Rabstan and Justice Rajesh Sekri has directed Union of India (UOI) General Administration Department (GAD)/Anticorruption Bureau Jammu & Kashmir UT to file latest status/ Action Taken Reports (ATR) regarding the pending prosecution sanctions in corruption matters against the IAS/JKAS Officers involved

This significant direction was passed in a much publicized Public Interest Litigation (PLI) (09/2012) titled Sheikh Mohd Shafi & another Vs UOI & Ors wherein the petitioners have highlighted the non-grant of prosecution sanction in corruption cases involving Bureaucrats serving in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Union Territory.

When this PIL came-up for hearing today, Advocate Sheikh Shakeel Ahmed with Advocates Supriya Chouhan and Mohd Zulkarnain Chowdhary appearing for the PIL drew the attention of

court to the four compilations filed by Advocate General on December 15. 2021 wherein it was informed to the court that as on December 15, 2021, prosecution sanction is pending with regard to 35 FIRs i.e. FIR NOs 12/2012 VOJ, 25/2011 VOK, 27/2011 VOK18/2013 VOK, 15/2014 VOJ, 4/2013 VOJ, 16/2011 44/2015 VOK 23/2010 VOK, 18/2009 VOK, 4/2018 VOK, 30/2018 10/2017 VOK. 15/2018 VOJ, 1/2020 ACB Srinagar, 26/2011 VOJ, 20/2009 VOJ, 2/2014 VOJ, 35/2018 VOK 25/2015 VOJ

Two Jammu residents die while cleaning well

in Srinagar

SRINAGAR: Two persons

from Jammu division died

while cleaning a well in

Lasjan area of Srinagar dis-

The two persons identified

as Zakir from Poonch and

Talib from Gool Ramban

were cleaning the well at

Lasjan, Srinagar and fell

With the help of some

locals both were shifted to

SMHS Srinagar where doc-

tors declared them brought

Meanwhile, police have

trict on Tuesday.

unconscious.

STATE TIMES NEWS

During the course of hearing, Adv Sheikh Shakeel Ahmed pointed out that in case FIR (CBI Case No RCCHGO51201850006 (Arms License Scam)

VOK,

3/2020

9/2020

Govt constitutes UTLAC for framing Agriculture Policy in J&K UT tory of Jammu & Kashmir,'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Tuesday constituted Union Level Territory Committee (UTLAC) for framing a comprehensive Agriculture Policy for holistic development of Agriculture and Allied Sectors in Union territory of J&K.

"It is ordered that Dr. M. Angamuthu, IAS, Chairman, APEDA, New Delhi shall also be the Member of the Union Territory Level Apex Committee constituted in terms of Government Order No.985 -JK(GAD) dated August 30, 2022, for recommending a suitable policy regime for promotion of export oriented agricultural commodities from the Union terri-

reads an order issued by Dr. Piyush Singla, Secretary, General ordered that the additional goals & targets for next 5 years ibid are to increase agriculturhigh value and value added and quality; promote novel and Non-Traditional agricultural products; and enable and empower Farmers for Export

Administration Department. It is further for the Union Territory Level Apex Committee constituted in terms of Government Order al exports from 190 Crores to 3000 Crores from J&K; diversify export base and increase agricultural exports; promote 'Brand JK" for its uniqueness Ethnic, Traditional, Organic

J&K Govt to undertake MAP cultivation on 625 hectares of land

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a major boost to the agriculture industry, the Jammu and Kashmir government will undertake Medicinal and Aromatic Plant (MAP) cultivation on 625 hectares of land with potential output worth Rs 750 crore, officials said.

This is one of the 29 projects costing Rs 5,013 crore based on the principles of economy, equity and ecology, which have the potential to herald a new phase of farmer prosperity and livelihood security in J&K, they said.

"There is going to be a new dawn in medicinal and aromatic plant cultivation in

Jammu and Kashmir. As many as 5,000 kanals (625 hectares) of land will be brought under the cultivation of MAPs," Additional Chief Secretary Agriculture Production Department Atal Dulloo told PTI here.

The project has an output potential of Rs 750 crore. The Himalayas in Jammu and Kashmir have an immense wealth of about 1,123 plant species of medicinal and aromatic value, Dulloo said.

The current global herbal trade stands approximately at USD 120 billion and is expected to reach USD 7 trillion by 2050, he noted.

Singh said, "To make this

the century of India, it is

imperative that the youth of

India should be equally profi-

cient in education as well as

He said the students with

their skills are taking their

first step forward on the path

innovation and he

Ministry.

which has the potential to be brought under MAP cultiva-Dulloo said the MAP is unique to our agro-climate

"The current MAP output

from J&K is only Rs 2 lakh

as very little cultivation is

being done in the sector.

Availability is mostly gather-

ing based from forest areas

with little regard to conserva-

There is a huge chunk of

cultivable wasteland in J&K,

tion," the ACS said.

that offers great potential for employment and export.

"As many as six MAP germplasm banks and 2 field centres will be

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Mehbooba to join 'Bharat

Jodo Yatra' in Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: PDP president

Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said she will be joining the Kashmir leg of the "Bharat Jodo Yatra" spearheaded by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. "I've been formally invited to join @RahulGandhi ji for his Bharat Jodo Yatra in Kashmir today. Salute his indomitable courage and I believe it is my duty to stand with someone who has the courage to challenge fascist forces. Will be joining him in his march towards a better India," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said in a tweet.

National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah is also expected to take part in the Yatra.

KP employees approach CAT challenging order prohibiting transfer from Valley

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Protesting Kashmiri Pandit employees have approached the Central Tribunal Administrative against a Jammu and Kashmir administration order stating those granted employment under the prime minister's special package cannot be transferred.

The move to approach the CAT's Srinagar bench comes days after Jammu and Lieutenant Kashmir Manoj Sinha Governor announced that the striking employees would not be given salaries, a statement criticised by all major political

Kashmiri Pandit employees have been on a strike for over seven months to demand their "relocation" from the Valley in view of targeted killings by terrorists.

The protesting employees have also sought interim relief from being forced to join work at their respective postings till the government provides them a secure work environment and releases their pending salaries.

The petition filed by Boopinder Bhat and Yogesh Pandita is likely to be listed for hearing after the tribunal resumes functioning on December 30

They have challenged sub-

Cold wave intensifies in Kashmir

The application filed by the protesting employees read, "The targeted killings make it crystal clear that the respondents (JK administration) have failed to provide a secure environment to Kashmiri Pandit employees at their respective place of

and Kashmir Kashmiri Migrants (Special Drive) Recruitment Rules, 2009, which provides that "in case the appointee migrates from valley again for any reason whatsoever, he shall lose the job without any notice and shall stand terminated".

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posting but the said

taken cognizance of the incident and started investiga-

Modi Govt created futuristic avenues for India's youth: Dr Jitendra issued by the Personnel

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Minister Jitendra Singh on Tuesday said the Narendra Modi government has created futuristic avenues for the country's youth in the last over eight years.

Addressing "a dialogue with new young voters" at the Shri Venkateshwara University in Gairaula in Uttar Pradesh. he said the forward-looking reforms unleashed by the government has given a new hope to the youth.

He said India's reputation has grown in the global club of nations and the whole world is now keen to understand and connect with

Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel, said the new



India is open, futuristic and known for its progressive views and the development of the country is on the shoulders of the youth.

He reminded the young voters that for many decades, there were unstable and coalition governments that led to apprehension not only

ment which also brought stability in policies and work foundation for the change," the minister was quoted as

among the public but also in the world about India's

"But, in 2014, people of India chose a stable governculture and laid a strong

expressed hope that their journey to tomorrow will also be more creative. The minister told the young

voters that the government has given top priority to the skill development of the youth and the creation of new institutions. He said after the first

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WEATHER Max: 16.2°C Max: 100 Max: 10.2°C Max: 96 Min: 74 Sunset: 17:34 Hours Sunrise: 07:32 Hours

STATE TIMES NEWS SRINAGAR: Coldwave conditions gripped Kashmir as the mercury fell by a couple of degrees across the Valley to push the minimum temperature further below freezing point, officials said on Tuesday.

The minimum temperature on Monday night fell by one to two degrees compared to

the previous night The intense cold led to

water supply lines freezing in several areas. The interiors of Dal Lake and several other water bodies in the Valley also froze, the officials said. The minimum temperature in Srinagar settled at minus 4.8 degrees Celsius -down from minus

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