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Prepare plan for...

added. The Lt Governor passed direction regarding extension of Digital services; streamlining revenue and other public services.

Only the collaborative efforts of the public, elected representatives and administration can steer the development process and ensure resolution of the day to day problems of the people, the Lt Governor said.

During the meeting. Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners; Deputy Commissioners and SSPs briefed the chair on the efforts being made to saturate the deliverables and achieve the set targets under 'My Town My Pride' programme.

The chair was informed on the measures taken for the saturation of City Livelihood Mission. Target has been set to select 25 youths for self-employment from each ward.

An Open Forum involving the educational institutions to spread awareness on digital services and other important aspects of the governance is being organized. City Development Index is also on the cards, it was informed.

On 5th and 6th December; the Prabhari Officers will go to their identified areas and establish direct communication with the common citizens.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioners; DCs, SSPs, and senior officials attended the meeting, in person and through virtual mode.

Alok Kumar given...

posts of Administrative Secretary, Estates & Civil Aviation Departments and Civil Aviation Commissioner; shall also hold the charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Higher Education Department; and Prema Puri, IAS (AGMUT:2006), Commissioner/Secretary, Information Technology Department, shall hold the charge of the post of Administrative Secretary, Information Department, in addition to their own duties, till further orders.

J&K plans to...

coordinated and concerted efforts to ensure all facilities are provided to the specially abled population.

"The thought process has started and we have already decided that in order to promote sign language, we would ask for interpreters in all government functions (to make the events more accessible to the target population)," Nanda told PTI on the sidelines of a programme here.

The programme "Transformative solutions for inclusive development: the role of innovation in fuelling an accessible and equitable world" was organized by the social welfare department in support of UNICEF and ELFA international.

She said a lot of steps have been taken to make the ecosystem accessible to the people with disabilities and also provide them with whatever facilities that should be there for them.

However, she said the whole disability sector, not only in J&K but in the entire country, is at a very nascent stage. "We are taking very coordinated and concerted efforts to ensure that this sector which requires our special attention gets its due," Nanda said.

She said there is a lot to be done for the disabled population, whether it is education, teaching, health, special homes, rehabilitation centres or skill development. "We are moving steadily into it".

The hearing-impaired people spoke about accessibility issues in public places on stage with the assistance of interpreter Sukanya Bhan, highlighting the difficulties they face especially in hospitals, schools and government offices since they are unable to communicate with the hearing world.

"Whenever a disabled person goes to work somewhere, it is said that you should have kept him at home and done the work yourself. But no, we need the disabled population to come out with their problems and work on solutions, not just tell them to stay at home," disability rights activist Sandhya Dhar said.

The panel discussion included Commissioner for Persons with Disability Iqbal Lone, Disability rights activist and interpreter Sukanya Bhan, Dhar and Sub-Judge Prem Sagar. "The government is preparing data of children with disabilities within the age group of 6-18 to ensure early assistance to them," Lone said.

Jammu's first FASTag...

the smooth cashless, paperless, entry-exit experience at parking's to Jammutes is not only limited to a single parking but all over the city.

The parking would work through an app called Park+ where Jammu residents by using this app can now discover, book and prepay for a parking spot.

Additionally, they can also use the FASTag on their car to pay for a parking spot, without any human intervention, a first of its kind initiative in Jammu.

Commenting on the partnership, Amit Lakhotia, Founder & CEO, Park+ said, "Park+ has been discussing conscious efforts to partner with likeminded organizations to



Prpl Secy H&UDD, Dheeraj Gupta inaugurating parking in Jammu.

enhance car ownership experiences for users. As part of this strategy, we are excited to collaborate with the Jammu Development Authority, to bring our smart parking services to Jammu. We at Park+ have taken something that has historically been painful & intimidating - finding a parking spot and made it effortless."

By downloading the Park+ app, Jammu residents can also recharge their FASTag, discover a car insurance offer, discover a car maintenance partner, find a parking spot and track their challans, he said.

"Additionally our FASTag enabled parking management system also allows car owners to pay for their parking using their FASTag. Our aim is to remove parking anxiety for all car owners in Jammu and we aim to expand our smart parking services exponentially, in the next 3-4 months," he added.

Pankaj Magotra Vice Chairman Jammu Development Authority and Srikant Kurup of IDFC First Bank also spoke on the occasion.

Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billowaria; Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa; Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation, Rahul Yadav; SSP Traffic Jammu, Koushal Kumar; Regional Transport Officer, Jammu, Pankaj Bhagotra; President, Chamber of Commerce, Jammu, Arun Gupta; Corporator, Ward No-19, Amit Gupta; President, PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Jammu Rahul Sahai; MD, Housing Board, J&K, Shabir Hussain; MD, J&K Road Transport Corporation, Jammu Rakesh Kumar; and Mohd Saleem, ARTO Jammu, Toll and Transit head IDFC First Bank and other officers were also present on the occasion.

Administration committed to ...

to increase the holding capacity of the yatris at prominent places across the route, which was highly appreciated by the board members. During the meeting, directions were issued for early preparation of all the Yatra related works and ensuring its allotment by March 2023. On the occasion, Prof. Mandeep Singh of School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi gave a PowerPoint presentation on the project proposal for Yatri Nivas and Disaster Management Centre to be constructed at Village Majjeen, Jammu. The members of SASB also shared their valuable views and suggestions.

Rahul Singh, Additional CEO SASB put forth the agenda items before Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board.

SIA conducts searches...

organisation(s) in the valley are raising funds for furtherance of terrorist activities in J-K, the officials said. The money so raised is passed on/transferred through financial markets or through unregulated channels/through cash couriers, they added.

In furtherance to this nexus, the network has successfully engaged many people of varied backgrounds either with or without their knowledge to act as cash courier, the officials said. They said as a part of this conspiracy, terror funding module has created many sleeper cells/OGW(s) in different parts of Kashmir Valley who are facilitating passing on money to various terrorist organisation(s) in J-K through banks/unregulated channels/cash couriers. During the searches, Rs 29 lakh in cash was recovered and seized along with passbooks, cheque books and digital devices such as mobile phones and other articles having bearing on the investigation, they said. Analysis of the data would follow and leads that would emerge would become the basis for further investigation, they added.

The searches are aimed at dismantling the terror ecosystem in the valley by identifying overground workers supporting and abetting terrorism, the officials said.

India's bio-economy...

Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that from a paltry investment of Rs 10 Crore in Bio-economy in 2014, the fund growth saw 400 times hike to Rs 4200 crore in 2022, creating over 25,000 high skilled jobs. He said, the number of Bio tech incubators have increased from 6 in 2014 to 75 now, while Biotech products have increased from 10 products to more than 700 today. Dwelling on the growth of India Bioeconomy, Dr



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh delivering inaugural address at the 3-day "International Conference on Emerging Trends in Biotechnology, Biosciences and Chemical Technology 2022" at SMVDU, Katra on Saturday.

Jitendra Singh pointed out that India administered nearly 4 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines per day and a total of 1.45 billion doses in 2021. Similarly, we conducted 1.3 million COVID-19 tests each day in 2021 and overall 507 million tests in 2021. Dr Jitendra Singh also pointed out that the Biotech industry crossed one-billion-dollar R&D spend, thanks to Covid economy and it almost trebled within a year from 320 million dollars in 2020 to 1,02 billion dollars in 2021. The Minister said, India will soon enter the league of top-5 countries in Biotech's global ecosystem. Dr Jitendra Singh quoted Prime Minister Narendra Modi to point out the five big reasons why India is being considered a land of opportunities in the field of biotech. First- diverse population and diverse climatic zones. Second, India's talented human capital pool, Third, increasing efforts for ease of doing business in India. Fourth, the demand for Bio-Products is increasing con-

tinuously in India and fifth- India's Biotech Sector and its track record of success.

Referring to the growing reputation and profile of Indian professionals on the global stage, Dr Jitendra Singh said, there is growing trust in the skill and innovation of Indian IT professionals in the World and in this Bio-economy decade, the same will be true for the Bio Professionals of India.

Scientific sessions of the conference have been divided under different themes on Health Sciences, Enzymology and Molecular biology, Synthetic Biology, Material Science and Nanomaterial, Natural Products and Green Chemistry, Environmental Sustainability and Development and Plant & Animal Science.

Noted participants included Prof. R K Sinha, Vice Chancellor; SMVDU, Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu, Prof. Ashok Pandey, Distinguished Scientist, Centre for Innovation & Translational Research, CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research Lucknow and Dr. Ratna Chandra, Head, School of Biotechnology; SMVDU.

Chapter of Pakistan...

generate funds for terror groups.

"As new persons are getting involved in the illicit trade of drugs, it is the duty of every citizen to identify these persons and help police in taking action against them," he said.

He said the Jammu and Kashmir Police is taking stringent measures against drug trade.

Recalling his tenure as SSP Doda, he said despite difficult circumstances, people of the area always stood for peace.

"Pakistan and its agencies are continuously making attempts to revive the terror base here by misguiding the youth. Everyone has to play a role in thwarting anti-peace elements," he said, adding that the "smiling faces of youth today indicate the return of good times in the area."

He hoped that the youth would provide their support in strengthening peace further. Chairing a joint review meeting at Delta Force headquarters where he was received by its General Officer Commanding Maj Gen Ajay Kumar, the DGP emphasised on enhancing synergy between the forces and putting in joint efforts to eliminate remaining terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir. Threadbare discussion was also held regarding the present security scenario and existing challenges at the meeting, a police spokesperson said, adding the officers also discussed security measures along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway. Counter measures for narco trade and weapon dropping was also discussed during the meeting while Maj Gen Kumar briefed the DGP regarding the measures taken by the counter terrorism grid in Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban areas, the spokesperson said.

BDC chairperson, social...

party fold by J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina who expressed satisfaction over fast expanding of the party base in the valley.

"Jammu has always been a stronghold of BJP which is also spreading fast in every



BJP Chief Ravinder Raina along with new entrants of party in Jammu.

nook and corner of the valley with the daily joining of political and social activists. Mir is a member of the Pahari community and his joining along with his supporters is going to further strengthen the party in Kashmir," Raina said. He said Mir played a vital role in the successful conduct of the Union Home Minister Amit Shah's public rally in Baramulla on October 5. "BJP is emerging strong in all parts of the valley. I salute to the workers who are working with great devotion and dedication on the ground," Raina said, expressing confidence that the party will emerge as the single largest party in the next assembly elections with 50 plus seats and will form its own government in the union territory. Mir said he had decided to join the BJP as the party-led central government fulfilled the long pending demand of the Pahari community for Scheduled Tribe status and empowered the Panchayati Raj Institutions in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The development works initiated by the BJP government are praiseworthy and so are the benefits under the centrally sponsored schemes and coverage of all residents under the medical health insurance," he said.

Bharat Jodo Yatra...

"The Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi will reach J-K by January end. The yatra will take place between Lakhampur to Kashmir: A concluding public meeting will take place here," J-K Pradesh Congress Committee chief Viqar Rasool Wani told reporters here. Wani also welcomed the secular parties who have shown interest to become a part of the yatra and to fight hatred, unemployment and the price rise.

Asked about his recent statement that the Padma Shri award, bestowed on former Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad, was a small award, the JKPCC chief said the BJP was giving awards on political considerations. "Every award has its importance. But, I want to clear one thing that the BJP gives all awards on political base. "Whoever joins them or is leaving the Congress party, they give him an award. And if I have said anything wrong, then I take it back," he said.

CRIME REPORT

Five narco-smugglers nabbed, heroin recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU/POONCH: Police on Saturday nabbed five drug peddlers and recovered 48 grams of heroin from their possession.



As per the details, a police team lead by SHO Police Station Janipur Vijay Kumar under the supervision of SSP Jammu Chandan Kohli, SP City North Kuldeep Handa and with the direction SDPO City West Rahul Nagar during patrolling in Upper Roop Nagar area apprehended two persons namely Tasadiq Hussain, son of Mohd Hussain, resident of Bandi chechian Poonch at pesent Chinore and Suraj Badyal, son of Lt Napal Singh, resident of Kishtwar at present Janipur on motorcycle in suspicious condition.

During their personal search, heroin weighing 38 grams was recovered from their possession. Duo was arrested and FIR 135/2022 under sections 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act was registered against them in Police Station Janipur. Accused Tasadiq is hard-core peddler and is supplying drugs to the local youth of Jammu.

Meanwhile, a party of Police Station Poonch headed by SHO Poonch Inspr. Ranjeet Singh Rao under the supervision of Manish Sharma DySP (Ops) and Addl SP Poonch Mushim Ahmed under the overall supervision of SSP Poonch Rohit Baskotra while on patrolling and Naka duty near SK Bridge Poonch intercepted one motorcycle (JK19 3565) on which 3 persons were riding and were on the way from Poonch towards Mendhar who were signaled to stop at Naka but they tried to fled away. But the swift action by the police team intercepted them and during frisking and checking of the said persons 10 gms of heroin like substance was recovered from their possession.

The accused persons are arrested from the spot who have been later identified as Sarfraz Ahmed, son of Mohd Mushtaq, resident of Gohlad Mendhar; Mohd Aliyas, son of Manzoor Hussain, resident of Balnoi Mendhar and Mohd Irfan, son of Mohd Farooq R/O Balnoi Mendhar.

In this regard a case has been registered under the relevant sections of law at



Police Station Poonch.

Two Punjab-based narco-smugglers nabbed with 46.6 Kg poppy straw

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse, Police achieved major success by arresting a Punjab-based narco smugglers and recovered 46 kg 699 grams of poppy straw at Suketar naka while accused were on their way from Srinagar towards Punjab on a vehicle (PB07BU-4832).

As per the details, a team of Police Station Jhajar Kotli under the supervision of SDPO Nagrota Pardeep Kumar led by SHO Jhajar Kotli Inspr Samson Bhatti while on Naka duty at Suketar Naka rounded up two suspects. On search, 46 kg 699 grams of poppy straw was recovered from their possession which was hidden in their car.

The suspects were later identified as Amarjeet Singh, son of Gurdyal Singh, resident of Manjo Mazara Tehsil Gharshanker District Hoshiyarpur; Punjab and Bitchu, son of Gindhu Ram, resident of Tanwali District Jalandhar.

Duo was arrested and FIR 259/2022 under sections 8/15/25/29 NDPS Act was registered against them in Police Station Jhajar Kotli.



4 vehicles involved in illegal mining seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a quest to stern the menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which police teams of Police Station City, Police Posts Panjirthi and Chatha acted stringently on the specific inputs and raided at a location in their respective area and seized 4 vehicles involved in illegal mining.

The seized vehicle include one dumper without registration No seized by City Police; two tippers bearing (JK02CT7238 and JK02CU5863) by Panjirthi Police and one tractor trolly bearing chasis No - MBNBEBBAZMN02280 by Chatha Police.

The recoveries were made SHO Police Station City Inspr Kunal Singh Jamwal, In-Charge Police Post Panjirthi PSI Rahul Sharma and In-Charge Police Post Chatha PSI Harjinder Paul Singh in their respective jurisdictions.

4 persons arrested, 4 vehicles seized in illegal extraction & transportation of minerals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BUDGAM: Acting tough against the persons involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, Police have arrested 04 persons and seized 04 vehicles in Budgam.

As per the details, a party of police party of Police Station Beerwah raided a specific location and seized 02 tractors & arrested 02 persons on spot. The arrested persons have been identified as Javed Ahmad son of Ghulam Muhammad resident of

Zoogipora Khag and Firdous Ahmad Gazi son of Muhammad Fatah resident of Nursinghpura Khag. Similarly, a party of Police Station Magam raided a specific location and seized 01 JCB, 01 Tipper and arrested 02 drivers on spot . The arrested drivers were subsequently identified as Abid Nabi son of Gh Nabi Bhat resident of Rathsuma Beerwah and Ajaz Ahmad son of Mohd Yusuf Sheikh resident of Sozeith. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law stands registered at respective police stations and investigation taken up.

Murder case solved within 24 hrs; man arrested for killing wife

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BUDGAM: Police on Saturday cracked a murder case within 24hrs by arresting an accused person involved in the killing of his wife in Nasarullah Pora area of Budgam.

As per the details, on December 2, 2022, Police Station Budgam received information that one lady namely Muslima wife of Ghulam Mohammad Bhat resident of Nasrulla Pora Budgam, aged about 36yrs had died but the body bears visible ligature marks which makes the cause of death suspicious. Police party along with senior police officers rushed to the spot to examine the scene of crime/house where the said lady was found dead. During the initial investigation many pieces of evidence were collected. Besides, during the examination of the dead-body, visible ligature marks on neck of the deceased lady were found and subsequently the dead-body was taken into possession by police for legal formalities. Accordingly, today post mortem of the body was conducted at GMC Srinagar in presence of Magistrate under proper videography. Simultaneously, the husband of the deceased lady Ghulam Mohammad Bhat was taken into custody for questioning. During sustained questioning, the accused admitted to have killed his wife by strangulation which he had pre-planned as corroborated by the preliminary post mortem report. It is pertinent to mention that the deceased lady belonged to Kolkata and had been married with the accused just 20 days ago. In this regard, FIR No. 393/2022 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Budgam and further investigation is in progress.



2 drug peddlers arrested, 1.05 Kg Charas recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
HANDWARA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police on Saturday arrested two drug peddlers and recovered contraband substance from their possession. As per the details, a party of Police Station Qalamabad at a checkpoint established at Qalamabad intercepted a Santro (JK02A-4693) with two persons on board. They have been identified as Sameer Ahmad Bhat son of Manzoor Ahmad and Maisar Ghulam son of Ghulam Mohd Bhat, both residents of Reshipora Avantipora. During search, 1.05Kgs of Charas was recovered from their possession. They have been arrested and shifted to police station. Besides, vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 76/2022 under relevant section of law has been registered at PS Qalamabad and investigation has been initiated.