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J&K becomes first...

in industrialization, Jammu & Kashmir is at a new stage in its development trajectory. Focused attention is being given to the growth of dynamic sectors including real estate, horticulture and tourism so as to create increased employment opportunities, said the Lt Governor.

We are strengthening J&K's power and road infrastructure, improving connectivity and law & order situation. We have launched a massive program costing about Rs. 1 Lakh Crore to upgrade our infrastructure," the Lt Governor said.

There is an air of optimism and I am fully convinced of positive outcomes, he added.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary said that the administration is making constant efforts to be among top performers in Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Living, and bring fundamental change in the socio-economic ecosystem.

He emphasized on monthly progress review meetings with all stakeholder departments involved, ensuring successful implementation of G2B & G2C services on ground. Further, he added that all services shall be covered under the ambit of J&K Public Service Guarantee Act, 2011.

Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary to J&K Government, Industries & Commerce Department briefed the chair about the key features of the J&K Single Window system.

J&K Single Window System has emerged as a "One Stop Solution" for investors/applicants ensuring hassle free services, he added.

It was informed that the Integrated Single Window System will facilitate new investments locally & globally either through National Single Window System or through J&K Single Window System (www.singlewindow.jk.gov.in) with user friendly interfaces and timely approvals.

Department of Industries & Commerce being the nodal department shall coordinate with all departments of Government of J&K for successful compliance of Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) 2022 and Regulatory Compliance Burden (RCB) 2022.

J&K Government envisages 100% on ground implementation of Ease of Doing Business & Ease of Living initiatives through UT/Division/District Level feedback improvement campaigns. It also focuses on creating a healthy competition among departments and districts to have the best MIS dashboard (approval timelines) with zero pendency and timely redressal of grievances.

It was informed that 130+ services are hosted online through Single Window Portal and more than 2600 burdensome regulatory compliances have been identified and uploaded on RCB portal, GoI before the deadline (31st January 2022).

Short films on "New Jammu & Kashmir vision & development", "J&K Single Window (JK-SW) System" & "Integrated National Single Window System (NSWS)" were showcased on the occasion.

Sumita Dawra, Additional Secretary, DPIIT, GoI Additional Secretary DPIIT, GoI said that the integration of J&K Single Window system with the National Single Window system will enable the investors to know the preliminary clearances (Know Your Approvals) on a single click and can apply services either through NSWS and JKSWs.

Prerna Puri, Secretary to Government, IT Department; Anoo Malhotra, Director, I&C, Jammu; Smita Sethi, Managing Director, SIDCO; Shrawan Pathak, Team Leader EoDB; Kanav Kapahi, Senior Consultant; SICOP IT Team members and other concerned officials were present on the occasion, in person and through virtual mode.

JKPSC: Prosecuting Officer..

in the venue and for the examination functionaries, candidates to be allowed to carry their own sanitizers in transparent bottles, sanitization of each venue on regular basis and a surplus/standby examination room for accommodating candidates who would be coughing, sneezing and feeling feverish would be other guidelines to be followed during the examination.

The Commission has further instructed the Venue Supervisors to ensure proper heating facility at the time of examination.

The Commission has requested the district authorities for ensuring that no inconvenience is caused to the candidates or examination functionaries in their movement, especially who are coming from containment/micro-containment zone(s) and if necessary, the candidates e-Admit Cards and ID cards issued for the examination should be used/treated as movement passes.

Congress has become...

statements, their programmes, their misdeeds, the way you speak and connect with issues, it seems you have made up your mind of not coming back to power for 100 years. Nobody does this."

"If they had little hope that people would bless them they would not have done so. However, if you have only decided to (not come back to power) for a hundred years, I have also made preparations," he said.

Modi asked that if his government is talking about being vocal for local, is it not fulfilling the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi. "Then, why was it being mocked by the Opposition?" he said.

"We talked about Yoga and Fit India but that was mocked by the Opposition too," he said.

Hailing the people of Tamil Nadu who had come out of their homes to pay tribute to India's first Chief Of Defence Staff Bipin Rawat when his body was being carried away after the fatal helicopter crash, Modi accused the Congress of hurting Tamil sentiments.

The Congress has always hated such things and a "divisive mindset" has gotten into its DNA, he said.

"The Britishers have gone but Congress has made divide and rule policy its character. That is why the Congress has become the leader of the tukde-tukde gang," he said.

He alleged that Congress has lost the desire to come to power and has a philosophy that when one is not getting anything then at least spoil something.

"They are sowing seeds that will strengthen the roots of separatism," Modi said.

In an apparent reference to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's speech in Lok Sabha last week, Modi said statements were made in Parliament with the intention to incite people.

While Modi did not name Gandhi during his address, he virtually took on all the criticism levelled by the Congress leader in his speech last week.

He asserted that many people have come and gone but the country is immortal. The country has been united and great, is so and will remain so, he said.

The Congress was winning elections since 1971 on the slogan 'eradicate poverty', however, poverty didn't end but people ousted that party, he said and added that people in several states have rejected the party for decades.

"The question is not about elections, it is about intentions. Despite being in power for 50 years, why are the people of the country repeatedly rejecting them? Wherever people have taken the right path, they did not allow you (Congress) to enter again," he said.

The Prime Minister said the way India handled pandemic is an example for the world.

He 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is the perfect time to think about how India can play a global leadership role in the coming years.

Post COVID-19 pandemic, the world is moving fast towards a new world order and India should not miss this opportunity, he said.

The House later passed the motion thanking the President for his address to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on January 31 by a voice vote.

Police to soon...

filing a charge sheet in this case."

"The investigation is being conducted professionally and scientifically to make it a foolproof case so that the culprits are punished by setting an example and deterrence is created among elements having such barbaric tendency," he said.

The officer appealed to girls and their parents to inform police at an early stage if any miscreant is stalking or harassing them so that action can be taken.

Giving a rundown of the probe into the February 1 incident, Senior Superintendent of Police (Srinagar) Rakesh Balwal, a 2012-batch IPS officer from Manipur, said, "As we received the information (about the incident), a special team was immediately constituted and we were able to nab the culprits within 24 hours of the shocking incident."

In her police statement, the woman gave details of the clothes worn by the accused. A police team rushed to the residence of the accused and found those clothes concealed in a bed cavity, he said.

Initially, the main accused gave wishy-washy answers to police on the procurement of sulfuric acid. After he finally named the shop from where he got the acid, it was sealed for violating the Supreme Court guidelines on the storage and sale of acids.

"Initially, the main accused tried to mislead us on the procurement of acid claiming that he had taken it out from the battery of his inverter at home, but a search conducted at his residence negated his theory.

"Finally, he gave us the name of his friend who used to work in a repair shop and our police team nabbed him too," said Balwal, who was recently appointed as SSP (Srinagar) and has worked on various cases in Jammu and Kashmir, including the Pulwama terror attack, during his stint with the National Investigation Agency.

The police had procured CCTV footage from shops around the area where the incident took place to nail the culprits in the case, he said.

At 686, number...

has recorded 226 Covid-related deaths -- 167 in Leh and 59 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020, they said. No death was reported from the UT on Sunday, they said.

As many as 153 patients were cured and discharged from hospitals in Ladakh on Sunday. Of these, 102 were discharged in Leh and 57 in Kargil, they said.

With these, the total number of cured patients is 25,729, they said.

Of the total of 121 fresh cases from the Union Territory, 96 such cases were reported from Leh district and 25 from Kargil district, they said.

With this, the total number of COVID-19 active cases in Ladakh is 987 including 580 cases in Leh and 407 cases in Kargil district.

Aadhaar card not...

Health in Maharashtra to take action against the concerned private vaccination centre which denied vaccination to the petitioner despite production of valid passport ID. The grievance of the petitioner is duly met. All concerned authorities to act in accordance with the policy of the government," it said.

The plea had sought effective and non-discriminative enforcement of the already notified rules/ policies in the entire country in a uniform manner; for the protection of the right to vaccination granted to citizen of India which is dangerously endangered on account of denial of vaccination due to non-submission of Aadhaar details to the concerned authority.

"Such actions are in blatant violation of right to life under Article 21 read with right to equality under Article 14 of the Constitution and hence, the petitioner urges sympathetic indulgence of this court by way of issuing appropriate directions to direct the concerned authority to set aside the mandatory pre-condition of production of Aadhaar details from enabling administration of vaccination., the plea said.

Gupkar alliance to...

outset expressed apprehensions that this Commission is set up to advance the BJP agenda," she told reporters here.

"Constituencies have been redrawn in such a way that it would not matter whether they (Muslims in Jammu division) vote or not," she alleged.

Mufti said the PAGD will meet on February 23 to discuss the situation.

The draft report has proposed an overhaul of assembly and Lok Sabha constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir and has been criticised by most parties including the National Conference, PDP, Congress, Peoples Conference led by Sajad Lone, the CPI(M) and JK Awami National Conference (ANC).

On Monday, hundreds of BJP activists tendered resignation to protest the proposed merger of Suchetgarh assembly constituency in Jammu district.

"They want to convert Gandhi's India into Godse's India. Jammu and Kashmir has become a laboratory for that. Just like they have created a mess by the Delimitation Commission here, same will be done soon elsewhere in the country," the former chief minister alleged.

On the hijab controversy in Karnataka, Mehbooba Mufti alleged that it was an "excuse to keep Muslim girls away from education". She also condemned the recent arrest of journalists.

Tribunal to hear...

advocates Jugal Kishore Gupta and Rahul Sadhotra, appearing for Mamta Singh, submitted that they had filed objections to the impleadment application online on Monday.

At this stage, the court enquired from the counsel appearing for the JDA, Adarsh Sharma, whether the authority has also filed its objections to the application, upon which the counsel also said that the objections have been filed online, a court source said.

Both the appellant Mamta Singh and the JDA filed their objections to the impleadment application filed by the whistleblower in response to the "last and final opportunity" given by the tribunal during a hearing of the case last month.

Shah apprised the tribunal that on the last date of hearing, the counsel for the JDA had submitted that he shall produce the complete record of the case on this date and enquired whether the complete record had been placed before the court or not.

Upon this, the counsel for the JDA submitted that he does not want to produce any record now, and the record before the court is complete in all respects, the sources said.

After considering the contentions of the parties, the tribunal took on record the objections filed by the JDA and the appellant and directed the registry to list the matter on February 17 for hearing the arguments in the impleadment application.

The court has further extended the stay on demolition till next date of hearing, the

source said.

Singh and his family had moved into the bungalow on July 23, 2020 after completing the work, even though the high court had in May 2018 directed authorities to ensure "strict implementation" of a 2015 notification barring general public from carrying out any construction within 1,000 yards of defence works.

The special tribunal, on November 13 last year, had granted relief to Singh after his wife moved an application through her lawyers and submitted that she is the owner in possession of a residential plot measuring four kanals, which was purchased on May 20, 2014 and the area where the land is situated is outside the jurisdiction of any development authority.

The counsel said the building was constructed in all respects in the beginning of 2017.

The high court, on May 7, 2018, had asked all parties to maintain status quo until final disposition of an Army plea which claimed that the building was in violation of laid down norms.

Raising security and safety concerns in view of the building's proximity to an ammunition depot, the Centre had filed two petitions before the high court.

Singh had earlier claimed it was a political conspiracy against him.

Sinha lays foundation...

and handicrafts, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor appreciated the efforts of SMC and other districts of Kashmir division for continuous public services delivery during the harsh winter season.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation has introduced various technical interventions, working continuously on Good Governance for the convenience of the common citizens and improving the public service delivery. Development works initiated today will strengthen the core infrastructure of Srinagar, besides opening up new avenues for the tourism sector and extending facilities to the locals, the Lt Governor said.

Complementing SMC for the work done on graffiti and art in public places, the Lt Governor advised the Municipal Corporation to organize events like wall paintings in different areas to celebrate Azadi ki Amrit Mahotsav.

Several other projects including Control Room of 'Adaptive Traffic Control System (ATCS)' costing Rs 12.76 crore; Vehicle Mounted Manhole Desilting Machine and Snow clearance machines have been dedicated to the citizens of Srinagar to strengthen city's infrastructure and to ensure efficient services are delivered in a sustainable manner.

While speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta said that the new projects will add new attractions to Srinagar and increase tourist flux to the city.

He also announced on the occasion that the Dal Lake will be cleaned fully this year, besides the issue of sewage disposal of houseboats in Dal Lake will be resolved by June this year.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor, Srinagar Municipal Corporation said that the massive Urban Transformation projects dedicated to the people by Lieutenant Governor will give impetus to the ease of living of locals here and increase their standard of living.

Athar Aamir Khan, Commissioner, SMC and CEO Srinagar Smart City delivered the welcome address and briefed about the projects initiated today.

The redevelopment of the famous Polo View Road includes- Pedestrian Walkway, Seating spaces, Retractable bollards for emergency services, Illumination, Surveillance, Improved drainage and WI-FI Zone.

Adaptive Traffic Control System (ATCS) is being implemented under the AMRUT scheme within SMC limits. The scope of the project includes the establishment of a Control Room at SSP's (Traffic) office and implementation of traffic lights at 33 junctions in Srinagar in Phase - I and 33 junctions in phase -II, it was informed.

Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; M Raju, Commissioner/Secretary, Jal Shakti Department; Vijay Kumar, IGP Kashmir; Mohammad Aijaz, DC Srinagar; ULB representatives; concerned officers and people from all walks of life were present on the occasion.

J&K scores 75...

Jaya Dubey, Secretary IT J&K, Prerna Puri and senior officers of Government of J&K besides Knowledge partners from CGG Hyderabad and KPMG India.

On the occasion, the Chief Secretary along with Secretary DARGP today approved the outlines of the Dashboard which shall provide a monthly view to all DDCs, Administrative Secretaries, and Chief Secretary's office for improvement and outcomes in every month.

The meeting was informed that after the successful launch of District Good Governance Index (DGGI) to measure the annual change, the Government of J&K in collaboration with Department of Administrative Reform and Public Grievances (DARGP) has developed a Dashboard with 50 indicators and 140 data sets to help measure the monthly change between various districts thus to provide a more accurate measure of district governance.

During the meeting, the NIC, Government of India presented the dashboard on the indicators finalized by JKIMPARD and it was decided that the DGGI Dashboard will be ready by 15 February and DG IMPARD was made Nodal Officer for the initiative.

Dr Mehta informed that in addition to 56 services already mapped, 130 new services under Ease of Doing Business (EODB)/ BRAP shall also be added making the total number 186.

The Chief Secretary directed the Secretaries of Tourism, Labour and Employment and Housing and Urban Development Department to resubmit data and provide IT Secretary accurate information so that the UT obtains number 01 ranking not only among UTs but also among states.

A project report of 53 crore was submitted by SIU NIC for funding under e-HRMS for human resource data entry for approximately 4.5 lakh employees of the state.

e-HRMS project shall help the government in keeping all employees data like APRs, leave, promotion, increment and salary records in e-form.

Parts of Kashmir ...

in south Kashmir, which also serves as the base camp for the annual Amarnath Yatra, recorded a low of minus 0.5 degrees Celsius, up from minus 3.7 degrees Celsius the night before.

Qazigund recorded a minimum temperature of 0.6 degrees Celsius, while the mercury settled at 1.3 degrees Celsius in nearby Kokernag.

North Kashmir's Kupwara recorded a low of 0.7 degrees Celsius.

Kashmir is currently under the influence of the 20-day 'Chillai-Khurd' (small cold) which began after the 'Chilla-i-Kalan', the 40-day harshest winter period, ended on January 31.

'Chilla-i-Kalan', which started on December 21 last year, is the 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 maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy to very heavy snowfall. However, 'Chilla-i-Kalan' this year was not as harsh as last year's and there was less snowfall. 'Chillai-Khurd' is followed by a 10-day 'Chillai-Bachha' (baby cold).

Dir Samagra Shiksha sensitises districts on formulation of Annual, perspective 4-Year Plan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Project Director-Samagra Shiksha, Deep Raj on Monday sensitised the district officers on formulation of perspective plan of Four Years and Annual Plan & Budget for 2022-23 under Samagra Shiksha, here at a meeting.

The meeting was attended by Director School Education Jammu, Dr Ravi Shankar Sharma and Director School Education, Kashmir, Dr. Tassaduq Hussain Mir along with the Chief Education Officers of Union Territory and Coordinators of different interventions of Samagra Shiksha.

Emphasising on the thrust areas and new financial norms of Ministry of Education, he exhorted upon the district officers to prepare the perspective and

annual plan keeping in view the actual requirement of school education sector in holistic view for the next four years. They were also clarified about the major guidelines laid under each intervention for availing the maximum budgetary support from the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

It was made known to all the officers present in the meeting that Ministry has asked to pay more focus in improving the quality of education through the Pre-Primary and FLN under NIPUN Bharat as per the NEP-2020. As such, the plan should be formulated in a very systematic way so that every child at the end of 2025-26 becomes proficient. It was reiterated that Vocational Education has been made one of the impor-

tant interventions in the NEP and as such the district officers shall make every effort to propose the Vocational Education in the schools having adequate infrastructures besides, proposing for ICT Labs and Smart Classrooms under the Digital Initiatives.

The guidelines issued by the Government of India envisages for paying much required attention for building up the infrastructure and other logistic requirement under the pre primary wing. Moreover, the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Secretary has also directed in the meetings from time to be pioneer in the country to initiate kindergartens. Therefore, the perspective planning is required to be done at the district level in view of the targets of the NEP and

directives of Higher Authorities.

Apart from flagship programme of Samagra Shiksha, Director also asked all the Chief Education Officers to formulate the plan for PM Poshan (erstwhile Mid-Day Meal) scheme within the next ten days as per the number of children and requirement under the scheme so that same is placed before the Steering Committee for its approval before submission to the Government of India. At the last, Director expressed special gratitude to both the Directors for sparing their valuable time to attend the meeting and asked the Chief Education Officers with full dedication and zeal to implement the intervention of Samagra Shiksha in letter and spirit.

Navin chairs meeting on promotion of commercial horticulture

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department, Navin Kumar Choudhary, on Monday chaired a meeting of committee constituted for promotion of commercial floriculture in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner Secretary, Floriculture, Parks and Gardens, Sheikh Fayaz Ahmad.

Principal Secretary stressed on the need to initiate special efforts for promotion of departmental schemes and subsidies saying that the sector has immense potential yet to be explored.

It was decided in the meeting that grant of subsidies out of Capex funds would not be allowed in future.

Principal Secretary said that for promotion of



Prpl Secy, Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department, Navin K Choudhary chairing a meeting.

commercial floriculture in the UT, flower growers would be incentivised for activities like production and packaging/ marketing separately. 'Norms prescribed under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) would be strictly applicable while giving subsidies for flower production', he added.

The climate of Kashmir division is ideal for production of bulbs as well as cut flowers. Jammu division consists of different climatic zones and therefore provides opportunity for traditional flower

growers for production of cut flowers and various aromatic flowers like lavender', remarked the Principal Secretary.

He suggested earmarking of definite budget for 'packaging and transport support' to flower growers. The budget would constitute definite amount for production support and packaging/processing units besides transportation, he added.

It was also decided that no individual would be incentivised for more than 5 years under the aforementioned activities.

The meeting also took stock of PARVAZ cargo scheme of the government which provides farmers subsidy to farmers for air cargo.

Principal Secretary suggested that the scheme be extended to Horticulture Department on trial basis for a period of three years.

He set a target of 25 percent increase in flower production for the department every year. He also asked for conducting suggested educational trips for horticulture officers and experts to learn more from other states successful in the sector. Others present in the meeting included Director General Horticulture Kashmir, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director Floriculture Kashmir and Additional Secretary, Jahangir Hashmi and among other members of the committee.

