

Transforming producers into entrepreneurs forms foundation of future agriculture: Dir Agri

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting between Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare, Jammu and Ernest & Young, a multidisciplinary professional services organization was held under the chairmanship of Director AP & FW, Jammu, K. K. Sharma at Krishi Bhawan, Jammu here on Friday.

The meeting was held to explore the possibilities of developing market linkages with special focus on value addition of Turmeric.

Those present on the occasion included Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs), A.S. Reen, Joint Director (Marketing), Mahesh Verma, Joint Director (Extension), Subash Chander Sharma, Joint Director (Farms), Rajinder Sharma, CAO Jammu, Arvind Baru, CAO Kathua, Vijay Upadhyaya, PDO, Susheel Rattan Sharma, Consultant EY, Paritosh



Director AP & FW, Jammu, K. K. Sharma chairing a meeting.

Ghru, Technical officer Sanjeev Khajuria and rajat sharma from O&TR group besides Sanjeev Kumar from Sahara Jagrati Manch, a women NGO dealing with cultivation of Turmeric.

The Director Agriculture underscored that future Agriculture is primarily based upon transforming producers into entrepreneurs.

To achieve this purpose department is working towards creating market linkages through processing, value addition, branding, packaging, GI Tagging and marketing of local specialty products like basmati, honey, saffron, turmeric, rajmash, anardana, moun-

tain garlic, guechi mushroom, kalari etc. The Director emphasized that the Agriculture Department is playing an important role towards enhancing farmer's income by training the farmers as agripreneur and further motivating them to adopt farmer friendly technology to cut down the cost of cultivation.

He urged the officials of Ernest & Young to support the department in identifying and utilizing the opportunities in the field of brand promotion and marketing of agri products. He impressed upon the officials to short list the related commodities and formulate scope paper to be submitted to EY. The

Joint Director Agriculture (Inputs), A.S. Reen asked the EY Team to facilitate the department in procuring quality turmeric seed from a certified government agency and further in establishing turmeric processing units. Joint Director (Marketing), Mahesh Verma presented the vote of thanks.

FDCEU accords farewell to CK Sudan



Forest Development Corporation Employees Union members according farewell to C.K Sudan, Administrative Officer.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K Forest Development Corporation Employees Union (FDCEU) on Friday accorded a warm farewell to C.K Sudan, Administrative Officer on her superannuation in a function organized here. Suresh Sharma said that the lady Officer served the organisation for about 38 years with an unblemished record.

As President of the J&K Forest Corporation Employees Union, she was instrumental in saving Bachan Depot land from encroachers, 6th pay/DA to all PSUs and many key issues faced by employees fraternity.

She was punctual, duty bound, outspoken and bold leader of employees besides being a dedicated and hard-working officer, Suresh said. All wished Happy post retirement life to her.

C.K Sudan urged the authorities to release all the dues of the employees, besides all the long pending genuine demands be also addressed forthwith. She also said even after her retirement she will fight for the genuine demands of the Public Sector Union Employees and also work for the upliftment of the down-trodden people of the Union Territory of J&K.

HC stays demolition notice issued to stone-crusher

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant order, Justice Pneet Gupta of Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh High Court (Jammu Wing) has stayed operation of notice dated February 26, 2022 issued by Tehsildar Ramsoo whereby M/s Alamdar Stone Crusher Sujmatra, Ramsoo was directed to vacate premises within three days failing which same will be demolished. The Court also issued notices to the Commissioner/Secretary to Govt Revenue Department, District Development Commissioner Ramban, SDM Ramsoo, Tehsildar Ramsoo and General Manager DIC Ramban returnable within four weeks.

The aggrieved stone crusher through its partner Anzer Amin, challenged the demolition by filing a writ petition in High Court through Advocate Irfaan Khan. When the petition came up for hearing, Advocate Irfaan Khan appearing for the petitioner submitted that impugned notice is bad in eyes of law being illegal and arbitrary besides same has been issued without adhering to mandate of law.

Advocate Irfaan Khan also invited the attention of the Court towards an agreement of lease between the land owners and partners of M/s

Alamdar Stone Crusher, which was executed before Sub Registrar Banihal after issuance of all NoCs by different authorities, before in installation of stone crusher which is running strictly as per norms. Advocate Irfaan submitted that though right to property has been taken away from purview of fundamental right but the Supreme Court of India has held that right to property is still a Constitutional and Human Right, and persons cannot be deprived of their property without having recourse to legal provisions.

Advocate Irfaan further submitted that petitioner is not averse to National project but respondents cannot throw the petitioner without paying him the compensation of structures, which he is entitled to as per Government order while respondents, without assessing and paying the compensation to the petitioner are forcibly dispossessing him when on the other hand they are arbitrarily assessing compensation on piecemeal and choose basis, that too over the same piece of land. After considering submissions of Advocate Irfaan Khan, Justice Pneet Gupta directed that impugned notice dated February 26, 2022 shall stay.

Sanction full package to refugees/DPs of 1947, 1965, 1971: JKPC

Stop anti-unemployed youth actions, create jobs'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) on Friday demanded that full package as recommended by the J&K Government for the refugees/DPs of 1947, 1965, 1971 be sanctioned without further delay.

In a joint statement, senior JKPCC leaders Raman Bhalla Working President JKPCC, Mula Ram Vice President JKPCC, Ravinder Sharma Chief Spokesperson, General Secretaries Th Balwan Singh, Yogesh Sawhney, Manmohan Singh, Shiv Dev Singh Ex MLA, T S Bajwa Ex MP, Treasurer Rajnish Sharma, Th Balbir Singh Ex MLA, Ved Mahajan Ex MLC, Th Hari Singh Chib DCC President Jammu Rural

questioned why full package including financial assistance of Rs 30 lakh per family and other components of the package have not been sanctioned, so far by the Modi government, against repeated promises by the BJP.

The meagre amount of Rs 5.50

lakh too has not been received by thousands of eligible families especially DP families of 1947, who are required to produce old records of migration after 70 years which are not easily available with all despite best efforts besides other family issues, they said adding that instead of finding ways and means to cover all genuine families, JK Govt abruptly issued an order closing the claim process.

It was only after the Congress party and other refugees organisations raised hue and cry, that the arbitrary order was withdrawn and process kept open but why not the entire package sanctioned as recommended by Congress Govt, not sanctioned for them so far, after more than seven years of BJP in power.

The package contained 30 lakh per family, reservation in para military forces and technical courses for their wards and covering all eligible families in the package of relief, rehabilitation and settlement for left out families.

The DPs of 1947 we're conferred rights of section 3-A of Agrarian Reforms Act entitling them power to sell/transfer while similar rights to the DPs of 1965 and 1971 be also conferred to meet their genuine demands.

It was congress initiative to resolve outstanding issues of rehabilitation and settlement of the displaced communities of 1947, 1965 and 1971, who were sufferers of partition, Pakistan aggression and two wars and a comprehensive package was worked out for their welfare on the directions of UPA govt headed by Dr Manmohan Singh. However the BJP government only sanctioned a part of the same while the major recommendations were ignored.

The Congress leaders demanded that full package as well as all pending issues including reservations of the displaced people should be considered, resolved and settled and their entire records be updated, reconstructed and maintained properly, without further delay.

The Leaders also rued the government for the harassment to the various categories of daily, need based and casual workers and other temporary, contractual and consolidated employees and demanded framing of fair regularisation policy for each category of such workers and employees. There are different yardsticks being followed for different categories and are not paid wages on regular basis.

They also charged the government of adopting various anti unemployed youth policies like withdrawing all posts under recruitment prior to 31st oct, 2019, stopping all direct recruitments to teachers and lecturers from direct quota, utilizing all vacant posts of teachers for RETs, undue treatment to the demands of border battalions and BSF/CRPF aspirants. The government should stop such anti youth policies causing frustration to the unemployed educated youth, and create more jobs, as the unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir is all time high.

Jamkash Vehicleades unveils new WagonR

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jamkash Vehicleades, authorized dealer of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, on Friday launched the New WagonR in an all-new avatar at Channi Himmat Showroom, here.

The vehicle was unveiled by Susheel Hans, Regional Manager, State Bank of India, Sanjay Bhagat, Chief Manager Credit, Balbir Kumar, Chief Manager, Punjab National Bank, Rupinder Kumar Circle Head Punjab National Bank in the presence of customers and Team Jamkash.

The New WagonR is powered by the Advanced K-series Dual Jet, Dual VVT Engines with Idle Start Stop Technology and comes in 1.0L and 1.2L Powertrain options.

Its sporty exterior design, premium dual tone interiors, new-age safety and convenience features is poised to impress customers with its practical yet modern appeal.

One of the most iconic and highest selling cars in the country, Wagon R continues



Susheel Hans, Regional Manager, SBI unveiling New WagonR at Jamkash Vehicleades.

to be "Dil se Strong" and rule the Indian roads for over the past two decades.

The New WagonR is geared up to take that legacy forward with its robust and energetic performance, dual-tone exterior, enhanced interiors, 12+ safety features, convenient features and higher fuel efficiency.

Siddharth Manhas, General Manager Marketing, Jamkash Vehicleades explained the exciting features of The New WagonR, it is packed with exciting new features like ISS in petrol variants & Hill Hold Assist in AGS variants to enhance the driving experience. The 17.78cm (7") SmartPlay Studio with smartphone nav-

igation comes with 4 speakers and supported by cloud-based services to offer a connected and modern driving experience to customers.

The New WagonR is available in a wide array of colours to add a sportier and energetic look to the iconic tallboy hatchback including 2 Dual tone options. The Dual-tone WagonR is available in two new colour options- Gallant Red with Black Roof and Magma Grey with Black Roof.

The 1.2L engine variant of New Wagon R is available in both manual transmission and Automatic gear shift options. The ex-showroom price is between Rs. 5,99,826 and Rs 7,10,226 for 7 different models to choose from.

Revenue officials' strike continue, Kathua unit submits memorandum to DC

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU / KATHUA : Revenue officials including Patwaris, Girdawars and other field functionaries continued their strike and sit-in protest on fourth consecutive day, demanding release of arrested Patwaris. The protest was held at DC office complex, Jammu under the umbrella of All Jammu & Kashmir Patwar Association (AJKPA). All Patwaris, Girdawars and other field functionaries from various parts of Jammu district participated in the protest.

The protesting Revenue officials raised slogans in support of their demands which included release of both arrested Patwaris arrested in connection with missing of revenue record, providing Government accommodation for Patwarkhanas and other basic facilities for running Patwar offices.

Meanwhile, revenue officials of Kathua unit of AJKPA,



Revenue officials raising slogans during a protest at Kathua.

who are on pen-down strike, submitted a memorandum of demands to Deputy Commissioner Kathua. The memorandum submitted by association members reads, "A

very tragic episode has happened on February 28, 2022 as two Patwaris/ Revenue Officials of our department namely Bashir Ahmed and Sushil Kumar Sharma were arrested in case FIR No. 182/2021 under sections 409/471/120B/380 of IPC by Police Station Channi Himmat Jammu related to missing land records. It is to be submitted that whole

With reference to the above mentioned episode, it is submitted that the whole episode of arresting Revenue Officials is total failure of Department because of non-providence of Patwarkhanas (Offices) to secure strategic land records. It is pertinent to mention here that Revenue higher authorities ironically mistaken the working conditions of Patwaris.

During preparation of Jamabandies, assistance from retired revenue officials for completion of Jamabandies was taken as the task required higher competence and sufficient time, which the field staff was hard to cater due to being overloaded and engaged in other Govt sponsored schemes such as SVAMITVA, KCC, scanning of land Records, Apni Zameen Apni Nigrani, Block Diwas, COVID-19 related duties as well as preparation of Kharab lists and many others than regular Revenue related works."

Two-day skill development training programme concludes at SKUAST-J

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A two-day skill development training programme was conducted at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology - Jammu (SKUAST-J) by Fisheries Unit, Faculty of Agriculture under overall guidance of Prof J. P. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu.

Training, SKUAST-J, opined that this kind of hands-on training will be beneficial to the participants working in various Fisheries Department. Dr. Bikram Singh, Dean, FoA, Chatha said this programme will ensure further updating the officers with recent techniques. Dr. M. S. Bhadwal, Dean,



Participants of training workshop posing with SKUAST-J officials.

Research, SKUAST-J, opined that this kind of hands-on training will be beneficial to the participants working in various Fisheries Department. Dr. Bikram Singh, Dean, FoA, Chatha said this programme will ensure further updating the officers with recent techniques. Dr. M. S. Bhadwal, Dean,

SVSc. & A.H. distributed certificates among the participants who completed the training.

Dr. Sahar Masud, In-charge of Fisheries Unit briefed about the importance of the training topics in present scenario. Vote of thanks presented by Dr. Akhil Gupta, Associate Professor, Fisheries unit.

LIC employees hold massive protests against IPO

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A number of LIC employees across Jammu & Kashmir held massive demonstrations against LIC IPO under banner of Northern Zone Insurance Employees' Association Srinagar Division (NZIEA) in support of proposed Dharma by All India Insurance Employees' Association at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi.

While addressing employees at DO Cell Jammu, Pawan Gupta, Divisional Secretary NZIEA Srinagar said that the government is going for an issue of 3162.5 crore shares of face value Rs 10 each of its over 6,3250 crore shares, constituting 5 per cent of its stake in LIC. "Money received from sale of shares will go to Govt for meeting its disinvestment target; and no amount will remain with LIC. It is policyholders' money and their trust on LIC due to which LIC today has grown as the biggest customer based industry across globe with 41 crore customers and 38 lakh crore of assets.

It is injustice with policyholders that 5 per cent part of it is being sold ultimately leading to privatization of the big public sector giant, which is the first step towards privatisation of LIC," he added. Opposing decision for online selling of LIC policies, he said that with the move our field force in form of agents and Development officers will also suffer. Others present were Romesh Chand-Joint Secretary, Dinesh Kumar Sharma-Vice President, Raj Kumar Sharma-Treasurer, Rajesh Kumar-Auditor, Raj Kumar-Office Secretary, Neelam Sharma-Women Convener, Namak Chand and Kishore Lal. The demonstration was led by Ajaz Ah Dar, Joint Secretary NZIEA Srinagar Division, Fiaz Gul Vice President and others.

DGP also sanctioned Rs 1 lakh in favour of 16 wards of serving police personnel who have secured 90% and above marks in the annual examination of class 12th during the academic session 2020-21.

Similarly Rs 6,000 each has been sanctioned in favour of 16 wards of serving police personnel who have secured 80%-90% marks in the annual examination of 12th class. The scholarship is sanctioned out of the Central Police Welfare Fund.

DGP also sanctioned Rs