!! Continuations from Page 1!! J&K's policies, law...

(GDP) to 7.5 per cent from the current 13 per cent to make exports globally competitive. Shah said that without the development of the country's infrastructure and reduction of logistics costs, development was not possible.

The government is investing Rs 100 lakh erore in infrastructure which will be instrumental in reducing logistics costs, he added.

J&K revenue receipts...

Red flagging poor loan recovery, the CAG said that during 2021-22, the Jammu and Kashmir government disbursed loans and advances of Rs 73.77 crore and recovered loans and advances amounting to Rs 1.03 crore.

"Out of total loans disbursed during 2021-22, loans amounting Rs 40 crore was disbursed to J&K Road Transport Corporation (JKRTC) Limited which already had outstanding loans of Rs 439.23 crore ending 31 March, 2021 (Rs 383.73 crore received from erstwhile State and Rs 55.50 crore from UT of J&K)," it said.

According to the last audited accounts for the year 2018-19, the report said JKRTC booked losses of Rs 117.62 crore.

The report said the total accumulated balance of J&K at the end of 31 March 2022in reserve funds was Rs 920.13 crore.

"There is cumulative aggregate balance in these funds at the end of 30 October 2019 amounting Rs 2.806 crore of erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir which is yet to be bifurcated between two successor UTs (J&K and Ladakh)," it said.

On budgetary management, the report stated that an amount of Rs 21,646.17 erore was incurred under 33 schemes/subheads in 10 grants without budgetary provisions during 2021-22.

"During 2021-22, a sum of Rs 158.76 crore of revenue expenditure was disbursed under Capital Major Heads of expenditure, thereby, resulting in overstatement of Capital Expenditure and understatement of Revenue Expenditure and Revenue deficit to the extent of Rs 158.76 crore," it said.

The report said supplementary provisions aggregating Rs 3,919.78 crore obtained in 22 cases, involving Rs 50 lakh or more in each case during the year proved unnecessary as the expenditure did not come up to the level of the original provisions.

The CAG said there were huge savings of Rs 100 crore and above by the departments under Capital Section in 22 grants amounting to Rs 18,723.63 crore

The report said 3,089 number of Utilisation Certificates (UC) for grants paid up to 30 October 2019 amounting to Rs 8,158.32 crore by the erstwhile state and 770 number of UCs for grants paid by the UT of Jammu and Kashmir amounting to Rs $3{,}137.11$ crore were outstanding up to 31 March last year.

J&K Govt notifies...

of JKEL-2 vends, for repeated premises, there shall be no requirement of DMs, clearance besides Deemed Clause introduced and renting out Government land for one year for opening vends at places where private premises is not available.

The major new initiatives include introduction of three new categories of Licenses a) JKEL 2A (Retail vend of Beer and RTD in JKTDC/Tourism Establishments/ Tourism Development Authorities /Airports etc.); b) KEL-6A (Bottling License on eased out Premises) and c) W1-Winery.

The major Boost to local industry for increasing local production and export of high quality and low alcohol content brands: All Bars in J&K have been hugely incentivized by reducing their MRP from 25% to 10% or as per menu, whichever is higher. By granting permission to the local Distilleries/Bottling plants for production of RTD with annual fee of Rs. 20,000/. 25 % less Excise Duty on CSD/PMF Brands manufactured in J&K only. To protect local industry, restriction shall be imposed on import of brands having MRP Rs 600 per bottle (750 ml).

For the first time, a new Country Liquor brand of 45 degree proof introduced that is affordable will arrest/discourage sale of illicit liquor and to prevent Hooch tragedy. Promotion in production of quality brands by local liquor industry by blending scotch and malt (not less than 2 %).

The new Excise Policy also accords permission to serve liquor on rooftops to the existing high-end Hotels and Restaurants with additional 50% of the annual license fee has been introduced to boost high-end tourism related activity.

Rationalization of License Fee under various categories to link them with sale in cases. Fee has been revised as per category of hotels. Fee/Duties have been slightly changed for IMFL and JK Special Whisky.

Giving options to bidders to either have the possession of immovable property in UT of J&K worth up to 100 percent of the bid value or not less than 50% of the bid value with remainder of bid value (not more than 50%) as Bank Guarantee (BG). This will raise the bid value thus more revenue to the government.

The Excise Policy 2023 also addresses the demand of tourists for opening of Liquor vends at Tourist Places and places of illicit distillations.

In order to discourage conflict of interest or monopolistic practices in liquor trade, all manufacturing units have been proposed to be declared as ineligible for grant of

Also facilitating introduction of more BIO Beer and other Liquor Brands by decreasing the import duty by Rs 5 per BL on beer and reduced the additional assessment duty on BIO brands by 50% over previous Excise Policy, the new excise

Realising the fact that no new franchise brand introduced for manufacturing in J&K, the franchise duty has been dispensed with to have more introduction/production of franchise brands in J&K. Liquor vends have been proposed at Tourist Places and places of illicit distillations with NOC from DM and a certificate from

To address the grievance of stakeholders, Quota Transfer fee of Rs 1.00 per bottle

Stock Transfer option has also been introduced with Rs. 0.50 per bottle as charges for transfer of stock (if available) to be paid by the outgoing licensee on determination of license.

Promotion of digital payments. Steps have been introduced for using POS machines and keeping UPI payment options in the vends.

Vend information signboard have been made compulsory for each JKEL-2 vend. To ensure zero leakages, it has been proposed to install Flow Meters in Bottling

ED arrests own staff for sharing info

with corruption accused

MUMBAI: A special PMLA court in Mumbai on Friday remanded two staffers of

the Enforcement Directorate in the Central probe agency's custody till March 28 for

allegedly demanding and accepting a bribe to provide "secret" information to an

Yogesh Wagule and Vishal Kudekar were arrested by ED during the day for help-

ing Bablu Sonkar, an associate of Amar Mulchandani, former chairman of Seva

Sonkar too has been arrested, and the three were produced before special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) Judge M G Deshpande, who

ED counsel Kavita Patil told court the bribe was paid to "purchase secret office

documents" of ED so as to keep a close watch on the probe agency's findings in the

ease against Mulchandani as well as to keep track of witnesses who are being sum-

Sonkar had also paid a bribe of Rs 40,000 to a driver attached to the ED who was

on duty when Vinay Aranha of Rosary Education Group of Pune, was arrested in a

Aranha is accused of defaulting on loans taken from various banks, including two

from SVC Bank. The loans were taken from SVC Bank by mortgaging a property

that had already been sold, and the loan account was declared an NPA, as per the

ED. The ED has claimed the SVC Board of Directors headed by Mulchandani had

Absconder arrested after 5 years

MIRAN SAHIB: Police on Tuesday nabbed an absconder who was evading his

Vikas Co-operative (SVC) Bank, after accepting Rs 13,000.

money laundering case earlier this month, as per the probe agency.

CRIMERE

STATE TIMES NEWS

accused in a money laundering case.

sanctioned the loans to Aranha.

STATE TIMES NEWS

arrest for 5 years.

remanded them in ED custody till March 28.

moned and what was being unearthed from them.

Plants/Distilleries/Breweries.

Rationalization of production of JK Special Whisky. To encourage informants giving information about the growing/cultivation of poppy/cannabis also manufacturing of illicit liquor and bootlegging, a new clause of rewarding the informants has been introduced in the policy.

For the first time, research activities for devising eco-friendly chemical/biological methods for destruction of wild cannabis have been promoted under Social

The Excise Department implements its action/operational plans through annual Excise Policies. Excise Policy is an important policy tool to carefully balance the imperatives of making the liquor available to the people in the manner and at the cost, which is both qualitative and affordable. The policy carries forward the objectives of encouraging transition from high to low alcoholic content beverages, to bring about greater social consciousness and awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse and to check bootlegging/smuggling of liquor and narcotic drugs in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir from neighbouring States/Union Territories.

DB disposes PIL...

further observed that petitioners are at liberty to approach the Court again in case of any adversity or the failure on the part of the respondents to decide the representation within the stipulated time frame.

Govt extends deadline...

fee of Rs 500 on linking of PAN with Aadhaar from April 1, 2022 and the amount was later increased to Rs 1,000 from July 1, 2022.

So far, more than 51 crore PANs have been linked with Aadhaar.

Under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961, every person who has been allotted a PAN as on July 1, 2017 and eligible to obtain Aadhaar Number, was required to intimate his or her Aadhaar to the prescribed authority on or before March 31, 2023, on payment of a prescribed fee.

Failure to do so would have attracted certain actions under the Act from April 1,

"The date for intimating Aadhaar to the prescribed authority for the purpose of linking PAN and Aadhaar has now been extended to June 30, 2023," the statement

From July 1, 2023, PAN of taxpayers who have failed to intimate their Aadhaar shall become inoperative.

Once the PAN becomes inoperative, the tax payer concerned will not be able to claim tax refund nor interest on it. Also, TDS and TCS will be deducted /collected at a higher rate from them.

"PAN can be made operative again in 30 days, upon intimation of Aadhaar to the prescribed authority after payment of fee of Rs 1,000," the ministry said.

Naveen Wadhwa, DGM of tax advisory firm Taxmann, said it should be noted that the payment of fees of Rs 1,000 remains mandatory, and no relaxation has been given in this regard.

Vivek Jalan, Partner at Tax Connect Advisory, said Aadhaar and PAN linkage is mandatory to get the benefits of income tax refunds and credits of TDS/TCS, and also to avoid paving higher taxes in the form of penal TDS.

Lallit Tripathi, Chairman and Managing Director of financial services firm Vedant Asset, said if a taxpayer fails to do so by the end of June, PAN will become inoperative, which means that the person will not be able to file income tax returns, perform several banking services, or carry out stock market transactions.

According to the ministry, those persons who have been exempted from PAN-Aadhaar linking will not be liable to face action.

This category includes those residing in specified states, a non-resident as per the Income Tax Act, an individual who is not a citizen of India or individuals of the age of eighty years or more at any time during the previous year.

Last week, Congress leader in Lok Sabha Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging him to extend the deadline by six months for linking PAN with Aadhaar and remove the Rs 1,000 fee.

20 JKAS officers...

as Joint Director, Hospitality and Protocol, Kashmir; Deepika Rana, JKAS, Chief Executive Officer, Jammu Urban Development Agency, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kathua; Mohammad Syed Khan, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary, School Education Department; Inderjeet Singh, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Chatroo, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Chatroo, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kishtwar, vice Kishori Lal, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in GAD.

Waseem Raja, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bandipore, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary, Youth Services and Sports Department; Garbi Rashid, JKAS, Additional Secretary, Youth Services and Sports Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary, Floriculture, Parks and Gardens Department; Joginder Singh Jasrotia, JKAS, Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Samba, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur; Umar Shafi Pandit, JKAS, Deputy Director, J8&K IMPA&RD, Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Bandipora; Rajeev Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, has been transferred and posted as Additional Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri; Ramkesh Sharma, KAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ghagwal, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Ghagwal, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary, Hospitality and Protocol Department; Waseem Raja, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner in the State Taxes Department, Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Youth Services and Kashmir: Alvaz Ahmad Naisroo JKAS Deputy Director Tourism Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Development Authority, Sonamarg, vice Mushtaq Ahmad Rather JKAS, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in GAD.

Ajay Bharti, JKAS, Deputy Secretary in the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, Estates, Jammu, vice Girdhari Lal, JKAS, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment

Miran Sahib Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq, after putting in strenuous efforts, raided at

suspected locations and arrested absconder. It is pertinent to mention that a war-

rant under section 512 CrPC was issued against the absconder by Court and he was

finally produced before Additional Special Mobile Magistrate R S Pura court.

I&K Govt to...

the issues of farmers, agri-startups, industries and allied sectors", he said. The aspiring agri-startups and agri- entrepreneurs will get all support through online mode from registration, approval, banking and financial support, central

schemes integration, advice, education, skilling and rectification on the dashboard. Dulloo said, "In case, they need financial assistance, the application will be sent to banks through the dashboard. In the central schemes, his application will be integrated into those schemes for the benefit of getting incentives. It will also be online It is based on OTP-driven setup".

He said that at each stage from applying online, dashboard will send him an ${\rm SMS}$ about the progress of the case. "The dashboard will give all the information about areas and the suitable agriculture or Horticulture activity in the belts", he said.

The dashboard will be based on artificial intelligence to cater to all needs of users from registration to education.

"There will artificial intelligence-based chatbot, which will guide farmers on all information. It will have a learning management system in which 59 courses and 57 courses have been identified in Kashmir and Jammu provinces. We will offer certificate courses online from universities", Dulloo said.

He said that dashboard will have online videos on various subjects and online material in four languages.

The 29 projects envisaging transformation of agriculture and allied sectors in J&K will include development of seed and seed multiplication chain, promotion of niche crops in J&K, promotion of vegetables and exotic vegetables under open and projected cultivation, strengthening of agriculture marketing, promotion of bee keeping and nutri cereals (Millets).

The official said that those who apply for this holistic agriculture development programme will be linked to skilling through hybrid mode.

"Those farmers and Startups or agri-entrepreneurs or anyone else will get their certificates from universities through this dashboard, which will serve as an education and skill development platform as well", Dulloo said.

IAF's 'Kargil Courier'...

AN-32 sortie on Tuesday, he said.

While the AN-32 aircraft operated between Kargil and the twin capitals of Jammu and Srinagar, IL-76 sorties were arranged between Srinagar-Leh and Jammu-Leh for stranded passengers, the official said.

In addition, several hundred stranded passengers were airlifted from Chandigarh to Leh in the IL-76 aircraft on the personal intervention of Ladakh Lt Governor Brig (Retd) BD Mishra, he added.

Action against corrupt...

his government and hundreds of senior officials facing graft allegations were forcibly retired and are facing lawful action, Modi said.

Corruption has harmed the country a great deal and hollowed it out like termites, he said, adding that people realise that the country will progress only when graft is

People, Modi asserted, are applauding his government's campaign against corruption and tell him wherever he goes, "Don't stop Modi ji".

Taking a swipe at the Opposition for its campaign against the BJP and him, he said senior Congress leaders used to talk about rooting out the Jana Sangh once and now the main opposition party is talking about digging his grave

The BJP is a party which sacrificed itself to save democracy, he said, referring to the merger of the Jana Sangh, its earlier avatar, with other parties after the

In a reference to the probe into 2002 Gujarat riots when he was the state's chief minister, Modi said many conspiracies were hatched to send him to jail but they all failed miserably while he flourished due to people's blessings In his speech, the prime minister dwelt on the BJP's growth from having two Lok

Sabha seats in 1984 to 303 in 2019. In an apparent reference to the anti-Sikh violence following then prime minister Indira Gandhi's assassination, he said it was a black chapter that the country will not be able to forget. The Congress won a historic mandate in an emotionally-charged polls while the

BJP was almost destroyed but it did not lose hope and blame others. It continued to work among people and strengthened its organisation.

The BJP has now emerged as the only pan-India party amidst family-run political parties in the country as it worked on the ground with people braving all odds. "BJP started its journey from just two Lok Sabha seats and reached 303 in 2019.

In many of the states, we get more than 50 per cent votes," he said. "From north to south and from east to west, the BJP is the only pan-India party today," he added.

The BJP has emerged as not only the world's biggest but also the most futuristic party, he said, adding that its only goal is to make a modern and developed India. The party is expanding in south India, he said, adding that it is the number one

party in Karnataka and is the only reliable force in Telangana. It is growing in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, he said. The people of the northeast have shown unprecedented faith in the BJP. It has

four chief ministers there and is part of coalition governments in two other states, he said. Modi met workers involved in the construction of the building before its inauguration.

Youth found dead...

unconscious late Monday evening, they said, he was rushed to a hospital where he was declared dead.

Kumar had gone on a foot pilgrimage to Mata Bala Sundri shrine in Billawar along with his friends a couple of days back.

The officials said the relatives of the deceased blocked the Jammu-Pathankot high way for over half an hour outside Government Medical College (GMC) hospital Kathua during the postmortem on Tuesday, demanding an investigation into the

The police assured them that they have already initiated inquest proceedings and are awaiting a post-mortem report to take further action, the officials said.

the area after which police registered a case. During the investigation, police got clues and caught the snatcher. During severe interrogation, the accused confessed his crime and the gold chain was recovered from his possesion.

LPG cylinder catches fire, major accident averted ■ STATE TIMES NEWS UDHAMPUR: A LPG cylinder caught fire at Kailash Dhaba located at Udhampur

bus stand, which was extinguished in time by fire tenders, thereby averting a major

According to information, on Tuesday afternoon, a gas cylinder kept in Kailash Dhaba suddenly caught fire, due to which panic spread in the area. At the same time, information was given to police and fire department, which rushed to the spot and shifted gas cylinder at a safe place besides controlling fire in time. As per reports, no damage or injury was reported in the accident. The police is investigat-

Narco-smuggler nabbed with 4.25 gm heroin state times news

BISHNAH: Continuing its drive against drug trafficking and substance abuse

Police on Tuesday nabbed a narco smuggler and recovered 4.25 gm heroin during Naka duty at Deoli Bishnah. As per the details, a team of

Police Station Bishnah led by SDPO R S Pura Surinder Singh assisted by SHO Bishnah Vikram Sharma during Naka duty rounded up one suspect coming from Waziroo towards Bishnah on his motorcycle (JK02BT-4354).

During search, 4.25 gm heroin was recovered from accused namely Hanief Ali,

son of Faqir Ali, resident of Chak Waziroo Tehsil Bishnah. He was arrested and FIR 74/2023 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Bishnah.

Man dies of fall

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

hospital. Police has started investigation by registering a case.

RAMBAN A man died after falling from a height in Ramban area on Tuesday. According to information, some labourers were working in highway four-laning project at a height, and one fell down and died on the spot. His body was taken to

Woman among two die in accidents

STATE TIMES NEWS JAMMU: A man and a woman died in separate accidents in Kanachak and Kathua on Tuesday.

According to details, Sohan Lal, son of Babu Ram, resident of Halka Kulia, who was walking on roadside, got hit by a car due to which he got injured. He was taken to the hospital where doctors declared him as brought dead. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

Meanwhile, a motorcycle was hit by a truck in Langate Morh, Kathua, due to which a woman sitting on pillow-seat got injured. She was taken to hospital where doctors declared her as brought dead.

Uncontrolled mini-bus overturns, 9 injured **STATE TIMES NEWS** UDHAMPUR: At least 9 passengers got injured when a mini-bus overturned on a

road near Kendriya Vidyalaya No-2 located in Roun Domail area and were admitted at district hospital. According to information, as soon as mini-bus (JK14-7617) coming from Raun Domel towards Udhampur reached bridge, the driver lost control over vehicle due to which it overturned. Locals informed the police which reached at the spot and injured were shifted to district hospital for treatment. The injured were identified as Krishna Chand (55), son of Bishan Das, resident of Rathian; Mukesh (30), son of Kripal; Phool Bai (25), son of Ram Ratan, Seema Devi (28), Wife Amit Kumar, resident of Rathian; Takshak (3), son Amit Kumar, resident of Rathian; Surya (7), son of Amit Kumar, resident of Rathian; Foi Lal Chowdhary (42), son of Jugal Chowdhary, Phulia Devi (40), wife of Foi Lal, and Aarti Chowdhary (25), wife Santosh Chowdhary. Police has registered a case in this regard and started investigation.

Vehicle-lifter gang busted, two arrested **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Gandhi Nagar Police has busted a gang of vehicle-lifters by arresting two members of gang and recovered three stolen vehicles so far.

According to information, police was engaged in investigating thefts of vehicles and got a clue. Accordingly, police raided several places and arrested two members of gang. When strictly interrogated, they confessed about the thefts of vehicles after which police started recovering stolen vehicles, which is still going on

Snatching case solved, accused arrested ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police has solved a case of snatching which took place in Gandhi Nagar area on Tuesday by arresting snatcher and recovered gold chain.

According to information, a day ago, a gold chain was snatched from a woman in

who was evading his arrests for 5 years in FIR No 42/2019 registered under sections 353/341/336/427 of RPC, 4/25 of Arms Act of Police Station Miran Sahib. On this, a team of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SDPO R S Pura Surinder Singh assisted by SHO

