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Govt aims to...

The Lt Governor also spent some time in the Apna Ghar and was delighted and impressed that J&K Government has built some remarkable structures on the Mela ground of Surajkund, in a short span of time, depicting the glorious heritage of J&K.

He also witnessed a cultural program, fashion show, and a short documentary on the fabrics of J&K.

A grand fashion show was organized by the Handloom and Handierafts Department in the main Chaupal area and got an overwhelming response from the audience.

Sinha pays obeisance...

Minister Narendra Modi has taken the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' to people around the world.

The Lt Governor also congratulated SMVDSB, CEO Ramesh Kumar and his team on National Water Award to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board at the 3rd National Water Awards ceremony.

Talking about the great strides J&K is making in the different sectors, the Lt Governor said that the upcoming Katra-Amritsar-Delhi Expressway will make the journey towards Katra more convenient for the pilgrims.

"In the last one and a half years, Jammu Kashmir has created new records in infrastructure development across every sector. Around One Lakh Crore is being spent to transform infrastructure in the UT. In the last 180 days, around 80 lakh tourists have visited J&K", he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor congratulated J C Chaudhry on his biography and said that his life story would inspire many young minds to do hard work and excel in their life.

J C Chaudhry while speaking on the occasion shared his personal story of success and expressed his deep devotion to Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine.

The Bhajan released today has been sung by renowned Singer Sonu Nigam and the teaser of the web series on Maa Vaishno Devi was also shown on the occasion.

K K Sharma, Member SMVDSB; Dr Raghav Langer, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, CEO SMVDSB; Babila Rakwal, Deputy Commissioner Reasi; family members of Ramanand Sagar, besides senior officials of Police and civil administration were present on the occasion.

J&K records 20...

toll in the union territory stands at 4,750 as no fresh fatality was reported in the last 24 hours. The officials said there were 51 confirmed cases of mucormycosis (black fungus).

Meanwhile, one person tested positive for COVID-19 in Ladakh, taking the infection tally to 28,224 in the Union Territory, officials said.

The detection of the new case in Leh raised the number of active cases in the district to six, the officials said.

There are no COVID-19 case in the Kargil district which was declared coronavirus-free last week. According to officials, no virus-linked fatality took place on Saturday as the death toll from the pandemic remained unchanged at 228 168 in Leh and 60 in Kargil. The number of recoveries stands at 27,990, the officials said.

Two non-locals...

Saleem Parray of Hajin, he said. A case has been registered and further investiga-

tion into the matter is underway, police said.

J&K fruit growers...

maximum flowering on trees of apples, pears, walnut, apricot and plum this year. But we are facing a lot of difficulties due to indifferent attitude of the concerned horticulture department," said Sheikh Mohammad, head a fruit growers' body of Chenab region.

Shafi claimed that the farmers lack modern technology like disease forecasting system even though it has been introduced across the country years back.

"Leave alone the introduction of disease forecasting system, officials of the horticulture department and Krishi Vigyan Kendras do not provide any help to the farmers, not even the required pesticides. We need to travel 300 km to Kashmir to buy pesticides. If provided technical help, we will be able to produce disease-free fruits," he said.

Deepak Kumar, a fruit grower from Bharova village in Bhadarwah, said the lack of modern technology of fruit cultivation is causing huge losses to farmers.

"Horticulture department, subject matter specialists and scientist of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Bhadarwah have so far failed to keep a check on pre- and post-harvest problems, enhancement of processing industry and flow of substandard fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and fungicides," Partap Singh, a walnut grower, said.

Farmers have been demanding hassle-free availability of standard fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides and fungicides to ensure quality produce so as to reduce losses. They also want better coordination between the research institutions, horticulture department and the growers.

When contacted, Vikas Sharma, District Development Commissioner Doda, assured that he will look into the issue and take immediate corrective measures.

"So far I have not received a formal complaint from farmers. But if there is an issue with the fruit growers, it will be sorted out on priority," Sharma said.

India overshoots export...

every Indian benefits from this progress. He added that India has been able to achieve this spectacular target under the leadership of the Prime Minister.

Expressing confidence that India's economy is poised to break a number of records, Goyal said that PM Modi had set lofty goals for India and that our nation is extremely capable of achieving such immense goals. To make Possible the Impossible, tirelessly strive for it and collectively work towards it, he added.

Goyal said the 'never say die' spirit of our exporters, the relentless effort by EPCs and Industry Association, the coordination among different GOI Departments and state governments reflecting the 'whole of government approach' has resulted in this stupendous achievement.

Every sector of the economy, every farmer, every entrepreneur, every MSME and state governments worked together to achieve this lucrative goal, he said.

India's diversified export portfolio in 2021-22 show India's manufacturing abilities as well as growth in hi-tech goods, electronics and agricultural products.

Exports of major commodity that recorded a positive growth during April 2021-March 2022 over April-March 2020-21 are Petroleum Products (152.1%), Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/Madeups, Handloom Products Etc. (55.1%), Other Cereals (52.2%), Gems and Jewellery (49.6%), Man-Made Yarn/Fabs/Madeups Etc. (46.9%), Engineering Goods (45.5%), Coffee (49%), Electronic Goods (40.5%), Jute Mfg. Including Floor Covering (36.2%), Leather and Leather Manufactures (32.2%), Organic & Inorganic Chemical (32.0%), Plastic and Linoleum (31.1%), Marine Products (30.0%), Rmg Of All Textiles (29.9%), Handierafts Excl. Hand Made Carpet (22.0%) and Cereal Preparations and Miscellaneous Processed Item (21.9%) recorded a positive growth of, and 21.9% respectively over April 2020-

Friday, succumbed to injuries in hospital; while Lalu Prashad, resident of Chhattisgarh also succumbed to injuries in hospital while treatment. He had received injuries during a mishap in Ghagwal. Another accident victim namely Ramesh Kumar, resident of Kotli Shah Daula also succumbed to injuries. He was under treatment after he met with an accident on March 7 at R S Pura.

Two die under mysterious circumstances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Two persons died under mysterious circumstances on Sunday. As per details, some pashersy on seeing a youth lying unconscious in Phallain Mandal area, informed police which rushed to the spot and shifted him to hospital where doctors declared him as brought dead. The deceased was identified as Ravi Singh, Soutanjana. Meanwhile, one Jyoti Kumar was also found dead in his house.

Married woman goes missing

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JHAJJAR KOTLI: A married woman went missing under mysterious circumstances from her house at Dansal. As per details, one Mohd Sajid, son of Noor Hussain, resident of Palli village of Dansal lodged a complaint with Jhajjar Kotli police that her wife namely Rafia Ahmed went missing under mysterious circumstances. He further disclosed that she was ill for past couple of days and went to PHC for check-up. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

Drug peddler arrested with Charas

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Police on Sunday arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

Police said that during routine checking at Police Naka Kalnai Bridge Thathri, a party from Police Station Thathri under supervision of Insp Amrit Katoch apprehended a suspect namely Sohraw Wani, son of Mohd Ashraf Wani, resident of Tanta Tehsil Kahara and recovered 90 grams of narcotic substance (Charas) from his possession. He was arrested and FIR No. 40/2022, under section 8/20 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Thathri.

Woman among 6 pickpockets arrested in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In past two days, two FIRs were registered after two different pickpocketing incidents happened within jurisdiction of Police Station Kothibagh. After analyses of modus operandi and hectic efforts, in FIR No. 22/2022, a woman namely Shameema alais Shama, resident of Gulab Bagh, Zakoora was arrested and cash amounting to Rs. 17,270 was recovered from her possession. While, in another pick-pocketing case, registered under FIR No. 23/2022, five persons namely Mudansir Bhat, resident of Benina; Nisar Sheikh, resident of Drasan Kulgam; Mohd Youqoob Sheikh, resident of Hyderpora; Ab Rehman Sheikh, resident of Shopian and Ab Rashid Sheikh, resident of Yaripora Kulgam were arrested leading to a recovery of Rs 17,180 from their possession. The total amount recovered was Rs.34,450. Further investigation is going on in the matter.

2 missing women traced, reunited with family members

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Police on Sunday traced out 2 missing women and reunited them with family members.

As per details, on March 3, 2022, a missing report was lodged at Police Station Rajbagh by a person stating therein that his wife namely Shandhya Devi, resident of Dollian Jattan, Tehsil Marheen, District Kathua went missing, after which a missing report was lodged and after strenuous efforts, she was traced. While in another instance another missing report was lodged at Police Station Billawar after missing of Raffi Begum, wife of Manzoor Ahmed, resident of Kishanpur, District Kathua on March 26, 2022. She was also traced successfully. Both the traced women were handed over to their legal-heirs after completion of all legal formalities.

Bootlegger arrested with 14 bottles of liquor

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH: Police on Sunday detained a bootlegger and recovered 14 bottles of liquor from his possession.

Doda Police said that a party from Police Station Bhadarwah, while on patrolling duty in Saringal area of Bhadarwah Town, apprehended one motorcycleist namely Sanjay Kumar; son of Kamal Goswami, resident of Saringal, Bhadarwah and recovered 14 bottles of liquor from his possession. He was arrested and FIR No. 45/2022 under section 48 (A) of Excise Act was registered at Police Station Bhadarwah.

Kidnapped Gujjar leader rescued from Vijaypur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

MIRAN SAHIB: Police on Sunday rescued a Gujjar leader who was kidnapped from Miran Sahib area.

As per details, in a complaint, one Imam Hussain told police that his brother Haji Reham Ali, who was on his way to Jammu in a vehicle loaded with milk, was stopped by three persons in a car near Kotli Miyan Fateh. He further disclosed accused thrashed him and later kidnapped him. Acting on complaint, police registered a case and launched manhunt to nab accused and later traced victim successfully. During investigation, it was learnt that kidnappers had kept him in Vijaypur area, following which police raided the spot and rescued him. Kidnappers fled from spot however police has launched manhunt to nab them.

House burgled; Rs 3 lakh cash, goods stolen

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Thieves on Sunday burgled a house and decamped with Rs 3 lakh cash and other household items.

As per the details, a man lodged a complaint with Bagh-e-Bahu police that thieves targeted his house when he was out with family. He further disclosed that thieves decamped with Rs 3 lakh cash and other household items. Meanwhile, thieves have also stolen Rs 1.5 lakh from an auto in Bathindi area.

March 2021.

Apart from diversified range of merchandise goods exported during 2021-22, India's merchandise exports have also seen a significant increase to different countries, especially, developed countries. Exports to USA, UAE, Bangladesh, Netherlands, Singapore, Hong Kong, UK, Belgium and Germany grew by 46.4%, 66.9%, 64.5%, 90.5%, 26.8%, 7.8%, 28%, 90.4% and 21.1% respectively over April 2020- March 2021. Goyal said, notwithstanding the challenges posed by successive waves of Covid (2nd and 3rd wave), India's merchandise trade performance has shown impressive growth and exports remained above USD 30 billion for twelve consecutive months during April 2021 to March 2022.

The Prime Minister called for 'local to global' and today India's products are in great demand all over the world. This is a testament to the strength of leadership. PM now focuses extensively on 'whole of nation approach', he said.

One of the impressive growth has been seen in Agriculture sector and especially during the pandemic India emerged as a major global supplier of food / essential agriculture products. Agriculture exports buoyancy is driven by commodities such as rice (both basmati and non-basmati), marine products, wheat, spices and sugar; among others, recording the highest ever agricultural products export in 2021-22.

Higher agricultural exports signify the ability of Indian farmers to meet the requirement of 1.35 billion population and yet produce a surplus to export to rest of the world. Integration into global market will allow our farmers to be more competitive, quality conscious and at the same time realize better prices for their produce.

When we set a target of \$50 billion exports of Agriculture produce, then few imagined this would be possible. But today I want to congratulate our farmers who have grown more produce despite the Covid-19. The exports growth has helped farmers and labour intensive sectors and MSMEs. The government places special emphasis on these sectors, Shri Goyal said. The Minister also assured that India will step up wheat supplies to countries hit by the Ukraine War. "We will continue to export wheat in a big way to meet needs in countries who are not getting supplies from conflict areas. We are likely to exceed our wheat exports over 10 million tonnes in 2022-23. Our farmers are focused on increasing production," he said. The government has been working around the clock to provide a conducive environment and infrastructure for our industry and exporters to enhance their export performance. Policies and schemes aligned with the goal are being introduced and implemented for their benefit. The smooth roll out of RoDTEP and ROSCTL even in the midst of the pandemic reflects the strong resolve of the government to walk the talk. The Interest Equalisation Scheme has been extended to exporters and is likely to benefit a large number of MSME exporters.

BJP follows 'justice...

Singh said that at the first convention of the BJP held on April 6, 1980, former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had predicted that a day will come when 'lotus' (the BJP's poll symbol) will bloom, and Modi actualised this prediction when he became prime minister of the first-ever government formed by the BJP on its own after winning 282 seats in 2014 Lok Sabha polls. One of the founding fathers of the Bharatiya Jan Sangh, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay, gave the concept of integral humanism and 'antyyodaya', but it is Modi, the longest serving head of a government for over 20 years, first as a chief minister and then as prime minister, who successfully initiated pro-people schemes and programmes that ensured benefits reach the last person, Singh said. Schemes like Ujjawala, PM Awas Yojana and Izzat-Ghar Sauchalayas for women have not only touched the inner chord of the deprived Indians but have also contributed to the enhancement of Modi's stature and popularity with each passing day, he said.

Jugal sanctions Rs 10 lakh for community hall at Sant Kabir Sabha Makhanpur



MP Jugal Kishore Sharma addressing a gathering during a religious programme at Bishnah.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament BJP Lok Sabha Jammu Poonch on Sunday attended a programme organised by Sant Kabir Sabha Makhanpur in Bishnah as a Chief Guest and sanctioned Rs 10 Lakh for development of Sant Kabir Sabha at Makhanpur Bishnah from his Member of Parliament Local Area Development Funds in Bishnah Constituency.

In a religious programme organised by Sant Kabir Sabha Committee Makhanpur Bishnah ,Member of Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma while addressing the public gathering present at the occasion said that our Prime Minister Narendar Modi is working hard for upliftment of each and every class of the society.He said that Bharatiya Janata Party is working on the agenda of "Sabka Sath Sabka Vishwas" and committed every corner of the rural as well as urban areas.

He said that we should also give our share by means of our collective efforts for the development which always end with fruitful results.

He while listening to the demand of inhabitants and public in large number present at the occasion said that a demand for construction of community hall for multipurpose use has been raised and sanctioned Rs 10 lacs from his Member of Parliament Local Area Development Funds.

He added that Committee will look after the design and monitor the work so that I can get completed in time so that public will get its greater benefits.

Ashwani Sharma Ex-MLA Bishnah, DDC Dharminder Kumar, DDC Surekha Devi, BDC Surjeet Bhagat,BDC Kuldeep Raj,Block President BJP Gagan Bhatia, Senior BJP Leaders Satish Sharma TO, Surinder Bhagat, Parveen Kumari, Sabita Saini and others also present at the occasion.

SDM Katra inaugurates food outlet



SDM Angerz Singh along with others during inauguration of food outlet at Katra.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: SDM Katra Angerz Singh along with renowned Anchor and Actor Dharun Kesar (DK) on Sunday inaugurated Wow Café, a small food outlet at Jammu Road Katra.

Speaking on the occasion, SDM Angerz Singh congratulated owner Shubham Sharma and Sanjeev Sharma and said these kind of modern food outlets are need of the hour. "Devotees who visit Katra Vaishno Devi for Darshans can have hygienic and delicious food snacks from this point" he said.

CRIME REPORT

5 drug peddlers arrested across Valley

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Acting tough against drug dealings to make society free from scourge of drugs, Police in a series of actions has arrested 5 drug peddlers from Kupwara, Avantipora and Ganderbal. Contraband substances were also recovered from their possession.

Acting on specific input, a party led by SHO Kupwara SI Rafiq Lone under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Kupwara Rashid Younis established a checkpoint at Herri Market area of Kupwara. During checking, the team arrested two drug peddlers identified as Zahoor Ahmad, son of Ab Rashid Sheikh, resident of Meelyal, Kralpora and Mohd Anwar Shah, son of Vilayat Shah, resident of Dardpora, Kralpora. On search, Brown Sugar weighing 22 gm was recovered from their possession. Preliminary investigation revealed that the arrested duo was contacted by some drug addicts of Kupwara and they were on their way to deliver drugs. Accordingly, FIR No.75/2022 under relevant section of law was registered at Police Station Kupwara and further investigation started. Moreover, acting on specific information a police party led by SHO Police Station Pampore Insp Adil Ashraf established a special checkpoint at Dooninad crossing and arrested two drug peddlers identified as Yawar Bashir Mir alias Gunja, son of Bashir Ahmad, resident of Namblabal and Tariq Ahmad Sheikh alias Patanjali Tiger, son of Ghulam Qadir, resident of Tulbagh Pampore. During checking, 5 Kg Poppy Straw was recovered from their possession. Accordingly, FIR No. 32/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered and investigation initiated.

Similarly, officers at a checkpoint established at Baboosipora Bridge intercepted an Eco-Sports bearing registration No JK01AG-7181. During checking, 300 gm Charas was recovered and driver of car, identified as Tariq Ahmad, son of Mohammad Jamal Bhat, resident of Baboosipora Ganderbal was arrested. The vehicle used in crime was also seized. Accordingly, FIR No. 21/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Lar and further investigation initiated.

Two arrested with poppy straw, Ganja

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Continuing its drive against drug abuse, District Police Reasi, in two separate incidents, arrested two notorious drug peddlers and recovered 600 gm poppy straw and 200 gm Ganja from their possession. During routine checking, a party from Police Check Post Nomain intercepted a suspect namely Vinod Kumar, son of Anand Rai, resident of Mangalpur District Nasik, Maharashtra and recovered 200 gm banned Ganja like substance from his possession. FIR no 99/2022 under section 8, 20 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Katra. In another incident during routine checking and frisking, a team of Police Check Post Searli, Katra intercepted a pedestrian namely Shahid Ali, son of Jamal Din, resident of Panjgrain, Tehsil Nagrota and recovered 600 gm poppy straw from his possession. FIR no 100/2022 under sections 8, 15 of NDPS Act was registered at Police Station Katra.

Theft cases worked-out; 3 arrested, stolen property worth Rs 6 lakh recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: Police on Sunday worked out theft cases by arresting three accused and recovered stolen property worth Rs 6 lakh.

As per details, action on a complaint lodged by one Gh Hussain Wani, resident of Gulwar Tendla, Tehsil Chilly, FIR No. 18/2022, under section 379 of IPC was registered at Police Station Gandoh regarding theft of some automobile parts. It was further mentioned in complaint that the automobile parts of another vehicle belonging to Mohd Saleem, son of Bashir Ahmed, resident of Pulaie Tehsil Chilly had also been stolen. After this, a team led by SHO Police Station Gandoh Insp Vikram Singh swung into action and after getting some clues, rounded up a suspect namely Bilal Ahmed, son of Ishaq Wani, resident of Bagli Gandoh. During questioning, suspect admitted that he had stolen vehicle parts and transported them in his vehicle to Jammu and



further sold to one Ashwini Kumar, son of Bhushan Kumar, resident of Tawi Mohalla, Bikram Chowk Jammu. On this information, a party from Police Station Gandoh led by PSI Parvez Ahmed rushed to Jammu and rounded up Ashwini Kumar with assistance of Jammu Police, who also admitted his crime and disclosed that they used to dismantle costly parts of vehicles and further sell them in Delhi automobile market at hefty price.

On disclosure, stolen vehicles' parts worth approximately Rs 6 lakh were recovered by police from Gujjar Nagar area of Jammu. One more person namely Tayyab Khan, son of Khalil-ur-Rehman, resident of Aligarh, UP involved in theft has also been arrested. An EECO Maruti vehicle (JK06A-3608) used for transportation of stolen property was also seized. All these arrests and recoveries were made under the supervision Shazad Kabir Matto SDPO Gandoh, Aftab Mir ASP Bhadarwah and under overall supervision of SSP Doda.

Three accident victims succumb

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Three accident victims, who were undergoing treatment in hospital, succumbed on Sunday. As per details, Ghulam Hassan, resident of Padder who got injured in a mishap on