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Women entrepreneurs' backbone...

Our collective effort is to create a more progressive, growth-oriented and aspirational society and laying a strong foundation for journey of the next 25 years, he added.

"Kashmir division is witnessing 'Yellow Revolution' with oilseed crops registering significant growth. There will be additional opportunities for oil extraction and value addition and therefore more entrepreneurial opportunities for people," said the Lt Governor.

According to an estimate, mustard oil worth Rs 800 crore will be produced this year only in the Kashmir Valley and Jammu and Kashmir will move towards self-sufficiency in the production of the mustard oil, he noted.

The Lt Governor congratulated the people of Jammu Kashmir for GI-Tagging of the Besholi Painting. He said it is a significant landmark in preserving and promoting the artistic and cultural heritage of J&K UT.

"Basohli Painting has become the first independent GI-tagged product from Jammu region. It will provide access to customers to authentic product and a huge boost to local economy," observed the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor shared the inspiring journey of self-made women entrepreneurs, Shalini Khokhar from Rajouri and Pattan's Shamshada Begum. With commitment, conviction and courage, they are making significant contribution to a modern, strong and self-reliant J&K, he added.

The Lt Governor lauded the efforts of progressive farmers like Seva Ram of Galhar, Kishtwar in improving agricultural productivity and encouraging the adoption of new agriculture techniques.

Seva Ram is undoubtedly one of the finest progressive farmers of J&K. His commitment to modernize the agricultural systems and promotion of agri-entrepreneurship has made him a much-admired personality in the region, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor commended the 'Give Plastic and Take Gold' campaign launched by Farooq Ahmad Ganie, Sarpanch of Sadiwara, Anantnag to transform the Swachh Abhiyan into Janbhagidari and fulfill the dream of Swachh Bharat.

He called upon the PRI representatives to replicate the noble initiative and ensure community participation in cleanliness drives. Youth clubs also have an important role to play in promoting Swachh Abhiyan, he added.

The Lt Governor congratulated Sarpanch, Panch and District Administration of Sira-A Gram Panchayat of Udhampur, Phalmerg of Kupwara Fatehpura of Baramulla for receiving awards in different categories at the National Panchayat Awards 2023.

The Lt Governor made a special mention of Prof Jagbir Singh Sudan of Poonch for his selfless service and inspiring others to actively participate in the service of humanity. The service activities of his organization 'Pritam Spiritual Foundation' are truly commendable, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor appreciated the work of Sonia Verma of Gurah Brahmana village in Akhnour who has planted more than 60,000 saplings in the areas of Akhnour and Khour. He asked the citizens to follow this inspiring example of environmental consciousness.

Referring to the suggestion of Sunil Chowdhary, Sarpanch of Panchayat Bhawani, Rajouri for the development of the world-famous Mangala Mata Shrine, the Lt Governor instructed the district administration to hold a meeting with pub-

lic representatives and community leaders for augmentation of facilities at the shrine area. Sh Sunil Chowdhary also suggested important initiatives to make organic manure from dry leaves.

The Lt Governor also shared inputs of Waqar Shah from Kralgund, Kupwara for an integrated and holistic strategy for the revival of theater in Jammu and Kashmir; Samba's Sushil Khajuria for giving a fillip to the rural economy through opening up cinema halls; Ubaid Qureshi from Baramulla regarding the introduction of classical music in schools, and Jammu's Advaita Goel on introducing district-level award for Good Samaritans. The Lt Governor directed the concerned departments and officers to take necessary action on the valuable suggestions received.

MHA to prepare...

gangster-turned-politician Ahmad and his brother Ashraf in Prayagraj Saturday night while they were speaking to reporters, they said.

The two brothers were shot dead at point-blank range by the three men posing as journalists in the middle of a media interaction on Saturday night while police personnel were escorting them to a medical college here for a checkup.

Modi hails Make...

take his father to Kashi Vishwanath, the prime minister tweeted, "lovely" In another tweet, the PM said, "Enjoyed watching RJ Sufi highlight his Vande Bharat journey."

The prime minister also shared artwork of famous landmarks of Diu presented by Padma Shri awardee Premjit Baria.

CJ lays foundation...

Dinesh Gupta; CJM Udhampur; Manoj Parihar; Judicial Officers of subordinate courts, President Bar Association Udhampur and Majalta, PRIs of Majalta and other district officers were present on the occasion.

Chief Justice and other dignitaries planted tree saplings in the premises of the court complex.

During his address, Chief Justice complimented the people and all stakeholders for foundation stone laying ceremony of the Munsiff Court, Complex Majalta and shared his experience of visiting various Courts in UT of J&K . He expressed hope that the upcoming court complex will not only improve the standard of Justice delivery system but would also enable the justice seekers to seek justice and cherish the same. He added it will also help the bar to do their job properly.

Chief Justice acknowledged and lauded the services of three land owners of Majalta who had donated land free of cost for construction of the court complex. He also appreciated the efforts of district administration and other stakeholders with regard to identification of land for the construction of Munsiff Court.

Justice Sindhu Sharma, in her address, appreciated the efforts of Chief Justice with regard to steps being taken up under his guidance towards development and streamlining of justice delivery system in the region. She said that proper infrastructure is important for Justice delivery system.

Principal and District Session Judge, Udhampur, delivered the welcome address. He informed that the proposed construction would have all required infrastructure for the court to function and will be raised with an estimated cost of Rs 14 crore on a land of 10.10 kanal.

Additional Session Judge Udhampur, presenting vote of thanks, expressed gratitude to Chief Justice, Judges and all the concerned departments and stakeholders

for attending the foundation laying ceremony.

Teen killed, two...

fiddling with it resulting in its explosion, a police official said.

He said Baqir (13) succumbed to injuries on the way to a hospital while Ali Naqi and Muntazir Mehdi of the same age were admitted to the hospital.

Ladakh Lt Governor Brig (Retd) B D Mishra visited the injured boys in the hospital and assured the best treatment to them.

He also offered his condolences to the family of the deceased boy.

Councillor Pashkaum, Kacho Mohd Feroz expressed concern over the incident and urged the administration to take immediate measures to clear the area of any unexploded bombs for the safety of the residents.

Atiq admitted to...

and Arun Maurya -- were arrested over their alleged role in the crime. As per an FIR registered at the Shahganj police station, Ahmad admitted to having links with the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT).

Police said Ahmad's statement was recorded on court orders.

"The ISI, using drones, used to drop weapons in Punjab, and someone linked to the ISI used to collect these arms and send some of them to LeT, some to Khalistan separatist organisations, and some weapons like .45 bore pistol, AK-47 and RDX were made available to me, and I used to pay for the same.

"People belonging to these organisations also used to come to my place. And, information gathered from their conversations suggested that they wanted to cause a major incident in the country," Ahmad told police.

He also told police that he knew the whereabouts of some of these people associated with ISI and LeT, while his brother knew the details of others.

The five-time MLA also said that the weapons taken from (LeT and ISI) were used in the murder of Umesh Pal and two policemen in February this year.

"I know the places where the weapons have been kept. These places do not have house numbers. If you (police) take me and my brother together, we can identify these places," he said.

Meanwhile, the three men arrested for murdering Ahmad and his brother told police that they wanted to make a name for themselves by eliminating the gang.

The accused told police that they wanted to make their name and identity in the state by eliminating the gang of Ahmad and Ashraf, and that they will definitely get the benefit in future.

They also said that they could not escape after the crime as the police in a swift action got hold of them.

"Since the time we got to know about the police custody of Ahmad and Ashraf, we were planning to murder them. So we posed as journalists and when we got the right opportunity, we pulled the trigger and implemented the plan," one of the accused told police.

Ahmad (60) and his brother Ashraf, both jailed in Prayagraj, were in handcuffs when they were killed in full view of camera crews around 10 pm on Saturday. The horrifying visuals were circulated widely on social media platforms and television channels. The last rites of Ahmad's son Asad, who was gunned down in a police encounter in Jhansi on April 13, were performed here just hours before the shooting.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has formed a three-member judicial commission to probe the killing of the brothers.

DC Budgam visits Gurdwara Sahib Guru Nanak Charan Asthan Beerwah

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Budgam, S F Hamid visited Gurdwara sahib Guru Nanak Charan Asthan Beerwah and interacted with members from Sikh Community.

During visit, the DC extended Baisakhi Greetings to Sikh Community and took first hand appraisal of arrangements made on the Baisakhi festival.

At the outset, District Gurdawara Parbandhak Committee Budgam expressed its gratitude to the District Administration for making adequate arrangements across Sikh Community areas in the District.

The representatives from District Gurdawara Parbandhak Committee Budgam said that hassle-free arrangements including uninterrupted water and electricity supply made at all Gurdwaras and Sikh Community areas on Baisakhi by the District Administration Budgam are praiseworthy.

During interaction, the members also raised various demands with the DC. While giving them patient hearing, the DC assured that all genuine demands shall be taken up with relevant quarters for prompt redressal.

Later, the DC also visited Bairam Cave site in Beerwah Town to assess progress on ongoing works including development of

Approach road up to Cave site, installation of lights, parking facility for visitors and tourists, and development of lawns.

He also took assessment of construction work of viewpoint and lavatory block and other works currently under execution and instructed concerned executing agency to ensure prompt and speedy work completion.

Stressing on speedy work completion, the DC instructed all executing agencies to expedite the pace of work on all ongoing projects for their timely completion.

The DC was accompanied by SDM Beerwah, Taufiq Gazi, Tehsildar, EO Municipal Committee and other concerned officers and officials.

Special Camps held for Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls-2023

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PULWAMA: In view of the Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls 2023, special camps were today organised at all the polling stations of the Pulwama district.

On the occasion, forms for inclusions, deletions, correction and Aadhar linkage were collected from left out and eligible voters.

These camps were attended by a good number of citizens, apart from left out/ eligible voters and prospective voters.

Besides, on this occasion SVEEP awareness programmes in connection with SSR 2023 were organised in schools, colleges, ITIs, Industrial Estates, polling stations, Municipal Council/ Municipal committees, Gram sabhas etc.

All Electoral Registration officers, Assistant Electoral

Registration officers visited these camps and addressed the gatherings there regarding enrolment and participation in the democratic process.

In order to disseminate the message regarding enrolment of new and left out voters, SVEEP vans with banners and audio messages were run through length and breadth of the district.

Besides, a message regarding SSR, 2023 was displayed on all the electronic display boards of Municipal Council/Municipal committees of the district. Moreover, for publicity of ongoing Summary revision the bites of the district ICONs were also played in all social media groups.

Apart from above, quiz and painting competitions were held at all the higher secondary schools to promote the message of electoral registra-

tion and participation.

The services of AWWs, ASIA workers were also utilized to persuade all unwilling women electorates to register their names in the voter list. To create awareness among youth all literacy clubs were activated in the district. In convergence mode Patwaries, Store keepers of Ration Depots, Panchayat Election Booth Officers etc. also facilitated the Booth Level Officers in the inclusion drive.

All these efforts are aimed at to maximize the enrolment and make the electoral roll error free.

At least 33 people killed by gunmen in northwest Nigeria

■ AGENCY

ABUJA (NIGERIA): Gunmen have attacked a village in northwest Nigeria and killed at least 33 people, a local official said Sunday.

More than 35 houses were destroyed in the violence in Runji, which is in the state of Kaduna, said Francis Zimbo, chairman of the Zangon Kafaf area where the massacre took place. Zimbo provided the number of fatalities, but state authorities wouldn't comment on the number of people killed.

"Troops had a fierce encounter with the attackers and are still in the general area," said Samuel Aruwan, the state commissioner of security.

No group has claimed responsibility for the killings. However, gangs of bandits have been accused of being responsible for attacks in the region, which includes the kidnapping for ransom and killing of civilians.

CRIME REPORT

2 notorious bootleggers arrested, 99 bottles of liquor seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: A special drive against illegal sale of illicit liquor was launched by Samba Police on directions of SSP Benam Tosh and raids are being conducted at several suspected places across the district. Two bootleggers were arrested with 99 bottles of JK Special Whisky in their possession. As per details, two arrested bootleggers were identified as Des Raj, son of Jabro Ram, resident of Rakh Amb Talli, Samba and Vijay Kumar, son of Thoru Ram, resident of village Bhok, Barnyard. FIR under relevant sections of Excise Act has been registered at Police Station Samba and further investigation is going on. The arrests were made by a police team comprising ASI Manzoor Ahmed, PSI Sohail Munir and SHO Samba Rajeshwar Singh under the supervision of DySP Garu Ram.

3 thieves arrested, stolen items recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Samba Police under guidance of SSP Samba Benam Tosh arrested



three thieves and recovered stolen items from their possession on Sunday. The arrested thieves were identified as Raj Kumar, son of Janak Raj, resident of Mandhera, Samba; Sanjeev Kumar, son of Pushap Raj, resident of Mandhera, Samba and Atul Singh, son of Parshotam Singh, resident of Kaluchak. With these arrests, FIR under section 379/411 registered at Police Station Samba through Police Post Rakh Amb Talli and FIR under section 379 registered at Police Station Bari Brahmana have been worked while further investigation is underway. Out of three thieves, two were arrested by police teams comprising of Chowki Officer Rakh Amb Talli Vineet Singh & SHO Police Station Samba Rajeshwar Singh under supervision of DySP Garu Ram whereas third thief was arrested by a police team comprising SHO Bari Brahmana Sunil Sharma & PSI Shakti Singh under the supervision of SDPO Bari Brahmana Rahul Nagar under the overall supervision of Additional SP Samba Surinder Choudhary.

SSP Benam Tosh said that 64 thieves have been arrested in Samba district and 33 theft cases have been solved in three months.

4 drug peddlers arrested, contraband recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA/KULGAM: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police on Sunday arrested four drug peddlers in Baramulla and Kulgam and recovered contraband substances from their possession. In Baramulla, a police party of Police Post Wussan under the supervision of SDPO Mohammad Nawaz during Naka checking near Govt Higher Secondary School Goshbagh Pattan intercepted a suspicious person who tried to flee but was apprehended tactfully. During search, 8 grams of Brown Sugar like substance was recovered from his possession. He has been identified as Parvaiz Ahmad Yatoo son of Mohammad Ibrahim Yatoo resident of Sultanpura Pattan.

Similarly, a police party led by SHO Police Station Chandoosa arrested a drug Peddler identified as Amir Hussain Dar son of Mohd Sultan Dar resident of Wagoora during Naka checking at Kachwa Muqam Chandoosa and recovered 50 gm Charas like substance from his possession. Moreover, officers led by SHO Police Station Tangmarg arrested a drug peddler identified as Parvaiz Ahmad Lone son of Ab Rashid Lone resident of Ferozpora Tangmarg during Naka checking at Ferozpora Tangmarg along with 30 gm Charas like substance. In Kulgam, a police party of Police Post Mirbazar at a checkpoint established checking near Palpora Crossing on NH-44 intercepted a suspicious person. During checking, 2.8 Kg Cannabis powder like substance was recovered from his possession. He was identified as John Mohammad Sheikh, son of Mohammad Yousuf Sheikh, resident of Raithan Budgam at present Zadoora, Mirbazar. All the accused persons were arrested and shifted to respective police stations where they remained in custody. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law were registered at respective police stations and investigation started.

16 vehicles seized, 16 arrested for illegal extraction and transportation of minerals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Acting tough against persons involved in illegal extraction

and transportation of minerals, police on Sunday seized 16 vehicles and arrested 16 persons during last 15 days in Ganderbal.

Under the directions of SSP Ganderbal Nikhil Borkar, Special Police teams were constituted led by SHOs and DOs of Police Stations and Police Posts of Ganderbal under the supervision of SDPO Kangan Muzaffar Jan & DySP Hqrs Ganderbal Gh Hassan to check menace of illegal mining. During the course of action, 16 persons were arrested & 16 vehicles (Tippers) were seized during last fifteen days. These vehicles were loaded with illegally extracted Bajri/Sand & Boulders from Nallah Sindh Ganderbal. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law were registered at respective police stations and investigation started.

Notorious criminal arrested, detained under PSA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: Police on Sunday arrested a notorious criminal and detained him under PSA.

As per details, a team of Police Station Akhnour, acting on specific information arrested a habitual offender Vikash Singh alias Vinay, son of Balbir Singh, resident of Bomal, Kot Garhi, Tehsil Akhnour District Jammu and detained him under Public safety act (PSA). It is pertinent to mention here that accused is notorious criminal of desperate character/ History-sheets of Police Station Akhnour and was involved in many heinous criminal cases including attempt to murder, stabbing, snatching etc.

Warrant of arrest under PSA was issued against accused and executed by Inspector Harjeet Singh SHO Akhnour under supervision of SDPO Akhnour Mohan Sharma and accused has been lodged in central Jail Kot Bhalwal Jammu.

2 narco smugglers nabbed with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Police on Sunday nabbed two narco-smugglers and recovered 5 gm heroin from their possession.

As per the details, a team of Police Station led by SHO Bishnah Inspr Vikram Sharma during Naka checking at Mahmoodpur Bishnah apprehended a suspect with hero-like substance, who was coming from Gangyal and going towards Bishnah on his motorcycle (JK02DB 3515). Later during questioning, he was identified as Abhi Sharma, son of Kamal Sharma, resident of Kunjwani. On search of suspect 3 gm heroin was recovered, which was seized on the spot and accordingly accused was arrested. FIR No.91/2023 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Bishnah.

Meanwhile, a party of Sidhra Police post headed by PSI Arun Sharma during regular Naka checking at Naka Point Tawi Bridge Sidhra stopped a Scooty (JK02BC 7924) for checking. On seeing Police Party, the rider left scooty and tried to run away from Naka point. Alert police team chased him and apprehended the rider. During enquiry, rider disclosed his name as Mohit Bhat, son of Manohar Lal Bhat, resident of House No 20, Lane 42, Durga Nagar, Roop Nagar. During personal search, 2 gm heroin like substance was recovered from his possession. The accused was arrested and scooty was seized. FIR No 149/2023 under sections 8/21/22 of NDPS Act was registered against him at Police Station Nagrota.

Ladakh Police arrests drug peddler

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: District Police Leh has arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substances, including Spasmo Proxyvon Plus capsules, brown sugar-like substance and Ganja from his possession.

The arrest was made during random Naka checking at Airport road, industrial area.

Leh. FIR No. 49/2023 has been registered and further investigation is underway. Ladakh police urged public to report any information regarding drug peddlers anonymously through www.drugsfreeleh.com mobile No. 9541900291, landline No. 01982-252200, or inform the nearest police station.

