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Smart technologies required...

innovative agricultural technologies, Data-Driven & Precision Agriculture, encouraging the use of Artificial Intelligence, ensuring maximum saturation of farm mechanization, besides creating global markets for local produce to make Agriculture and allied sectors more lucrative, efficient and eco-friendly, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor asked the new generation to be a part of the agriculture's transformation process. He said, the modern technology will benefit the entire supply chain offering opportunity to young entrepreneurs. It will ensure food security and reduce dependency on imports, increase in productivity and major shift towards innovation and knowledge-based economy," the Lt Governor added.

The Lt Governor assured government's support to the agri-startups and entrepreneurs, and said that the Startups will be provided with space/land in the Industrial estates across the UT at concessional rates so that their innovations could be connected to the market and reach the farming community.

He also urged the Agriculture Scientists, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and PRIs to adopt a coordinated and integrated approach to encourage new technologies of Agriculture 4.0.

Atal Dulloo, Financial Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary), Agriculture Production Department while speaking on the occasion stressed on the necessity of refining the strategies and revising the policies and programs in the agriculture sector along with a continuous assessment of achievements and identifying the challenges in the progress and growth of the sector.

He highlighted the role of the Universities in preparing Geo-climatic area-based agriculture models applicable and spoke extensively on the interventions in terms of strategies and technologies that could further overhaul the agriculture and allied sector. The UT government has kept a sufficient budget for Agriculture sector and all requirements of the sector would be met, he added.

Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-K in his welcome address highlighted the achievements of the University in agriculture and allied sectors and its endeavours to bring agriculture technologies to the farmers.

Prof. J.P. Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST Jammu threw light on the priority areas on which the Agriculture University is working. We are creating an enabling environment for startups and entrepreneurs, besides giving much attention to new research & technologies. More than 500 research papers have been received for the seminar which would contribute to policy decisions, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Hina Shafiq Bhatt, VC, J&K Khadi & Village Industries Board said that the KVIB has forged a strong alliance with SKUAST for development and promotion of Agriculture, besides training people associated with the sector.

Dr Rajneesh Tyagi, General Secretary Mobilization Society also spoke on the vision behind the National Seminar.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor felicitated the progressive farmers, innovative start-ups and outstanding achievers in the field of agriculture. He also released a souvenir for the conference, journals and books having treasures of knowledge gathered from across the country. Books on transforming Agriculture and adopting Smart Agriculture were also released.

Earlier, the Lt Governor interacted with students & faculty innovators, SKUAST Start-ups, and inspected the stalls put up by SKUAST, government departments and private players.

Prof. Nilofer Khan, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir; Prof. Rakesh Sehgal, Director NIT Srinagar; Prof. Sarfaraz Ahmad, Director Research SKUAST-K; HODs; faculty members & students of SKUAST, besides Scientists from various Universities, senior officers and farmers attended the inaugural ceremony of the National Seminar.

Army personnel among..

they added. The police, army and locals launched a search-cum-rescue operation and recovered four bodies and rescued five others who were rushed to a hospital, officials said.

The injured succumbed to injuries at the hospital, they said.

The deceased have been identified as Poonch-resident Azhar Iqbal (driver), Ankit Dileep, a resident of Gujarat, Gandhi Marmu and his father Mangal Marmu, both residents of Jharkhand, Ranjit Kumar, a resident of Punjab, Muhammad Aslam Paray a resident of Kulgam (JK), Naib Subedar Namak Chand, a resident of UP, Dileshwar Sidhar, resident of Chattisgarh, and another person identified as Sunil Lal.

IAS officer Sanjeev...

Thyagraj Stadium to close for sports activities earlier than usual so that they could walk their dog at the facility, the MHA had sought a report from Chief Secretary of Delhi Nares Kumar regarding the matter.

In the order the MHA said, "With the approval of competent authority, the following transfers of IAS officers of the joint AGMUT cadre are ordered with immediate effect and until further orders."

It said Sanjeev Kharwar, a 1994-batch AGMUT cadre IAS officer, has been transferred from Delhi to Ladakh and Rinku Dugga, also a 1994-batch AGMUT cadre IAS officer, has been transferred to Arunachal Pradesh.

The MHA is the cadre controlling authority for the AGMUT cadre IAS officers.

Meanwhile, the Delhi government has directed all state-run sports facilities in the city to stay open for sportspersons till 10 pm.

"It has come to my notice that sportspersons are facing problems because of the heat and the stadiums get closed by 6 or 7 pm. We are issuing instructions that all sports facilities should remain open till 10 pm so that sportspersons can use them," Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal said.

Three LeT terrorists...

operations leading to the elimination of six foreign terrorists in last 24 hours which adds the tally of killed foreign terrorist to 26 (14 JeM and 12 LeT) during the current year in the valley.

Kumar said 14 of the slain foreign terrorists were from Jaish, founded by Masood Azhar, while 12 were affiliated to LeT set up by Hafiz Mohammad Sayeed.

Two Lashkar ultras, who were allegedly involved in killing of Kashmiri Pandit employee Rahul Bhat, were killed in an encounter in Bandipora district on May 13.

A senior army officer earlier this month said the foreign terrorists were compelled to come out of their hideouts to conduct operations in Kashmir as the number of local ultras is coming down in the valley.

India fastest growing...

internet users. India is in second position in global retail index. India has the third largest start-up ecosystem in the world. There are several such achievements," Modi said.

Today the world is witnessing that India means business and this is the achievement of not only the government but also the youth and graduates from institutions like ISB, he further said.

Civilian killings belie claims of normalcy: Mehbooba

chief minister said while the government was making claims about normalcy, the gruesome killings suggest otherwise.

GOI keeps blowing its trumpet of normalcy in J&K even when such gruesome incidents suggest otherwise. My heart goes out to Amreen Bhat's family & pray her nephew recovers swiftly, Mehbooba said.

The incident took place in the Hashoora Chadoora area of the central Kashmir district. The woman was identified as Amreen Bhat and her nephew as Farhan Zubair (10).

Two civilians including Kashmiri Pandit employee Rahul Bhat -- and three off-duty policemen have been killed in Kashmir during the month of May by the terrorists.

Commenting on the killing of a female TV artist by three Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorists in Budgam district's Chadoora area on Wednesday, the former

He said the "Reform, Perform, Transform" mantra redefined the governance of the country.

India has sent Covid-19 vaccine to over 100 countries, he said while speaking on the viral pandemic.

'Jack', 'John' instrumental...

should serve as a deterrent to those even dreaming of waging war against the country," Kumar told PTI from his home in Gurgaon.

Shukla, who is now posted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and is seen as a person who ended stone pelting incidents in Kashmir valley by choking the funds to separatists, had decided to follow the policy of having protected witnesses in the case so that there are no loopholes, the officials said.

While framing charges against 66-year-old Malik, the special NIA judge had relied on protected witnesses 'Jack', 'John' and 'Golf' among others who mentioned about the meetings between Syed Ali Shah Geelani, now dead, and Malik in November 2016 along with other Hurriyat leaders calling for protests and shutdown.

Another protected witness had stated that it was Geelani and Malik who used to send him the protest calendar for publicity in newspapers.

The NIA stressed on confessions statements more as they were recorded before the judicial magistrate where the accused have to confirm that they are giving it without any pressure from the investigating agency.

While penning down their confession, the whole process was videographed and during the proceedings no investigating officer was present in the court premises. Later, if these accused turned hostile, then the NIA would file a perjury charge against them.

Countering the much-talked Gandhian path adopted by Malik, the court said at this juncture it has been prima facie found that there existed a criminal conspiracy pursuant to which large-scale protests, resulting in violence and arson at massive scale, were orchestrated.

"The object, as discussed earlier, was secession of J&K from the union by overawing the government. It has been argued these were intended to be peaceful non violent protests following the Gandhian path. However, the evidence prima facie speaks otherwise. Not only were the protests violent, they were intended to be violent. Even otherwise, prima facie a false claim has been laid to the Gandhian principles," the court said.

Citing the Chauri Chaura incident of 1922 when citizens burnt a police station in Gorakhpur killing 22 occupants, the court said Mahatma Gandhi had called off the non-cooperation movement after the incident but the accused, despite large scale violence engulfing the valley, pressed on with these protests.

"Thus, prima facie they were not following the Gandhian path but their plan was straight from the play book of the likes of Hitler and the march of the brown shirts. The object was to overawe the government by the sheer scale of violence and was nothing less than a plan for insurrection. Thus I find that prima facie there is sufficient evidence that this was also a conspiracy as is punishable u/s 121A IPC," the court said.

Brown shirts was the name given to Sturmabteilung (Assault Division), a violent group of Nazis led by Ernst Roehm which sowed seeds of discord in Germany which was emerging as a young but unstable liberal democracy in 1930s.

The group of goons, mostly retired soldiers, dressed in brown dress, who fought in World War thrived on violent targeting of left wing supporters and Jews with a promise to make Germany again.

The thug group played an important role in the rise of Hitler as leader of Germany causing social unrest and assaulting "non-aryans" especially Jews in the 1930s.

Kept in separate...

last breath, unless the sentence is commuted by the authorities.

The entire Delhi Prisons, which comprises -- Tihar, Mandoli and Rohini jails -- currently has 1,600 convicts out of the total of 19,500 prisoners, they said.

Notorious land-grabber...

U/S 420, 467, 468, 452, 323, 504, 506 IPC; In P/S Gandhi Nagar, FIR 42/2012 U/S 452, 471, 464, 469, 504, 506, 352, 120-4 B, 341 RPC 3/25 Arms Act; In P/S R/S Pura, FIR 31/2012 U/S 419, 420, 467, 468, 471, 120-B 34 RPC; In Crime Branch, Jammu, FIR 19/2011 U/S 420, 120-8 RPC; FIR 06/2019 U/S 419, 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 RPC.

City Judge Jammu Manjeet Rai on Wednesday had also rejected bail application of Gola Shah. Now today on the recommendations of the Jammu police, the UT administration has booked him under PSA. Soon after the PSA orders, Gola Shah was shifted to Kot Bhalwal jail.

The Jammu police has also appealed to the general public to come forward and lodge complaints against Gola Shah and his associates, if they have cheated them of money in lieu of fake plots and land grabbing.

Sunjwan terror attack...

April 22 after they attacked CISF personnel onboard a bus during the crucial early morning shift-change of the force at a checkpost.

The 'fidayeen' or suicide bombers sprayed a volley to bullets in 'burst fire' mode from their assault weapons even as they lobbed grenades at the security personnel at the picket deployed near the Chaddha camp in the Sunjwan area of the district, where the Army also has a large installation.

The terror attack came two days ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Samba in Jammu region of the union territory.

Govt brings permission...

authorities to provide permission for shooting of a movie in J&K within period of 30 days.

"The 30-day period includes 15 days for obtaining No-Objection Certificate (NoC) from the concerned Deputy Commissioner, Home department, Culture Department and Forest Department," it stated.

"Film production Officer will be Designated Officer while Joint Director Information (Hqr) will be first Appellate Authority and Director Information and Public Relations will be second Appellate Authority," it added.

MoS Home begins...

council members, their understanding of public issues and their empowerment to redress public grievances is an evidence of the transformation in the UT. Addressing the council members, he said that their names will be written in golden letters for their contribution in establishing and empowering participative democracy at the grassroot level.

The MoS appreciated the role played by the PRIs in effective implementation of participative democracy. He gave them a patient hearing and assured them that all demands will be taken up at the appropriate forums and issues will be resolved on priority.

The delegation of hoteliers informed the dignitary about the heavy flow of tourists and said that they are committed to providing world class facilities. The delegation apprised him that repair and renovation of old structures has to be taken up. The Deputy Commissioner informed that a structured mechanism has been put in place

technology," he said.

Prof. Sehgal also highlighted problems faced by the differently abled persons and stated that technical innovations will lessen their problems and troubles.

If this centre will succeed in its motive that will be our biggest contribution to society, he said.

He said it was a proud moment for the entire institution that it is taking lead in this noble initiative. The Director NIT also suggested developing mechanisms in institute to tackle disability in the elderly and disabled in the country. This centre will work towards the development of innovative, assistive technology and services that are affordable and appropriate in terms of culture, gender, and age of the elderly, he said.

He urged CTIED members to encourage and motivate the students across various branches to work for technical innovation in this area.

Differently abled persons are part and parcel of the society and we should help them through innovations and technology. I believe this centre will bridge the gap between community and

Kaiser Bukhari, regis-

and the existing mechanism will be expedited to resolve the grievances. The delegation also requested to accord the status of industry to tourism and allow the benefits of government schemes. The minister said that matter is under consideration and assured the delegation that the issue of renewal / extension of lease will be addressed.



Union MoS Home, Ajay Kumar Mishra during tour to Anantnag.

The civil society put forth the issue of congestion on the roads of Pahalgam due to heavy influx of tourists. The dignitary said that the matter will be taken up with concerned quarters and appropriately redressed. The Deputy Commissioner said that an elaborate traffic plan has been notified for Sri Amarnath Ji Yatra and critical roads including those to Chandanwari and Aru are being upgraded. The delegation raised the issue for revision of rates for vehicles plying on Pahalgam-Chandanwari route and the Minister assured them that the matter will be taken up with appropriate authorities.

The Minister met members of District Development Council Anantnag. BDC Sh Choudhary Hameed said that they are thankful to the Government for establishing the three tier Panchayati Raj system in the UT. He said that they feel empowered in the real sense and have been given powers for implementation of development works on the ground. He stressed on increased coordination between PRIs and officials of district administration. He requested that 15th Finance Commission grants be allocated for UT of J&K. Another member of the council said that augmentation of staff in Rural Development Department must be taken up. DDC Member Shangus said they are completely committed to implementation of Panchayati Raj System on ground and said that upgradation of infrastructure at Block level needs to be taken up. The minister was apprised by Dr Singla that land has been identified for development of office complex and associated accommodation for District Development Council members and its execution will start shortly.

Vice Chairperson DDC Sheikh Javed said that the administrative systems have been streamlined and appropriate platforms have been created for service delivery and grievance redressal. He said that coordinated effort by the council and the officials has been instrumental in changing developmental landscape of the District.

Chairman DDC MY Gorsu thanked the government for various progressive measures targeted at welfare of tribals.

At Fisheries Hut Pahalgam, the dignitary interacted with beneficiaries of various schemes who have established trout raceways and trout hatcheries under PMMSY. He also distributed trout farming equipment among the beneficiaries. Deputy Director Fisheries gave the minister a brief overview of the various schemes being run in the district and benefits accorded under PMMSY.

DC Anantnag, DIG SKR, SSP Anantnag, ADDC, CPO, SE R&B, CMO among various others were present at the occasion.

Later, the MoS visited 116 Bn CRPF camp Pahalgam, where a Sainik Sammelan had been organised. The MoS interacted with the Jawans on the occasion and praised them for their contribution in ensuring peace and prosperity.

Gyanvapi: Next hearing...

on the maintainability of the case remained incomplete today, which they will continue on May 30 -- the date fixed by the court for the next hearing," District Government Counsel Rana Sanjeev Singh said.

The court had on Tuesday fixed May 26 for the hearing of arguments on the maintainability of the plea filed by the five Hindu women who have sought round-the-year access to pray at the Shringar Gauri Sthal in the Kashi Vishwanath-Gyanvapi complex.

The Muslim side has argued that the plea is not maintainable as the Places of Worship Act 1991 prohibits conversion of any place of worship and mandates the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on August 15, 1947.

After the plea was filed, a lower court had ordered a videographic survey of the Gyanvapi complex, and the Hindu side claimed a 'Shivling' was found during the exercise.

Vishnu Jain, the advocate of the Hindu side, said Thursday, "The Shivling which was found in the Gyanvapi Masjid complex, was in custody of the Muslim side. They had first tampered with the Shivling which was clearly evident. We will raise the issue in the court."

Jain said the Muslim side presented its side on Thursday. "We will get photos from the videography survey and the copy of the CD tomorrow (Friday)," Jain said.

Singh had earlier said the court has given one week to both Hindu and Muslim sides to file objections to the report of the court-mandated videography survey of the Gyanvapi mosque premises.

On May 20, the Supreme Court had transferred the case from a civil judge (senior division) to a district judge, saying looking at the "complexities" and "sensitivity