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Govt will provide...

He said the District officials in consultation with PRI members have chalked out a comprehensive development plan of 32 development projects worth Rs 12.19 crore for Garkhal.

A major step was taken today in the direction to provide sufficient water supply to every household in this Panchayat. It is also being ensured that the small and marginal farmers of Garkhal and other border villages of the UT benefitted from the Holistic Agriculture Development Plan, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor impressed upon the PRI members and the people to start a mass movement to make the Garkhal Panchayat Swachh and Drug-free.

He motivated the youth for skill development and self-employment, and further encouraged the women folks to create many more Self Help Groups with the help of Rural Livelihood Mission.

Our aim is to empower the farmers, youth, women of border areas, and enable them to contribute in the developmental journey of J&K, said the Lt Governor.

The reformative initiatives taken by the government in the last three years have yielded favourable results and various sectors including tourism, industries, agriculture and allied sectors have witnessed unprecedented growth. We have to work together with the Whole of Government Approach to fulfill the resolve of strong and atmanirbhar Jammu Kashmir, he added.

Responding to the demands pertaining to border outpost, Chenab riverfront and promotion of border tourism, the Lt Governor assured that appropriate steps will be taken in this regard.

During his visit, the Lt Governor inaugurated a training programme for Women Self-Help Groups and various other development works.

Self-Help Groups will not only help in rapid rural development but also make the individual household prosperous. This training programme will enhance the capacity and make the women entrepreneurs facilitator of overall development, said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor also laid the foundation stone for retrofitting of Water Supply Scheme Garkhal and other works under Jal Jeevan Mission.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor handed over sanction letters and distributed wheelchairs and medical aids to the beneficiaries.

He also interacted with the youth and assured all necessary support and assistance to the budding entrepreneurs and the talented sportspersons of the panchayat.

Bharat Bhushan, Chairman District Development Council, Jammu; Shaleen Kabra, Financial Commissioner Revenue; Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Avny Lavasa, Deputy Commissioner, Jammu; PRI members, youth and people in large numbers were present.

J&K employees to...

continuing to draw their pay in the pre-revised pay scale/grade pay as per 6th Pay Commission recommendations, will be paid Dearness Allowance at a revised rate of 221 percent of Basic Pay from the existing 212 percent of Basic Pay.

Two soldiers injured...

in the accidental firing and were hospitalised.

It was not immediately clear whether the injured soldiers included the one whose weapon went off, the official said.

Jaiswal bridge over...

committed to provide Jammu and Kashmir with exceptional highway infrastructure.

"This transformative development not only contributes to the region's economic growth but also enhances its allure as a prime tourist destination," he said.

The Amarnath Yatra is scheduled to commence on July 1 from the twin tracks --

traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and 14-km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district. The first batch of the pilgrims will leave the Jammu base camp for the Valley on June 30.

3 Kashmiri students...

Asian countries. The programme promotes international cooperation and cultural exchange in the field of science and technology. It offers young minds from different nations a unique chance to interact, collaborate, and learn from each other's scientific advancements, fostering mutual understanding and building bonds of friendship.

Jubilant over the development, Prof Parikhat Singh Manhas, Director of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Jammu and Kashmir, emphasized the significance of increasing nominations for the INSPIRE-Awards MANAK 2023-24, compared to previous years.

"Encouraging a larger participation in the INSPIRE programme will ultimately foster scientific temperament, creativity, and entrepreneurial skills in the next generation," reiterated Prof Manhas.

The scheme, Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), is one of the flagship programs of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India that aims to motivate students in the age group of 10-15 years and studying in classes 6 to 10.

According to the Inspire website, the program's goal is to target one million unique discoveries or ideas with scientific roots and societal applications in order to promote a climate of creativity and original thought among schoolchildren.

Under this scheme, schools-both government and private- can nominate 5 best original ideas/innovations of students through the official INSPIRE website.

"The nomination of these Kashmiri students for the Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Programme in Science highlights the immense talent and potential that exists in Jammu and Kashmir," Nodal Officer of Inspire Manak, Kashmir Province, Dr Sajad Ahmad Mir, said.

The selection of students is jointly coordinated by SCERT and the National Innovation Foundation (NIF), India, with Ms. Sahreen Shakeel serving as the J&K Coordinator of the INSPIRE-NIF.

LG flags off...

Baig, Chairperson J&K Haj Committee; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Akshay Labroo, Deputy Commissioner Budgam and members of J&K Haj Committee, senior officers of Airport Authority, Civil and Police administration were present on the occasion.

SIA, Police acts...

action therefore has been taken following due process of law, to deracinate the terror support system, as per requirements of international charters and conventions against terrorism.

Amarnath Yatra should...

Administration to ensure that no Langar, tenement or any other service is established in disaster prone areas. He urged the concerned DCs to certify the same before commencement of yatra. He also asked for deployment of NDRF, SDRF and mountain rescue team personnel in adequate numbers at all the vulnerable spots enroute Holy Cave.

Dr Mehta also laid stress on ensuring that appropriate number of washrooms, dustbins, sanitation workers should be in place at each location. He stressed on making all the base camps and other sites comfortable, clean and hygienic using modern techniques especially around Langar areas. He asked for deploying adequate manpower for maintenance of public utilities and providing of all the paraphernalia required in these utilities.

Moreover the Chief Secretary made out that all the Departments should prominently display their achievements right from entering the UT at Lakhampur till

reaching holy cave. He laid stress on improving the aura and face lifting of the entry points at Lakhampur; Railway Stations and Airports of J&K.

Dr Mehta asked the Deputy Commissioners of Anantnag and Ganderbal to examine both the routes up to holy cave themselves and see that all critical, protective works have been carried out satisfactorily. He asked them to ensure proper cleanliness and illumination of all the routes and areas so that the ambience is festive in the whole of the UT.

He further said that the SHGs registered under JKRLM, Mission Youth and other agencies should be provided an opportunity to showcase their products enroute yatra. He also called for providing ample opportunities to the locals to do their business as per the regulations made for each trade.

He took note of all the preparations made till date by departments like Health, Jal Shakti, PDD, PWD, RDD, H&UDD, BRO, Shrine Board, and the divisional and district administration. He directed them that there should be high end arrangements from each quarter with inter-departmental coordination so that the arrangements made are both efficient and established on time.

On the occasion, the Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, who is also CEO of the Shrine Board gave detailed presentation of the arrangements made for smooth conduct of this year's yatra.

It was given out that nearly 4000 sanitation workers and 12000 service providers are going to be roped in this year for providing different services to the pilgrims. Further it was revealed that RFID passes after aadhar based eKYC of each registered yatri would be granted for better management and avoiding of overcrowding and rush during yatra this year.

It was made out that all the facilities are being upgraded from last year with provision for better health, connectivity, telecom, water, electricity facilities along with a disaster mitigation plan.

The meeting was informed that accommodation facilities for some 70000 pilgrims at base camps and around 53000 at other lodgements is going to be provided to the devotees. Regarding the telecom services it was said that 25 towers would be installed by BSNL, 7 by Airtel and 29 by Reliance Jio besides high speed internet through lease line to yatra camps. The yatra would be monitored on real time basis in the Integrated Command & Control Centre located centrally.



CS Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing meeting of civil administration and police at Srinagar on Wednesday.

It was also made out that 29 health facilities are going to be established enroute to be manned by around 1800 medics/paramedics to be provided by GoI (188), other States/UTs (695) and the J&K Government (907) itself. This year the 100 bedded hospitals at Baltal and Chandanwadi are going to greatly enhance the health facilities for yatris with additional feature of telemedicine and super speciality services through e-Sanjevani portal, the meeting was apprised. It was made out that weather forecasting infrastructure is upgraded with use of RADARs and Automatic weather stations (AWS). The damaged bridges on both the axis are being re-launched besides widening/upgradation of narrow and vulnerable stretches as per the Supreme Court directions, as was learnt during this meeting.

JSCL organises awareness workshop for street food vendors, mutton, poultry handlers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Workshop on Food Safety with Hygiene and Sanitation for Street Food Vendors and Mutton and poultry handlers was organised on Wednesday here under the Eat Right Initiatives of Jammu Smart City Ltd (JSCL) which is also among the top 11 smart cities in India in the recently concluded Eat Right Smart City Challenge, a Nationwide campaign by FSSAI.

The Chief Guest of the programme, the Chairman

Municipal Corporation for maintaining sanitary conditions in all the 75 wards of JMC and launching of evening auto service for the collection and disposal of meat/ chicken waste generated in the shops. The programme was designed to highlight the essentials of Hygiene and Sanitisation and what further steps can be taken to sensitize the general public at the mass level and to take this movement to every household.

The programme was intro-



JSCL officials along with participants during the workshop.

Health & Sanitation, Arun Khanna inaugurated the workshop. In his inaugural address, he said that this is such an important topic for which stakeholders and the public in general need to be sensitized at a mass level and take this movement to every household. Kulbhushan Khajuria, Joint Commissioner, Health and Sanitation - the Guest of honour of the event, highlighted the importance of the programme and appreciated JSCL initiatives for organising such workshop cum orientation programmes to sensitize/aware the stakeholders and general public at grass-roots level. Municipal Health Officer, Dr. Vinod Sharma explained the role of

duced by Dr. Sushil Kumar Sharma, Nodal Officer, Eat Right Initiatives, Jammu Smart City Ltd. and Dr. Parvesh Kumar, Project Coordinator, Eat Right Initiatives.

Dr. Sushil Sharma and Satish Kumar, an IEC consultant from Mavis IT Services Pvt Ltd, New Delhi jointly presented a detailed presentation on the 'Role of Hygiene and Sanitisation in Meat and Poultry'.

Associate Prof Ashwani Khajuria, and Dr. Divya Sharma, VAS delivered presentations on various facts of food safety practices, in meat and slaughtering etc. The function concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Parvesh Kumar.

DC Reasi acquaint locals about various Central & UT sponsored schemes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Babila Rakwal on Wednesday conducted an extensive tour of villages Sarthal Kote and Khanikote of Block Arnas. She also listened to the public grievances at the Block Divas programme held near CFC Khanikote.

The DC acquainted the locals about various Central and UT sponsored schemes for the promotion of entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sectors. She urged the people to reap the maximum benefit of these programmes meant for the socio economic uplift of rural areas.

PRIs projected several demands pertaining to the rural connectivity, power scenario, school education and drinking water facilities.

They demanded early restoration of the khuls damaged during the construction of roads by railways and the PMGSY department. The Deputy Commissioner directed the executing agency to ensure speedy restoration of these khuls.

CRIME REPORT

Woman dies under suspicious circumstances; family accuses in-laws of murder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: A woman died under mysterious circumstances in Udhampur, however her family members have accused her in-laws of murder.

As per details, body of Reena Devi, wife of Professor Hansraj, resident of Kishanpur, District Jammu, was brought to Udhampur District Hospital for post-mortem which was later handed over to the relatives for the last rites. At the same time, police have registered the case and started further investigation. During this, the parents also raised slogans demanding justice. They alleged that she was murdered, because his family members used to torture her all the time, even she was neither allowed to come to his maternal home nor they were allowed to go there. Reena Devi was married about 13 years ago, her age is said to be 35 years.

Fire broke out at service station

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

VIJAYPUR: A fire broke out at a service station in Badwal, Vijaypur, causing loss of thousands of rupees. As locals saw smoke, they informed the owner of the shop, Sunil Kumar and also started extinguishing the fire. Fire tenders were also informed which reached the spot and doused the fire. Police also reached the spot and took stock of the damage. The cause of the fire is not yet known.

Three found hanging

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA/NOWSHERA: Three people were found hanging in two different areas of Samba and Nowshera on Wednesday.

According to information, a person was found hanging in his house at Meen Chadhaka of Bari Brahmana area. Police reached the spot after getting the information and took body into custody. He has been identified as Hameed Khan, son of Shah Mohammad.

Apart from this, Sanjay Chaudhary, son of Jagdish Chaudhary, resident of Vijaypur was also found hanging in his house. The police took his body into custody and sent it to hospital.

Police seeks public help in identifying body

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police has sought help of general public in identification of person.

As per details, One unidentified unconscious male person age about 50-55 years who was admitted in GMC Jammu on June 4, 2023 expired on Wednesday. Body of the deceased has been kept in Mortuary of GMC Jammu for identification. In this Connection an inquest proceeding under sections 174/CrPC initiated in Police Post Sainik Colony.



Narco smuggler arrested with heroin

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Police on Wednesday arrested a narco-smuggler and recovered 3 grams of heroin from him.

According to details, police got information that a smuggler had come to the area with drugs. Acting on this information, a Naka was laid by the police and a smuggler was stopped. During search, police recovered 3 grams of the heroin from his possession. The accused identified as Sohail, resident of Gadigarh was arrested and a case under relevant section of law was registered against him.

Drug peddler nabbed with 20 Kg poppy straw

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gandhi Nagar police on Wednesday arrested a smuggler and recovered 20kg of poppy straw from his possession.

According to the information, acting about an information

about a drug peddler in the area, police laid a Naka and caught the smuggler. During his search, the police recovered 20 kg poppy straw from his possession.

2 notorious drug peddlers booked under PIT NDPS Act; 3 more arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BARAMULLA/AWANTIPORA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, police have booked 2 notorious drug peddlers under PIT NDPS Act in Kulgam besides, arrested 3 drug peddlers/smugglers in Baramulla & Awantipora.

The notorious drug peddlers namely Khursheed Ahmad Bhat son of Mohammad Ismail Bhat resident of Sopat Devsar, Kulgam & Abdul Rashid Dar son of Late Ghulam Nabi Dar resident of Nilow, Kulgam have been booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from Divisional Commissioner Kashmir vide order No's; DIVCOM-"K"/69/2023 Dated 31-05-2023 & DIVCOM-"K"/70/2023 Dated 31-05-2023. The booked drug peddlers have been detained and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu.

It is pertinent to mention that many cases are registered against these drug peddlers for their involvement in promoting drug abuse trade by supplying drugs especially to local youth of District Kulgam. Despite their involvement in many case FIR's, they did not mend their activities and were consistently involved in promoting drug abuse trade.

In Baramulla, a police party assisted by SHO Police Station Pattan at a checkpoint established at Hanjiwera Pattan intercepted a vehicle (Tavera) bearing registration number JK05C-0784 driven by Aijaz Ahmad Gojri @Aijaz Mughal son of Noor Din Gojri resident of Pattan. During search, 120 grams of Charas like substance was recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and shifted to PS where he remains in custody. Vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Meanwhile, a police party assisted by Incharge Police Post Mirgund at a checkpoint established at Mirgund Crossing arrested a drug smuggler identified as Tawseef Ahmad Ganie son of Mohammad Subhan Ganie resident of Rambirgarh Srinagar. During search, 92 grams of Charas like substance was recovered from his possession. He has been shifted to PS where he remains in custody.

In Awantipora, a police party of Police Post Reshipora headed by Incharge Police Post Reshipora arrested a drug peddler at Panzgam Hospital Crossing. During search, 2.1Kgs of contraband Poppy Straw like substance was recovered from his possession. He has been identified as Shahbaz Ahmad Dar son of Bashir Ahmad Dar resident of Panzgam Awantipora. He has been shifted to PS where he remains in custody.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigation has been initiated.

Poppy cultivation destroyed, cultivator arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police alongwith civil authorities in Baramulla & Budgam destroyed Poppy cultivation spread on vast area of land besides, police arrested a poppy cultivator in Ganderbal.

In Baramulla, a specific information was received by police regarding illegal cultivation of Poppy (opium plant) at three different places viz Poshnag Kreeri, Dangerpora & Check Sari Pattan. Accordingly, police parties from Police Station Kreeri

& Police Station Pattan led by respective SHO's alongwith Magistrates raided the spots falling in their jurisdiction. At Poshnag Kreeri, illegally cultivated Poppy spread on over 2.5 Kanals was destroyed and at Dangerpora & Checksari Pattan, poppy spread on over 7 marlas of land was destroyed.

In Budgam, a joint team comprising of Police along with officials of excise and revenue department destroyed illegal poppy cultivation spread on over 02 kanals of land in Chare-Sharief and Yarisathroo areas of Budgam.

In Ganderbal, a poppy cultivator was arrested after a specific information was received through reliable sources regarding Poppy Cultivation in the jurisdiction of PP Shadipora. Acting swiftly, a police party led by In-charge Police Post Shadipora reached the spot and arrested the accused person identified as Geelani Bhat son of Ab Majid Bhat resident of Wakura, Ganderbal for cultivating Poppy/Opium plants in his fields at Zarigund Ganderbal. The green Poppy Bulbs (01 Quintal, 12 Kgs & 600 grams) was recovered & seized in presence of Executive Magistrate 1st Class Wakura.

Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law have been registered at respective police stations and investigations have been initiated.

Excise Deptt destroys 220 Kg Lahan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: Excise Department on Wednesday destroyed 220

kg Lahan at Chitibakri, Keri, Shahpur, Jatote, Sasalkot, and adjoining areas of Grati, in Tehsil Rajouri, during different raids carried out to arrest the menace of illicit liquor in Excise subrange Rajouri. On the directions of Excise Commissioner, Pankaj Kumar Sharma, and supervision of Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive) Kusum Sharma and under the direct supervision of Narinder Singh Excise and Taxation officer Excise range Rajouri -Poonch, a team of Excise subrange Rajouri led by Inspector Dr. Sazad ,Sub inspector Parvaz Ahmed and Excise guard Mohd.Azeem, Javed Iqbal, conducted series of raids at Chitibakri, Shahpur, Keri, Jatote, Sasalkot, and adjoining areas of Grati, Tehsil Rajouri. In the process 220kg of Lahan raw material recovered from state land and later destroyed on spot.



17 labourers injured as truck hits load carrier

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: A truck rammed into a load carrier in Kathua district on Wednesday, leaving 17 labourers, including a pregnant woman, injured, police said.

A concrete mixer machine was also damaged in the accident which took place near Baswai Morh along the Jammu-Pathankot highway around 9 am.

They said the driver of the truck lost control and collided with the load carrier carrying labourers for work.

All the injured were rushed to a hospital and the condition of three of them was stated to be 'serious', they said, adding the truck driver abandoned the vehicle and fled the scene after the accident. A case has been registered.