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Sri Venkateswara Swamy...

and Tourism for accelerating development and tourism promotion in J&K. Union Home Minister, Amit Shah was expected to grace today's occasion with his presence but due to some indispensable work, he couldn't join us. He has conveyed his best wishes and told me his future event in Jammu will start only after paying obeisance to Sri Venkateswara Swamy, said the Lt Governor.

We are also grateful to the Y.V. Subba Reddy, Chairman, TTD and other Board members for the establishment of Sri Venkateswara's temple on the land of spirituality and wisdom and to the people of J&K for their cooperation, he said. He also acknowledged the hard work of the workforce engaged in the construction of the temple.

Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jammu Kashmir is witnessing faster economic development and revival of culture in Amrit Kaal. The Union Territory is touching new heights of glory, divinity and development in its eternal journey, observed the Lt Governor.

"The Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir is looking ahead, to a bright future. It is our collective responsibility to contribute to the task of socio-economic growth and to ensure participation and empowerment of the common man," he said.

The Lt Governor said, along with the unprecedented development, the spiritual aspect of Jammu Kashmir is also scaling new heights.

The holy shrines of Sri Venkateswara, Baba Amarnath, Mata Vaishno Devi, Mata Sharda, Shiv Khori, Adi Shankaracharya Temple, Hazratbal and other prominent religious places and Sufi shrines in the UT will not only boost tourism but also develop Jammu Kashmir as the cultural-spiritual capital of the country, he added.

The Lt Governor lauded Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, Kailash Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan and other organizations for their immense contribution in promoting Vedic culture and traditions.

I am confident Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams will develop a Ved Pathshala and Health Centre on priority, he added.

"Lord Venkateswara maintains this world and he is the very basis of existence. His divine blessings continue to guide the journey of Atam-Nirbhar Bharat and ensuring peace and prosperity in the lives of people," the Lt Governor said.

Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State, while speaking on the occasion, said the historic day will script a new milestone in the development journey of J&K UT.

This Vikas Tirth is a celebration of India's unity in diversity and also signifies Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, he added.

Y.V. Subba Reddy, Chairman, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Trust Board expressed gratitude to the Government of India and the Lt Governor led UT Government for their support and cooperation. I pray to Lord Venkateswara to bless the people of Jammu Kashmir with love, peace and prosperity.

Bharat Bhushan, Chairman DDC Jammu; Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member Parliament; Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor; Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; TTD board members, senior officials of Police and Civil administration, religious heads, political leaders and devotees in large numbers attended the historic inaugural ceremony.

DGP orders freezing..

Speaking on the occasion, the DGP stressed upon the Officers to ensure better coordination with all stakeholders in imposing greater deterrence to combat dangerous trade of drug-trafficking.

The DGP stressed upon officers for devising a plan under which the record of drug consumers is collected at Panchayat /Block levels which he said could be helpful in identifying source of supply. The DGP said the drug menace is a major threat to the socio-economic structure and it has become imperative for all the stakeholders to come together to uproot this menace and work in unison to make Jammu and Kashmir drugs free.

The DGP directed for establishing the ANTF secretariat in Crime Branch J&K to be headed by DIG crime branch for better coordination, feedback and analyzing of successful as well as failed cases. He said that secretariat would also identify the grey areas where gaps need to be plugged in. The DGP empathized for automatic flow of information regarding the drugs and action taken against the drug peddlers and narco-traders. He also emphasized for creating awareness by screening the documentaries regarding misuse/effects of drugs on the health of people. He said that lectures on narcotics and its ill effects must be organized in schools, colleges as also in panchayat levels for which he said that content already available on different platform as also new contents must be discussed with youth.

He said that crack down on drug trafficking and its peddlers has to be further intensified to punish those involved in this heinous crime adding that to improve the conviction rate chain of custody and documentation has to be maintained properly. He stressed for creating SOPs and their adherence for achieving conviction in narco-cases. He also stressed for publishing a compendium of circulars, orders, SOPs etc.

The DGP desired for constituting the district level task forces to deal with the narco-cases and added that progress of cases should be reviewed every month. He directed for conducting the court drills in moot court constituted for the purpose to understand the trials in courts better so that errors are fixed well in time. He also stressed for quality examination and review at prosecution level to ensure conviction of the accused. He stressed for extensively utilizing the NIDHAN portal for information and action plans.

The DGP directed Crime branch JK to prepare guidelines and investigation modules to be followed by IOs investigating Narco-related cases to achieve better results.

With regard to the poppy cultivation, he stressed for mapping up of hotspots and providing alternate crops option under relevant Government of India policy to the cultivators. He however, directed for strict action against the repeated offenders and directed for booking them under relevant laws/PSA.

The DGP directed for attachment of property acquired through drug trade and also stressed for attachment/freezing of bank accounts and identifying known and suspected drug traders/smugglers in border areas and subsequently initiating action against them. He also emphasized for identifying the payment methods being done through hidden channels including dark net.

Singh directed the officers to identify the competent and well versed investigators to be tasked for investigation of Narco cases. He stressed for analyzing the judgments to identify the shortcoming of the investigation which he said would be helpful in rectifying the errors in future. He directed crime Headquarters to issue the directions to all stakeholders for maintaining/collection of the records. The DGP directed for establishing the intelligence cell and making optimum use of resources to achieve better result. He also directed for

The DGP also reviewed working of canines and stressed for using services of Dog Squad for law and order and crime detection in an increased manner. The counter measures for use of mobile phones in jails were also discussed during the meeting.

Spl DGP Crime, A.K Choudhary and other officers briefed the DGP JK regarding the measures taken and measure planned for keeping the drug abuse in check and also steps taken for better investigate of the narco cases.

Revocation of Article...

Jammu and Kashmir had enjoyed the special status that was granted under Article 370 of the Constitution.

"We spent a lot of time getting people to understand what it was about. Our problem was that there were a lot of false narratives and much of it originated in our own country. We had to deal with it and we dealt with it," he said.

"I see no reason why Jammu and Kashmir should be denied the benefits not only of development but of globalisation that the rest of India is experiencing. I think it is their right and we should promote it," he said.

Replying to a question on India's 'neighbourhood first policy', Jaishankar said it has enhanced regional cooperation in diverse areas including connectivity, power and trade.

At the same time, he asserted that India cannot keep aside cross-border terrorism to improve ties with Pakistan under the policy.

India has been maintaining that Pakistan must stop supporting cross-border terrorism to restore normal bilateral relations.

"It is neither the country's sentiment nor the Modi government's thinking. If Pakistan wants to take the relations forward, they know what to do. It knows and the world knows," he said.

Jaishankar made the remarks at a press conference he addressed to list achievements of the Modi government in the foreign policy domain in the last nine years.

In clear message to Beijing, Jaishankar said expecting normalisation of its ties with China when the border situation in eastern Ladakh is not normal is not a "well-founded" expectation, describing the "forward deployment" of troops as the main problem.

He said India also wants to improve the relations with China, but it can be possible only when there is peace and tranquillity in the border areas. India has made it very clear to China that until there is peace and tranquillity in border areas, the relationship between the two countries cannot progress, he added.

J&K tops in...

habits among the consumers. This reflects the commitment and dedication of UT administration and the public towards ensuring food safety and hygiene in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Food Safety Index is a dynamic quantitative and qualitative benchmarking model that provides an objective framework for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) began the State Food Safety Index evaluation process for 2022-2023 by undertaking correspondence with Food Safety Commissioners of all UTs/States to furnish the data for statistical evaluation. The critical indicator on the basis of which evaluation is done included Human Resource, Compliance Levels, Food Testing Infrastructure and Surveillance, Training and Capacity Building besides Consumer Empowerment.

The award has been conferred for exemplary performance in implementation of FSS Act, 2006 as well as Eat Right initiatives in the financial year 2022-23, under which the department has conducted 29342 inspections, tested 11848 legal samples, filed 1606 prosecutions, imposed penalty of Rs. 14805850/-, compounded 774 cases with a fine of Rs. 1104300/-, and conducting 11380 testes, 155 trainings, 414 awareness programmes through Mobile Food Testing Vans.

J&K has also got special recognition in implementing Eat Right initiatives including 162 License/Registration melas, 43 FoS/TA/C training programmes, 588 certifications under Hygiene Rating of Hotels, Restaurants, Dhabas, Meat Shops and Sweets Shops, 50 Certifications under Eat Right Campuses, 07 Certifications under Eat Right Places of Worship, 15 Certifications under Eat Right School and lifting of 16998 Kg of Used Cooking Oil from the Food Markets for its diversion for biodiesel manufacturing.

Commissioner FDA, J&K, has attributed the award to selfless and committed efforts put in by the functionaries of the department who are empowered to perform statutory duties under FSS Act, 2006 Rules and Regulations made there under; in the UT. He has acknowledge the overwhelming support provided by Government of UT of J&K and FSSAI in terms of capacity building by providing sufficient financial assistance to the department for supporting the cause to ensure food safety and

drive on the Doda-Thatri-Gandoh route and checked around 120 vehicles the other day.

During the checking, 42 vehicles were issued challans for different violations of the Motor Vehicles Act. As many as 12 vehicles were compounded on the spot by the inspection team and a fine of Rs 11,500 was recovered from them. The drive specifically targeted overloading and overcharging and was aimed to raise awareness among vehicle operators at Thatri, Batyas, and Gandoh about traffic rules to prevent any unfortunate incidents on the hilly roads.

Extortionist arrested for harassing girl

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BARAMULLA: Police on Thursday arrested an extortionist for blackmailing & threatening a girl in Baramulla.

As per details, Police Post Delina received a written complaint from a person stating there in that his daughter is being continuously blackmailed and threatened by an unknown caller since long and has caused his daughter severe distress. Moreover, he has extorted handsome money from his daughter but when the situation got worsened, she disclosed whole story to him.

Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Baramulla and investigation was initiated.

During the course of investigation, a police party led by IC PP Delina under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Baramulla, arrested the extortionist identified as Owais Rashid Bhat alias Zaidan alias Sahabaa, son of Ab Rashid Bhat, resident of Chittoora Rafiabad Sopore. He has been shifted to police station where he remains in custody. Further investigation of the case is going on.

2 drug peddlers arrested; contraband recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BARAMULLA: Continuing its efforts to eradicate the menace of drugs from the society, Police on Thursday

arrested 02 drug peddlers and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

As per details, a party of Police Post Mirgund at a checkpoint established at Jheel Bridge Pattan arrested a drug peddler who was trying to flee from the spot after noticing police party but was apprehended tactfully. He has been identified as Gh H Hussain Ganie son of Moh Hatim resident of Kripalpura Payeen During search, 70 grams of Cannabis Powder was recovered from his possession.

Meanwhile, a party of Police Post Delina at a checkpoint established at Delina Baramulla intercepted a vehicle (Sumo) bearing regis-

healthy food practices.

He enjoined upon the stake holders including Food Business Operators, consumers, civil society and aligned departments to join hands towards achieving the objective of a healthy nation.

BJP bats for...

have been sanctioned. The railway line will come to Kashmir: The world's highest rail bridge has come up in Reasi, he added.

Road infrastructure has developed so much that Udhampur to Srinagar distance is being covered in four hours now, Koul said.

Amit Sharma, Secy...

IPS (2016) and Saurabh Mishra, IAS (2015) have been transferred to Jammu and Kashmir:

Chugh lauds PM...

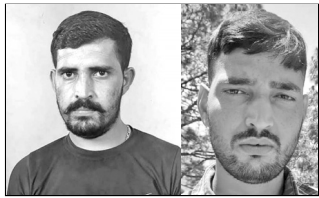
the gap between the cost and income of farmers over the Kharif crops. The hike in MSP will allow farmers to procure higher quality foodgrains as well as invest on the modern techniques of farming.

The Modi government introduced one nation, one MSP, One DBT scheme to help farmers in a big way, Chugh added.

CB arrests 2...

sheet against absconding Bittu and Kewel was produced under Section 512 Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) as both of them were at large, evading their arrest by constantly changing locations within the union territory, officials said.

The accused have been handed over to police station Basohli for further proceedings as warranted under law, they added.



Modi Govt overhauled...

cover takes care of almost all secondary care and most of tertiary care procedures. To ensure that nobody is left out, especially women, children and elderly, there is no cap on family size and age in the scheme.

The benefit cover also includes pre- and post-hospitalisation expenses and all pre-existing conditions are covered from day one of the policy, the officials said.

A defined transport allowance per hospitalisation is also paid to the beneficiary under the scheme.

Dr B Srinivasan...

investigations of several terror-related crimes in Jammu and Kashmir and a major crackdown on separatists was carried out during his tenure. He takes over from Dvesh Chandra Srivastava who has been shifted as Director General of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Satish Golcha, a 1992 IPS officer of AGMUT, who was serving as Director General of Arunachal Pradesh Police, has been called to Delhi for further posting. He will be replaced by 1994 batch officer Anand Mohan.

In another transfer, Neeraj Thakur, a 1994 batch IPS officer, has been shifted to Delhi for further posting. He was serving as Director General of Police in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

CUET-UG to...

exams were scheduled from May 21 to May 31, which was later extended to June 7. The National Testing Agency (NTA) has now released the admit cards for June 9 to June 11.

The NTA will soon announce the dates for further rounds of the exam. The results are expected to be announced in July.

The exams are likely to continue till June 17 and most of these tests will be conducted in Jammu and Kashmir and Jharkhand. The results are expected within 15 days from the date of completion of the exams.

"According to the original schedule, the results were expected around June 20, which will now probably be announced around the first week of July," a senior official said.

More than 14 lakh applications have been received for the CUET-UG this year, registering a 41-per cent increase from its debut edition last year.

The CUET-UG is the second-largest entrance exam in the country in terms of the number of applicants.

In its first edition, 12.5 lakh students had registered for the exam and 9.9 lakh had submitted their applications.

Unlike last year, the exam is being conducted in three shifts.

Most of the pending candidates are from Jammu and Kashmir and Jharkhand, while there are some from other states and Union territories too who are waiting for the dates. So far, the CUET-UG has registered an attendance of around 75 per cent.

Raghav, Piyush nominated...

and Monitoring Department and Dr Piyush Singla, Administrative Secretary, Revenue Department have been nominated as nodal officers.

As per order Dr Raghav Langer has been nominated as nodal officer for Baltal Axis and Dr Piyush Singla for Pahalgam Axis.

"The officers shall closely monitor and liaison with all concerned agencies involved in the conduct of Amarnath Yatra2023, and shall report to Chief Executive Officer Amarnath Shrine Board on regular basis," reads the order.

tration number JK05B-0111 driven by Raakib Bashir Hurrah son of Bashir Ahmad Hurrah resident of Kanispora Baramulla. During search, 12 grams of Heroin was recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and the vehicle used in the commission of crime has also been seized.

Both the arrested drug peddlers have been shifted to respective police stations where they remain in custody.

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

8 bovines rescued, smuggler arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SURANKOTE: Tightening noose against the bovine smuggling, Poonch police on Thursday rescued 8 bovines from the clutches of a bovine smuggler.

As per details, a police team headed by DySP Surankote Hamid Ali, SHO Surankote Rajveer Singh and In-Charge Police Post Behramgala Rajat Nanawat during Naka checking, intercepted a Tata mobile (JK11/0485) at Behrangalla which was driven by Khalid Mehmod, son of Niaz Ahmed, resident of Behrot, Thanamandi, Rajouri and going towards Kashmir; was signalled to stop. On checking it was found laden with 8 bovines with utmost cruelty. On failing to produced any permission, driver was arrested and FIR no. 128/2023 under sections 188 IPC/11 PC Act was registered against him at Police Station Surankote.

Missing person traced, reunited with family

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Police on Thursday traced a missing person and reunited him with his family.

As per details, a written complaint was lodged at Police Station Satwari by one woman Chanchala Devi, wife of Lt Amar Nath, resident of Bhour Camp stating that her son namely CT Vishal Kumar (BSF), went missing on September 20, 2018 when he was going to West Bengal.

On receipt of the above complaint, a missing complaint was lodged at Police Station Satwari. It is pertinent to mention that the Matter was being monitored by J&K High court through petition title:- Chanchala Devi VS State of J&K & others vide HCP No 49/2018 also.

On this, a team of Police Station Satwari led by SDPO South Sachit Sharma assisted by SHO Satwari Inspr. Sumeet Sharma and In-Charge Police Post Chatha PSI Harjinder Pal Singh with the help of technical assistance finally traced the missing boy from Haridwar.

Subsequently family of the missing person was informed and the traced person was handed over to his family members after completing all the legal formalities.

Notorious criminal arrested under PIT NDPS Act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MIRAN SAHIB: Police on Thursday arrested a notorious criminal under PIT NDPS Act.

As per details, a team of Police Station Miran Sahib led by SDPO RS Pura Nikhil Gogna assisted by SHO Miran Sahib Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq with the help of technical assistance along with timely human intervention arrested one notorious criminal namely Chaudhary Asif Ali alias Asif, son of Nazir Ahmed, resident of Langotian Tehsil R.S.Pura Distt. Jammu and booked him under PIT NDPS Act.

It is pertinent to mention that the accused person was a notorious criminal of desperate character and was involved in many heinous criminal cases including NDPS Act and Armed Act cases etc.

Warrant of arrest under PIT NDPS Act was issued against the said accused. Finally warrant has been executed today and accused got shifted to District Jail Amphalla Jammu.

CRIME REPORT

Wanted Punjab-based heroin among 4 hardcore criminals arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Police on Thursday achieved a major success by arresting four hardcore criminals involved in attempt to murder cases and drug trafficking including most wanted Punjab based heroin supplier "Yoddha".

The arrested accused have been identified as Jugraj Singh alias Yoddha, son of Balkar Singh, resident of Devidass Pura tehsil and district Amritsar (Punjab); Rajinder Kumar alias Sheru, son of Rattan Lal, resident of Joian Tehsil Bishnah district Jammu; Rohit Kumar alias Pakh, son of Bachan Lal, resident of Joian tehsil Bishnah district Jammu and Liyakat Ali alias Billo, son of Sardar Ali, resident of Salmeri Tehsil Vijaypur district Samba.

Top heroin supplier Yoddha had been operating from Punjab and supplying huge quantity of heroin like a wholesaler to the local heroine suppliers of Samba and adjoining districts. He was wanted in several NDPSA cases including case FIR No. 33/2023 under sections 8/21/25/29 NDPS was registered at Police Station Ghagwal in which Police had seized huge Indian currency amounting to rupees 16,71,520 & heroin. Samba Police had been conducting raids at several places in Amritsar &

other places in Punjab state to nab him. Finally, police succeeded in arresting him from Amritsar Punjab by conducting nocturnal raids and he is being subjected to sustained interrogation. With his arrest, a big interstate heroin suppliers' module has been busted and more arrests are likely. Hardcore criminals Rajinder Kumar alias Sheru and Rohit Kumar alias Pakh have been arrested by police team of Police Station Rangarh in attempt to murder case FIR No. 29/23 under sections 307/451/323/504/34 IPC of Police Station Ramgarh. Police was conducting raids to arrest them since the very day attempted to murder a shopkeeper by stabbing him in the back. Accused Liyakat Ali alias Billo has been arrested by police team of Police Station Bari Brahmana in case FIR No. 131/2023 under sections 307/341/332/504/506/147/148 IPC of Police Station Bari Brahmana.

The hardcore criminals were arrested by Police teams comprising of SHO Police Station Ghagwal Bharat Bhushan, SHO Police Station Rangarh Sudesh Kumar, SHO Police Station Bari Brahmana Sunil Sharma, SI Harbhajan Singh and PSI Rakesh.

MVD Challans 42 vehicles on Doda-Thatri-Gandoh Road

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: A Team of the Motor Vehicle Department conducted a massive enforcement

