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NHIDCL projects reviewed Expedite work on major road projects across J&K: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Issuing directions to officials to expedite the pace of work on the major road projects across Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday called for removal of bottlenecks, besides synergizing inter-agency and inter-department coordination for achieving optimum results.

Reviewing the status of various projects being executed by the National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (NHIDCL), in the Union Territory at a meeting at Raj Bhavan here, Sinha also directed the officers to undertake the technical supervision of works like earth-cutting along the high-ways, saying this is imperative to ensure the highest quality of works besides preserving the fragile ecology.

The Lt Governor was briefed about the status, pace



LG Manoj Sinha taking comprehensive review of various NHIDCL projects.

of works, and issues of various projects including the four-laning of Jammu-Akhnor Road; two-laning with Paved Shoulder of Chenani-Sudmahadev road section; Sudmahadev-Goha Tunnel in the Jammu Division, besides the current status of Z-Morh Tunnel; Zojila Tunnel; Baramulla-Tangmarg-Gulmarg road among others in the Kashmir Division.

On the four-laning of Jammu-Akhnor Road, he

was briefed about the progress achieved under various packages of the project. It was informed that around 70 per cent progress has been achieved in the Canal Head to Ganesh Vihar stretch of the prestigious project, involving construction of a 4.6 km long Flyover. The Lt Governor issued explicit directions to the concerned officials to stick to the timelines of the project. "This project is going to ease the life of thousands of our citizens. There should be no delay in the execution and the adherence of the set timelines must be ensured", he added.

The meeting also discussed the current status of two-laning of Chenani-Sudmahadev road section of NH-244, Sudmahadev-Goha Tunnel, Goha-Khellani in the Jammu region. Further, a team of senior NHIDCL officials shall visit Doda next week, to resolve

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BRICS finalises action plan to combat terrorism, radicalisation, terror financing

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: An action plan aimed at strengthening result-oriented cooperation among the BRICS countries to combat terrorism, radicalisation and terror financing will be adopted at a meeting of the national security advisors of the grouping next month.

The Ministry of External Affairs said on Friday that the action plan was finalised at a meeting of the BRICS Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) that took place virtually on July 28 and 29.

"The BRICS Counter-Terrorism Action Plan is one

of the key deliverables during India's chairship of BRICS and will be adopted at the meeting of BRICS National Security Advisors scheduled next month," the MEA said. BRICS (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa) brings together five of the largest developing countries of the world, representing 41 per cent of the global population, 24 per cent of the global GDP and 16 per cent of the global trade.

India has been strongly pitching for deeper cooperation among the BRICS member countries in dealing with terrorism, extremism

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DB upholds selection of 698 Sub-Inspectors in JKP

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: A division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court today upheld selection of 698 Sub Inspectors in J&K Police (Executive Police, Armed Police and Telecommunication wing).

This significant judgement has been passed by Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Sanjay Dhar in an appeal filed against judgment of Writ Court whereby Writ Court dismissed bunch of petitions with the observations that contention of selection authority having allowed mass copying is imaginary, with no support of any

cogent evidence, therefore, not sustainable. The other limb of the argument of counsel for petitioners was that a large number of candidates have been selected from a particular centre, thereby vitiating selection, is also untenable in view of fact that each and every selection is required to be made on basis of merit obtained by the competing candidates and, in law, there cannot be any impediment in the selection of a large number of candidates from a given centre, in case candidates have made the grade. Moreover, on perusal of original selection record, as produced by the respondents, there is nothing

forthcoming which would suggest that any irregularity has been committed by respondents in the process of selection. The respondents have, at every stage of selection process, in fact, taken all the necessary steps so as to ensure that process of selection is taken to its logical conclusion in a fair and transparent manner.

The Division Bench, after hearing both the sides in length, observed that in the instant case, there is no provision in Rules of 2015 to even remotely suggest that method of recruitment would even apply to those cases where any Statutory Rules provides for a special method

of recruitment. In fact, the clarification of 2016 and amendment to Police Rules affected on 1st July, 2021, suggest to the contrary. "DB is of the considered opinion that official respondents have not committed any illegality or irregularity in undertaking the impugned selection process in accordance with J&K Police Rules. Thus, it cannot be said that there has been any gross or glaring illegality in the process of selection. So far as contention of the writ petitioners that at certain centers, biometric attendance was not resorted to and in certain other centers,

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Rescue operation resumes in cloudburst-hit Kishtwar after suspension due to rain



Army personnel during a rescue operation after flash floods due to a cloudburst at Hanzor in Kishtwar district.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The rescue operation to locate 20 people missing after a cloudburst in a village in Jammu and

Kashmir's Kishtwar resumed Friday after remaining suspended for hours together owing to inclement weather, officials said.

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Body of woman fished out from Chenab; search on for her husband, two sons

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The body of a 38-year-old woman was fished out from Chenab in Udhampur district on Friday, five days after she along with her husband and two sons drowned in the fast flowing river following a road accident on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway, officials said.

Asha Devi, a resident of Paloura area of Jammu, was found dead by a search party of police near Anook bridge in Damnote area, the officials said.

They said the body of the deceased was handed

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CS directs 100 pc door-to-door waste collection in all J&K towns, cities by Oct 2

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Friday directed the Housing & Urban Development Department to ensure 100 per cent door-to-door collection of solid waste across all towns and cities of Jammu and Kashmir by 2nd October 2021, besides, raising the number of towns with 100 per cent source segregation.

The Chief Secretary issued these directions while chairing the 8th meeting of State Level Apex Committee (SLAC) on Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U)

and reviewed the functioning of solid waste management system under the scheme.

Administrative Secretaries of departments of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Housing & Urban Development, Jal Shakti, Planning, Development & Monitoring, besides, Commissioners, Municipal Corporations, Jammu/Srinagar along with Directors, Urban Local Bodies, Jammu/ Kashmir participated in the meeting.

It was informed that under the Swachh Bharat Mission, efforts are being made towards scientific disposal of

solid waste through scientific solid waste management, robust IEC activities for bringing about a behavioural change, and various capacity-building measures. Currently, 100% door-to-door collection of solid waste is being done in 984 wards with 100% source segregation is 178 wards.

It was informed that as per the approved action plans for 76 ULBs and Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), the Department is undertaking decentralized solid waste management via dedicated source

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Guidelines issued for reopening of higher educational institutions in Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS
LEH: With COVID-19 cases on a steady decline, authorities in the Union Territory of Ladakh have issued guidelines for the reopening of higher educational institutions from next week.

Ladakh has recorded only four new coronavirus cases during the past 24 hours, taking the overall infection tally to 20,324, while eight such patients recovered bringing down the active cases in the region to 60, officials said.

A total of 207 Covid-related deaths -- 149 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- were registered in Ladakh since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

As many as 20,057 patients have recovered till

date from the infection. In an order, Secretary Higher Education Department Padma Angmo said all the higher educational institutions may consider reopening for on-site Classes from August 2 with strict adherence to already issued COVID-19 SOP and guidelines.

The order said the academic calendar should be planned in a manner to avoid overcrowding, congregation at all times and Classes to be scheduled in a staggered manner.

All the students and faculty/staff shall make use of Arogya Setu App, the order said.

The officials said the COVID-19 situation

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WEATHER

Temperature (Jammu)
Max: 33.0°C Min: 26.6°C

Humidity
Max: 90 Min: 63

Temperature (Srinagar)
Max: 27.4°C Min: 20.0°C

Humidity
Max: 88 Min: 64

Sunset : 19:32 Hours
Sunrise : 05:46 Hours

Class 12 results: CBSE records highest ever 99.37 pass percentage, girls outshine

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) recorded the highest ever pass percentage of 99.37 in this year's class 12 results, declared on Friday, with girls outshining boys by a slender margin of 0.54 per cent.

The pass percentage increased by over 10 percentage points against last year's 88.78 per cent. The difference between the pass percentage of girls and boys was nearly six per cent last year. The board has announced the results on basis of an alternate assessment policy after the exams were cancelled in view of the aggressive second wave of COVID-19.

Each of you a powerhouse of talent: Modi

NEW DELHI: Congratulating the students who passed their Class XII CBSE exams, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Friday said the batch that appeared for the boards this year did so under unprecedented circumstances caused by the Covid pandemic.

The education world witnessed many changes through the year gone by, yet these students adapted to the new normal and gave their best, he said, adding that he was proud of them.

Those who feel they could have worked harder or performed better can learn from this experience

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While the pass percentage of girls and boys stood at 99.67 per cent and 99.13 per

cent respectively, transgender students achieved a pass percentage of 100 per cent.

Wait not over for 65,000 students, their result to be declared by Aug 5

NEW DELHI: The wait is not over for nearly 65,000 class 12 students whose results are yet to be declared by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

The board announced the results for class 12 on Friday, however, the scores of 65,184 candidates have been held back. The board exams were cancelled this year in view of the aggressive second wave of COVID-19 and the results have been prepared on basis of an alternate assessment policy announced by the CBSE.

For class 12 scores, the marks of classes 10 and 11, and internal assessment during class 12, have been taken into account.

"The result of about 1,060 new schools is still under process as there was no reference year. Hence, the board is looking into the interest of these candidates and their result will be declared latest by August 5," said Sanyam Bhardwaj, Controller of Examinations.

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According to the policy decided by a 13-member panel of the board, the theo-

ry paper evaluation formula is 30 per cent weightage

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