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228 bank recovery...

various District Legal Services Authorities across the UT of J&K, a total of 885 cases were taken up in the Special Lok Adalat, out of which 228 cases were amicably settled involving a total amount of Rs.5,23,66,443 giving a huge relief to the litigants.

Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Amit Kumar Gupta, while talking to media persons informed that this was the 7th Special Lok Adalat of the current calendar year and the next special Lok Adalat shall be held on Saturday, August 10, 2024 focusing on the settlement of Criminal Compoundable Cases. He urged the Advocates in general and the litigants in particular to take maximum benefit of such Special Lok Adalats which are being organized by the J&K Legal Services Authority.

Appreciating the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSAs, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their whole hearted participation in the Special Lok Adalat and facilitating settlement of cases in such a large number; he also acknowledged the role of Para Legal Volunteers and the media, both print and electronic in creating and spreading awareness amongst the masses about such initiatives of Legal Services Authority.

All communities must...

confront the challenge posed by terrorists," he said. Singh announced that weapons, including SLR rifles, may be provided to the VDGs so that they can negotiate the challenge effectively.

The minister made a fervent appeal to all communities to put up a united front against terrorism.

"Doda did not succumb to terrorism even during the 1990s when it was at its peak. As inhabitants faced the menace tooth and nail, they were successful in preventing migration of the people from here," he said.

Talking about infrastructure development of Doda, Singh said in the last 10 years of the government, a network of highways has been created in order to improve connectivity to remote areas, reduce travel time and enhance passengers' comfort.

"When completed, the strategically important Lakhampur-Basohli-Bani-Bhaderwah-Doda National Highway will reduce distance on this route by more than 100 Kilometres", he said, adding "this will also create job opportunities for the local youth and boost tourism in the area".

In the same way, the all-weather under-construction Khellani Tunnel will cut travelling time for the inhabitants of the districts of Doda and Kishtwar both to Srinagar and Jammu, he said.

The minister said the government has been working tirelessly to ensure equitable development of all regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Modi government overcome the shortcomings of the previous regime and completed the unfinished and delayed infrastructure projects in J&K," he underlined.

Singh emphasised that the government provided LPG connections and built houses under PM Awas, without taking into consideration caste, creed or religion of beneficiaries, as it is driven by the motto of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas'.

He stressed the need to create awareness about the government's welfare schemes.

"Workshops should be organised to make the youth and their parents aware about the benefits of various welfare schemes," he urged the local administration.

Later, the minister held a "Public Darbar" lasting over three hours in which the district administration led by Deputy Commissioner Harvinder Singh was present for on-the-spot redressal of people's issues.

During the Public Darbar, issues of public interest also came up, with the local people raising their demands and seeking redressal of their grievances.

After listening to the people's demands, Singh instructed the administration to ensure speedy and timely resolution of matters of public concern.

He directed that all possible measures must be taken to improve the delivery of public services in a time-bound manner.

CS reviews progress...

highlighted the significance of NCAP in tackling air pollution challenges especially in urban areas, emphasizing the need for concerted efforts from all departments and stakeholders involved in order to achieve desired outcomes of the programme. He also sought implementation status of pollution control measures, augmentation of monitoring infrastructure, enforcement of emission



CS Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

norms for industries and vehicles, promotion of cleaner technologies and public awareness campaigns.

The Chief Secretary underscored the importance of strict adherence to timelines and quality benchmarks in achieving the desired outcomes of NCAP.

The Chief Secretary, during the meeting, also delved through each project of both capital cities and had detailed analysis of all the expenditure made till date. He stressed on making tireless efforts to complete all the pending works. He also directed the concerned stakeholders to accelerate the pace of tendering and other preliminary processes of remaining works under this programme.

During the meeting, the PCCF through presentation, informed the meeting about the progress made, so far, in implementation of this programme in Jammu and Srinagar cities.

Death of Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary JKAACL condoled



STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: The members of cultural and literary organisations of Kathua namely Sabras Sahitya Sangam and Triveni Kala-Kunj assembled in Vishwakarma Bhawan Kathua and condoled the sad & untimely death of their mentor Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture & Languages. Manhas besides being a literary personality, was soft-spoken, an honest, sober, co-operative, accommodating and a man of principles. Cultural and literary activities got a boost during his tenure and an equal and fair opportunity was given to every person who deserved. With his untimely death, a vacuum has been created which will take time to fill. All the members present especially Sushil Gupta Advocate and Kartar Varma, President Vishwakarma Sabha Kathua prayed for eternal peace for his noble soul and to give bereaved family enough strength to bear the irrecoverable loss.

BJP will bring out 'White Paper' on Jharkhand's demography to protect tribal lands, rights: Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS
RANCHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said rampant infiltration has led to the shrinking of the tribal population in Jharkhand and added that if the BJP forms the next government in the state, it will release a 'White Paper' on demography to protect tribal lands and rights.

Shah expressed confidence in the BJP forming a government in Jharkhand, noting that the party won in 52 of 81 assembly segments in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Addressing party workers at Prabhat Tara Ground during the BJP's extended executive committee meeting, he said, "After forming a government in Jharkhand, we

will bring out a 'White Paper' on demography to protect tribal people, their lands, reservation, and rights."

Without naming Hemant Soren, he accused Jharkhand's tribal Chief Minister of being involved in "Love Jihad" and "Land Jihad" due to his "vote bank and appeasement policy," which Shah claimed was causing demographic changes.

He alleged that thousands of infiltrators were entering Jharkhand, marrying tribal women, obtaining certificates, and buying land, thus usurping jobs meant for local people. Shah criticised Soren for focusing on increasing his vote bank and alleged that his welfare measures prima-

arily benefit his family. "Infiltrators are usurping jobs meant for local people and Hemant Soren is busy increasing his vote bank. His welfare measures means welfare of his family," he alleged.

Shah also targeted INDIA bloc and Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, accusing them of "showing arrogance" despite losing the Lok Sabha polls and being involved in scams worth Rs 12 lakh-crore, appeasement, dynastic politics, and compromising national security.

"The BJP got more seats in this Lok Sabha election than Congress's combined numbers in 2014, 2019, 2024 polls," he said, alleging that the JMM-led alliance is one of the most corrupt govern-

ments in the country and it was time to show it the exit door.

Referring to recovery of over Rs 300 crore from the premises linked to a former Congress MP in Jharkhand, Shah asked people whether they had seen such a huge cash and to whom did the funds belong. He also referred to recovery of about Rs 30 crore from the house of the PA of a former Jharkhand minister and alleged that Congress was encouraging corruption.

"Congress will give tickets to the former minister to contest the election again," he alleged.

Shah highlighted various scams in Jharkhand, including a Rs 1,000-crore MNRE-

GA scam, a Rs 300-crore land scam involving Army land, a Rs 1,000-crore mining scam, and a Rs 40-crore liquor scam, as well as an ongoing 'transfer posting scam' amounting to thousands of crores.

Emphasising the BJP's commitment to Jharkhand's development, Shah noted that during Congress's regime, only Rs 84,000 crore was allocated for the state's development, whereas under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP government ensured Rs 3.84 lakh crore for the state in the past 10 years. He credited the BJP with containing the Naxalite menace and providing the state with its first tribal CM.

"It is the BJP who made a tribal woman the President of India and included Santhali language in the eighth schedule of the Constitution. A number of schemes for the country were launched from Jharkhand," he said and added that the BJP government also worked for OBC welfare.

"The present cabinet under PM Modi has a 27 per cent representation of OBCs...Modi has done much work for the welfare of OBCs, Dalits and tribals...He has done work towards strengthening national security," he added.

BJP leaders including Union minister Annapurna Devi, Laxmikant Bajpai and Arjun Munda were also present on the occasion.

Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine installed at GHSS R S Pura by Mission Shakti



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Under the supervision of District Social Welfare Officer, Mamta Rajput, the Mission Shakti SANKALP HEW Jammu organised an awareness seminar on menstrual hygiene and women-centric schemes at Government Girls Higher Secondary School (GGHSS) R.S. Pura.

The seminar aimed to educate students and staff members about maintaining hygiene during the menstruation cycle and to introduce various government

schemes supporting women's health, education and empowerment.

Dr. Eera Suri delivered a lecture on menstrual hygiene, emphasising the do's and don'ts during the menstruation cycle. The session was attended by a large number of students and staff members who were keen to learn about essential hygiene practices.

Officials from SANKALP HEW Jammu provided detailed information on numerous government schemes and services, including Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

(BBBP), health-related schemes of NHM, Sukanya Samridhii Yojana, Ladli Beti, scholarship schemes, education-oriented schemes, skill development programs, business startup schemes, pensions for the elderly, widows and physically challenged individuals, SMAS for marriage, schemes for women in distress and Nasha Mukta awareness sessions. They also shared helpline numbers and stressed the importance of these schemes for women's education, health, safety and empowerment.

A key focus of the session was the empowerment of girls, motivating them to actively participate in various cultural and educational events to contribute to societal growth. In a significant move towards supporting menstrual hygiene, a sanitary napkin vending machine was installed in the school for the benefit of the girls.

At the end of the session, sanitary napkins and refreshments were distributed among the students. The event was attended by District Mission Coordinator Mission Shakti Shagun Manchanda and Gender Specialist SANKALP HEW Khushboo Kapte, who supported the initiative and ensured its success.

ED seizes over Rs 1-Cr cash, undisclosed assets during raids against Cong MLA, others

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday said it has seized Rs 1.42 crore in cash, documents related to more than 30 "undisclosed" flats and land during searches against Haryana Congress MLA Rao Dan Singh, his son and some business entities as part of a bank-loan fraud-linked money-laundering investigation.

The raids were launched on Thursday (July 18) in Mahendragarh and Gurugram in Haryana, apart from Delhi and Jamshedpur (Jharkhand), against the legislator, his family, a linked company called Suncity Projects Private Limited, another company called Allied Strips Limited (ASL) and its promoters Mohinder Agrawal, Gaurav Agrawal and some others.

ASL manufactures cold roll steel products. The money-laundering

investigation stems from a CBI FIR filed against the accused, who were charged with committing "fraud" by siphoning off and diverting funds, criminal misappropriation, criminal breach of trust and cheating, and causing wrongful loss of more than Rs 1,392.86 crore to a consortium of banks led by the Canara Bank.

The search operations led to the seizure of cash amounting to Rs 1.42 crore, incriminating documents about 32 undisclosed flats and land, various lockers, trusts etc. from the premises of the group entities and persons, including entities of Akshat Singh, son of Rao Dan Singh, the ED said in a statement.

It, however, did not specify what exactly was seized from where.

Rao Dan Singh (65) represents the Mahendragarh seat in the 90-member Haryana Assembly. Election to the Haryana Assembly is

slated to be held later this year.

The four-term MLA and businessman had contested the recent Lok Sabha polls from the Bhiwani-Mahendragarh seat as a Congress nominee. He lost the electoral contest to the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Dharambir Singh by a margin of more than 41,000 votes. He is considered to be close to former chief minister and current leader of opposition in the Haryana Assembly Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

The ED claimed that the modus operandi of the alleged bank-loan fraud "included siphoning off of the funds borrowed from banks to other companies in the form of unsecured loans and advances, writing off debts of its various debtors, bogus transactions etc".

The searched entities have been found to have falsified their books of accounts, it claimed.

Advisor Bhatnagar visits Nunwan Base camp, reviews arrangements for ongoing holy Shri Amarnathji Yatra

STATE TIMES NEWS
PAHALGAM: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Friday visited Nunwan base camp set up for the Amarnath Yatra and reviewed arrangements for ongoing pilgrimage to holy cave shrine.

During the visit, Advisor Bhatnagar interacted with officials and stakeholders responsible for managing various aspects of yatra, including accommodation, healthcare facilities and security measures. He emphasized the importance of maintaining high standards of service delivery and safety protocols to ensure a hassle-free experience for all pilgrims.

During the visit, he also interacted with the pilgrims and enquired about their experience during the yatra.

The Advisor also interacted with service providers, doctors, sanitation workers,



Advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar during visit to Nunwan base camp on Saturday.

administrative and security officials and took note of various facilities for the pilgrims.

Bhatnagar, while interacting with different officers on the occasion, directed all representatives of concerned departments and service providers to take every possible measure for safe and smooth conduct of pilgrimage. He stressed on

the need for coordination among different agencies and stakeholders to maintain the momentum of preparations and uphold the sanctity of the holy yatra.

The Advisor, during the visit, also inspected the hospital in the Nunwan Base camp and took stock of all the medical facilities available for the devotees.

Awareness programmes on Self-Employment initiatives and opportunities held

STATE TIMES NEWS
RAMBAN: Implanting the directives of Deputy Commissioner Ramban, Baseer-Ul-Haq Chaudhary, the Rural Development Department in collaboration with Industries and Commerce Department, today organized an awareness programme on various Self Employment Schemes under Mission Youth J&K besides other schemes of DIC at BDO Office, Ramban.

The event aimed at generating mass awareness among the unemployed Youth of Block Ramban regarding Job oriented schemes of across the Government and private sectors.

At the outset Assistant Labour Commissioner, Amit Kumar, holding additional charge of Assistant Director

Employment Ramban briefed about the schemes of Mission youth like MUMKIN, Tejaswini and Spurring Entrepreneurship Initiatives.

He elaborated the eligibility conditions, benefits and procedure of applying under the schemes. He further requested the youth to think differently and bring out innovative ideas and this department is ready to provide any financial and other support in the establishment of the unit and assured that such camps shall be held on monthly basis in each Block.

Meanwhile, Representative from the office of DIC Ramban gave a brief account on the PMEGP Scheme. While, representatives of JK Bank Ramban, SBI Branch Manager Ramban, were also

present and elaborated the sponsoring mechanism of the Government sponsored self employment cases, under various self-employment schemes at bank level and assured that the proper SOP shall be followed to prevent unnecessary delay at bank level.

Representatives of RSETI provided in-depth details of short term training courses being provided by the Institute. On-the-spot renewal and registration of labour cards was done by the DEOs and CSC operators. Various complaints were also resolved on the spot regarding the renewal and registration of the labour card.

ADC Bhadarwah discusses Independent Day arrangements

STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADARWAH: Additional Deputy Commissioner Bhadarwah Sudershan Kumar today convened a meeting to discuss the arrangements for the upcoming celebration of Independence Day 2024, here at Dak Bunglow Bhadarwah. It was decided in the meeting that VIP will hoist National Flag at 8.55 AM and will take salute at the march past parade of the contingents to be drawn from Police, NCC senior division, NCC Junior division and government and private schools. The day will start with playing of Shehnai Wadan by the Information Department Bhadarwah. Regarding other arrangements like security, first aid, sanitation, fire and emergency services, seating arrangements, power supply, arrangement of drinking water and issuance of invitation cards were also discussed and directions passed on to the concerned officers at the meeting. All the government buildings of all institutions will be illuminated on the national event. It was informed that the full dress rehearsal of the programme will be held on August 13 at 10.30AM.

Farewell accorded to Pawan Preet Singh on his transfer

STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: In a simple but impressive function officers of J&K Prosecution services felicitated and congratulated son of soil Pawan Preet Singh (JKPS) on his transfer from PHQ J&K (A/P Poonch & Rajouri DPO SSP Office) to Kashmir. The speakers on the occasion have appreciated the work done by him and expressed a dedicated and honest officer who has done tremendous work dealing with crime and illegal activities ranging from attachment of properties of drug peddlers, unlawful activities (ULA) by providing legal opinions and guidance to the police and investigating officers of twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri as a result of which anti social elements and wrong doers were booked and brought to justice.

On this occasion the officer shared his experience of dealing with Poonch and Rajouri districts in compliance to the directions of Police headquarters (PHQ) J&K and revealed during



his tenure more than two hundred police cases were dealt by remaining an active member of various Special investigation teams (SIT's) constituted for offences ranging from murder, crime against women, rape, Peco, kidnapping, NDPS Act, inquest proceedings, Unlawful Activities Prevention Act etc.

Officer thanked SSPs of both the districts, Deputy Inspector General of Police RPHQ Rajouri, Additional Director General of Police Jammu and officers of J&K Prosecution services and staff of DPO Poonch and Rajouri for the support and co operation.