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J&K on path...

development, propelling J&K towards becoming a resilient and self-reliant Union Territory," the Lt Governor said.

Dr. Eliska Zigova, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India reiterated the commitment of Czech Republic to deepen the partnership with India, with a dedicated focus on nurturing mutual growth and collaboration.

Guneet Chaudhary, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic in Chandigarh for UT of J&K; Adam Podhola, Third Secretary in the Embassy of Czech Republic; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner Secretary, Tourism Department and Khalid Jahangir, Managing Director, JKTPD were present during the meeting.

BJP strategies for...

Sabhagaar, G Kishan Reddy said that Modi government has led the nation to an unprecedented development and that is visible in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir as well.

He said that the Modi government has taken care of the aspirations of every Indian that is emotionally connected to the J&K and its residents.

He said that BJP worked on its core issue of Article 370 and fulfilled the promise made to the people of Jammu & Kashmir and the whole of India.

He asserted that the Modi government will further pace up the development in Jammu & Kashmir in its third term spanning 5 years.

Pradesh President Ravinder Raina presided over the meeting.

Besides Reddy, who is also nominated as Election Incharge J&K BJP and BJP National General Secretary and Prabhari J&K Tarun Chugh, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Rajya Sabha) Er Ghulam Ali Khatana, Seh-Prabhari Ashish Sood, former Dy Chief Ministers Dr. Nirmal Singh and Kavinder Gupta were also present in the meeting.

Ravinder Raina congratulated all the party leaders and activists for fulfilling the commitment of a comprehensive win in the Lok Sabha election. He said that BJP has won both the seats it contested in J&K and this is due to the commitment of Modi ji towards the people which is reflected in the principle of "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas".

He said that the Modi government gave rights to every neglected section in J&K. he said that the Modi government ensured development in every sector with improved infrastructure being reflected in the construction of 2 AIIMS, Medical Colleges, road networks, ring roads, highways, colleges, Universities etc.

Speaking on the occasion, Tarun Chugh, lauded the BJP cadre for securing a hundred percent win in Parliament elections and also congratulated them for the loss of both the political families in the region.

He said that his marks the end of their family-based politics. He also said that the Congress was not able to win a single seat in Jammu & Kashmir.

Chugh asked the party cadre to tell the people about the black deeds of the NC supported by Congress in pushing the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir into the blood bath and the continuation of this bloody game by NC, PDP, and Congress on the corpses of innocents.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that Modi government is the first government in India that has secured a comprehensive win for the third consecutive term. He added that the Congress on the other hand has failed miserably for the consecutive terms to reach even the mark of 100.

Jugal Kishore Sharma said that BJP has consistently worked for the empowerment of people and development in the region. He also spoke of the success of the cancellation of a blind wall from Kunjwani to Narwal.

Ashish Sood asked all the party leaders to be ready for the forthcoming elections in Jammu & Kashmir. He asked all the party leaders not to take a rest as dedicated BJP activists and be consistently involved in the service to the nation and society.

Adv Vibodh Gupta shared the details of the forthcoming party programmes with the party leaders. He also threw emphasis on the Mann Ki Baat programme by PM Modi.

Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal read the political resolution throwing light on the political happenings and current socio-political situation in Jammu & Kashmir and the party's commitment towards the issues.

Adv. Sunil Sethi presented the Empowerment Resolution reflecting the party's insight into the current issues and the party's approach to the empowerment of all sections.

Former Minister Priya Sethi conducted the meeting proceedings.

CS lays out...

for other private players to make inroads and take this field to new heights.

Chief Secretary cited the examples of Medical, Engineering and Agricultural fields to buttress his reflections made during this meeting. He advocated framing of a similar strategy as that of above professions and called SVSU an earnest step in this direction.

Atal Dulloo encouraged the stakeholders including the Secretary, SDD to pay a visit to this Skill University to have a fair idea about the future course of action. He also beckoned the University authorities to handhold the J&K administration in making better plans and points of action to promote holistic skilling of the youth of J&K.

VC, SVSU, Raj Nehru, presented a broad historical background of the University providing detailed insights into its working.

It was informed that the University aims at nurturing skill development in candidates right from KG to PG level. Besides, the curriculum for each course had been designed and developed in consultation with the concerned Industrial set-up itself.

It was added that the courses are outcome driven with focus on mapping all its programs as per industry needs to ensure that students are equipped with competencies required for employment, self employment and career advancement with horizontal and vertical mobility options aligned to NSQF and NCF framework.

Over 20,000 pilgrims...

of Baltal and Palagam at 3.45 am and were escorted by CRPF security personnel, they said.

While 4,377 pilgrims took the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route, 2,542 pilgrims took the shorter but steep 14-km Baltal route, they said.

With this, a total of 44,441 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 28.

ACB registers case...

13(1) (b) r/w 13(2) Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018) for possession of assets which are prima facie disproportionate to his known source of income.

Anti-Corruption Bureau, after registration of a formal case under relevant sections of law, also conducted simultaneous searches with the help of local police in presence of

Magistrates and independent witnesses at the premises of the accused person in Jammu and Rajouri districts. Detailed and in-depth scrutiny of the seized record will be carried out during further course of investigation. Further investigation in the case is going on.

Five J&K Police...

their dedication, devotion, and service to the nation has been recognised at highest level. This recognition shows the exemplary commitment of the one of the finest Police



forces of the country, the DGP added.

The DGP expressed heartfelt gratitude to the President of India Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Raj Nath Singh and officers of Ministry of Defence, the Central Govt and UT Govt for recognizing the valour and sacrifices of J&K Police. He also thanked the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their unwavering support to the force.

The Ministry of Defence had announced Shaurya Chakras to these bravehearts on Independence Day 2023 and Republic Day 2024.

BSF, Police carry...

rushed to the spot with a bulldozer and carried out extensive digging but did not find anything, the villager told reporters at the scene.

He said that they are still searching as the farmland is just 500 metres away from the border.

Two years ago, a drone was dropped in the same area, along with a consignment carrying seven sticky bombs and other materials.

The farmer further said that there was a bore well located at the same spot, which might have sunk, causing the water to drain into it.

CJ emphasises importance...

establishment of these facilities will go a long way in improving the work culture at D.H Pora which historically is a crucible of civilizations and cultures which has lent their myriad hues to this Tehsil and overall to the fabric of Kulgam, he added.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Commissioner Kulgam, Athar Amir and SSP Kulgam, Sahil Sarangal, CJM Kulgam, Abdul Qayoom Mir, Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Kulgam, Muneer Ahmad Bhat, Munsiff D.H Pora/Kulgam, Mudasir Bashir besides President and office bearers of Bar Association DH Pora.

Modi congratulates Keir...

to further strengthen the India-UK comprehensive strategic partnership.

Modi also praised outgoing British Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader Rishi Sunak for his admirable leadership of the United Kingdom and his active contribution to deepen the ties between India and the UK during his term in office. "Best wishes to you and your family for the future," he said. Starmer is set to become Britain's next prime minister after his Labour Party hurled towards a landslide majority on Friday in the parliamentary elections and dealt a bruising defeat for incumbent premier Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party. Congratulating him, Modi said, "Heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Keir Starmer on the remarkable victory in the UK general elections. I look forward to our positive and constructive collaboration to further strengthen the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in all areas, fostering mutual growth and prosperity."

NC seeks suggestions from people for party's manifesto

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The National Conference (NC) on Friday sought suggestions from the people of Jammu and Kashmir for shaping the party's manifesto for the forthcoming assembly elections in the Union Territory.

A meeting of the party's manifesto committee led by former Finance Minister and senior NC leader Abdul Rahim Rather was held at the party headquarters here. After the meeting, the party sought suggestions from the people for the manifesto, which would be discussed by the committee and incorporated in the final document.

The party said the manifesto committee has sought suggestions from the general public, including youths and women.

"The Jammu and Kashmir National

Conference Manifesto Committee is seeking suggestions from the general public to help shape our future. Share your ideas by emailing manifesto@jknc.co.in within the next week. Every suggestion will be thoroughly reviewed. Let's build a better tomorrow together," the NC said in a post on X.

Srinagar MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi, who is a member of the manifesto committee, said the meeting discussed the issues for the elections, if they are conducted.

"The biggest issue for us is the status of this state, its constitutional status, restoration of those guarantees which were snatched from us. Not only will we talk about these issues in this election, but if we succeed, we will work on these issues," Mehdi told reporters here

He said the NC has started deliberations within the party as well as with the people.

"We have started interacting with the people, party colleagues to know about the issues concerning the people which need to be addressed in the manifesto and then implement them if we form the government.

"Apart from (restoration of) Article 370, land rights, job rights, unemployment, electricity-related issues, increase in power tariffs, power projects, reservation issue, tourism, education sector, development of cities and towns are the other issues. There was a general discussion on which issues need to be addressed," he said.

The manifesto committee of the party, which was formed on Monday, has been tasked to present a draft of the manifesto within 45 days.

CS takes stock of physical status of transit accommodations in Kashmir

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Friday chaired a meeting to take stock of physical status of transit accommodations being constructed for PM package employees from migrant Kashmiri Pandit community across different districts of valley.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Home, Commissioner Secretary, FCS&CA, Secretary, R&B, Secretary, DMRR&R, Relief Commissioner, Chief Engineers and other concerned officers.

During this meeting, the Chief Secretary took note of flats completed so far by executing agencies and asked

them about the timeline for completing those presently under progress.

He enquired about the status of blocks raised at each of 12 locations in different districts of the valley. He asked about the physical progress made in each of the project taken in hand and the time by which these works are going to be finished in all respects.

The Chief Secretary emphasised on completing all these blocks as per the deadlines fixed without any fail. He also enjoined upon the Relief Commissioner to allot the furnished flats to the eligible candidates forthwith. He called for taking up other works too for ensuring their early completion.

In a detailed presentation, Secretary, DMRR&R, Anil Koul while giving overview of whole scheme, provided location wise progress registered in creation of additional accommodations for these package employees.

It was given out that out of the total 6000 flats to be made for the same number of employees, around 4800 had already been taken-up for completion at different locations.

It was further revealed that the construction of 2088 flats has been completed till date of which 998 have been allotted to genuine applicants. It was also given out that work on 2712 flats is at advanced stage of completion and these are going to

be handed over in next few months for allotment.

Giving further details, it was informed that since the onset of April this year, construction of 536 new flats had been taken in hand and 392 flats had also been completed, resulting in net addition of about 144 flats during this period.

The meeting also deliberated upon the issue of inclusion of Kashmiri Migrant families into the NFSA database for extending the benefits of different social security benefits to them. It also held discussions over package extend by MHA to the refugees including those belonging to years of 1947/1965/1971 as well as from West Pakistan.

Cheating, corruption impossible to be committed without serious premeditation: HC

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court has denied bail to a government official who was recently arrested for taking bribe in Ramban district, observing that cheating, corruption and other white collar offences are impossible to be committed without serious premeditation.

Mohd Ishaq Bhat, who was posted as an qanoongo (revenue officer) in the Banihal Tehsildar's office, was arrested on May 27 by the CBI after he was caught while accepting a bribe of Rs 18,000 from a person for processing his application for land settlement.

Bhat's wife Tahira Begum moved the bail application for his release from judicial custody as her counsel said the charge-sheet against the accused was filed on June 26 after completion of investigation. He is lodged in the district jail, Amphalla, Jammu.

Hearing the bail application on July 3, Justice Atul Sreedharan agreed with the CBI's counsel Monika Kohli and said "this court differs in the opinion that an offence under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act can also be dealt with the same yardsticks that may be applied for offences against human body or other categories of offences."

"It must be borne in mind that offence

against human body may be a crime of passion which may at times result in one man taking the life of another in a fit of anger arising at the moment without premeditation and without any preparation. However, offences of cheating, corruption and other white collar offences are impossible to be committed without serious premeditation," the judge said.

He said a great deal of planning, arrangements and other associations with co-accused persons are required before the transfer of money can take place effectively from the victim to the accused.

"Such persons have their own contacts, touts and agents, who intercede with the victim on behalf of the corrupt official and coax him to part with money for a solution based upon the discretionary power of that public servant," he said.

Though, this court is not prejudiced by the various instances of corruption that may be taking place in this country via a vis bridges collapsing one after the other during rains, roads collapsing and huge sinkholes forming after just one shower; it cannot close its eyes to the fact that in a case of bribe, if the accused is released prematurely on bail, the probability of the accused influencing the complainant and the witnesses

by offering them monetary benefit is extremely high, the judge said.

"Though the investigation has been completed and the charge-sheet is filed, if the accused is released prematurely, there is a real danger of him attempting to win over the complainant, shadow witnesses and others, who are witnesses to the seizure memorandums, to turn hostile before the trial court," he said.

He said this apprehension finds force upon the submission made by the CBI counsel that upon search of the residential premises of the applicant, Rs 3.71 lakh was also recovered in cash and that investigation is also underway to trace the proceeds of the crime.

"Thus, it becomes clear that the applicant is flush with funds and that the apprehension that he may try to influence the witnesses by throwing money at them cannot be said to be unfounded. Therefore, this court is of the opinion that the application deserves to be dismissed," he said.

However, the court said if the material witnesses are not examined within a period six months from the date of this order, the applicant shall be at liberty to renew his prayer before this Court.

This order, however, shall not prevent the trial court from considering a fresh application for bail, if in its opinion, there is change in circumstances.

ADC Poonch visits Imambara, reviews Muharram arrangements

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: A meeting to assess the requirement and arrangements with regard to observance of Muharram was held in the complex of Imambara under the Chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner Poonch, Tahir Mustafa Malik(JKAS).

The representatives of the local Shia bodies and the officers of various line



departments participated in the meeting.

During the meeting various issues were discussed including, power supply,

concerned to ensure that all necessary arrangements are put in place in and around the Imambara and adjacent places so that the Muharram processions and Majalis are held smoothly.

Two mortar shells found, defused in Jammu-Poonch

STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Security personnel recovered two mortar shells in the border areas of Jammu and Poonch districts and defused them safely on Thursday, officials said. A mortar shell was noticed by locals of Salotri near Higher Secondary School, Jhulass in the Poonch district and they immediately informed police, they said.

The timely intervention by police averted a potential disaster, they said. In Jammu, on the information provided by some locals, an old shell was recovered by a team of Army in Khour area of Akhnour belt, they said, adding that it was defused safely.

Drug peddler arrested; approx 8.45 gms of heroin recovered

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Continuing its efforts against drug menace under the "Operation Sanjeevani", J&K Police today recovered approx. 8.45 grams of Heroin (Chitta) like narcotics in the jurisdictional area of P/S Kathua at Budhi Sounthal area, 01 drug peddler arrested along with recovered narcotics substance got seized on spot.

On 05-07-2024 an information was received through the reliable sources at P/S

PS Kathua laid down a special naka/ checking at said area and apprehended the said person. During checking approx. 8.45 grams of Heroin(Chitta) narcotics were recovered from his possession. Thereafter all the recovered narcotics were seized and one drug peddler was arrested on the spot. On this, a case vide FIR No. 207/2024 U/S 8/21/22/NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Kathua while further investigation is underway.