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Indians have proved...

Awas Yojana that visualised a home for all, and the Atmanirbhar Bharat project, references to programmes flagged off by the PM were copious.

She added that "credit must also be given to workers and farmers whose hard work has made it possible and entrepreneurs whose business acumen has created wealth".

"India is among the fastest-growing major economies in the world. India's start-up ecosystem ranks high in the world. The success of start-ups in our country, especially the growing number of unicorns, is a shining example of our industrial progress," the President said.

She added that it was all the more heartening that "growth is becoming more inclusive and regional disparities are reducing".

The President said economic success is leading to ease in living as well. "Economic reforms are rightly accompanied by innovative welfare initiatives," she said.

"The aim of these and many other similar efforts is to provide basic amenities to all, particularly the poor. The keyword for India today is compassion; for the down-trodden, for the needy, and for those on the margins", she said.

The President's observations come even as a debate was sparked off after the PM's remarks that welfarism should not be equated with freebies. The contribution of women and girls to India's standing was noted by the President.

"India's new-found confidence stems from the spirit of its youth, its farmers, and above all, its women. Gender inequalities are reducing and women are moving ahead, breaking many glass ceilings. Their increasing participation in social and political processes will prove decisive. At the grassroots level, we have more than 1.4 million elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institutions," she said, adding, "Our beloved country has given us everything we have in our life. We should pledge to give everything we can for the sake of safety, security, progress, and prosperity of our country."

Unusually, the President did not quote a poet from her home state, Odisha, but instead flagged a poem by revered nationalist Kannada poet Kuppali Venkatappa Puttappa, popularly known by his pen name Kuvenpu, which says India will live far beyond and longer than all its citizens.

Unlike her predecessor Pranab Mukherjee, who utilised speeches to deliver political messages, both to the government and the Opposition, or Ram Nath Kovind, who addressed issues like secularism and inequality in many speeches, Murmu bypassed references to controversial or potentially divisive matters, preferring to dwell on nationalism, unity, and the greatness of India's ancient heritage, focusing on two makers of modern India - Gandhi and Bhimrao Ambedkar.

199 schools, colleges...

Union Territory, 132 Schools/colleges and roads across UT have been named after the martyrs of JK Police Pariwar.

As per the order 02 schools have been named after martyred DySSPs, 01 after martyred Inspector, 08 after martyred SIs, 04 after martyred ASIs, 07 after martyred HC, 21 after martyred SgCts, 47 after martyred constables, 03 after martyred followers, and 41 after martyred SPOs who laid down their lives while protecting and safeguarding the interests of the people.

The Director General of Police, J&K, Shri Dilbag Singh has extended his gratitude to Government of India, Hon'ble Lt. Governor Jammu & Kashmir Shri Manoj Sinha and his administration for naming the government schools/colleges and roads

in Jammu and Kashmir after the martyred J&K police personnel and CAPFs personnel.

SBI, BSE, Mission...

Financial Services sector: Emphasizing on equal participation of girls in the BFSI training programme, the Lt Governor asked the Mission Youth and BSE to ensure that 2500 young girls from the UT are enrolled in the training.

He further called for ensuring minimum participation of 200 youth from every district and focusing on those from underprivileged sections of the society, followed by systematic facilitation for starting their professional career.

Highlighting the initiatives taken by Mission Youth to transform the youth into ambassadors of peace, prosperity and development, the Lt Governor said that the various programmes aimed at Livelihood Generation, Education, Skill Development, providing systematic financial assistance has led to opening new vistas for our enterprising youths, besides connecting them with various development oriented initiatives of the government.

Mission Youth has partnered with reputed institutions of the country including BSE Institute, ICICI Foundation, Ashok Leyland, Wipro etc. with an aim to facilitate skilling of youth in various high employability potential sectors, said the Lt Governor.

Despite Covid pandemic, more than 30,000 youth, including 11,600 girls, have been provided with direct livelihood means during 2021-22, he added.

Stressing that Financial Inclusion is the key to achieving sustainable development and improving the quality of life, the Lt Governor said that the recent reforms and initiatives of the government have made banking and credit facilities accessible to all.

Earlier, J&K lacked a solid mechanism for providing financial and banking literacy to the youth as banking facilities were limited to a few, he further observed.

The talented youth of J&K are playing an instrumental role in making UT a star performer in startup ecosystem. We are making dedicated efforts to impart financial and banking education to our youth, harnessing their potential by creating an enabling environment and equipping them with skills as per requirements of the changing global market, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor observed that the administration will continue to run institutional and employment oriented training programs in the UT through 'Mission Youth' to empower the youths of J&K.

The industrial revolution taking place in the UT and the massive private investment coming to J&K will provide 5 to 6 lakh employment opportunities to the youth, the Lt Governor further added.

A number of customized livelihood generation schemes including Mumkin, Tejaswini, Spurring Entrepreneurship, Rise Together, Avsar, Re-defining Paradise and Home Stay Development have already been designed for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir wherein the government is acting as facilitator for the youth to establish a sustainable livelihood in various economic sectors, it was informed.

The Lt Governor also made special mention of the youth who have successfully established their ventures, and are not only earning livelihood for themselves but are also providing employment to many others.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, emphasized the need to develop end-to-end digitization of the Banking and Financial Training being provided to the youth, besides developing an ecosystem of substantial lending to support self-employment, and creating a higher level of employment generation.

He also highlighted the improvements being registered in the financial inclusive-

ness in the UT in the last two years.

Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD & CEO NSE, while speaking on the occasion appreciated the Lt Governor led UT administration and Mission Youth for taking the initiatives to train the youth of the UT in Banking & Financial services.

Vinod Jaiswal, CGM, SBI, Chandigarh Circle, said that SBI echoed the sentiments expressed by the Lt Governor to bridge the gap between the financial services and the people of the UT. He also shared the future goals of SBI to further push financial and banking activities in J&K.

Sanjay Prakash, Managing Director & CEO, SBI Foundation congratulated all the career aspirants in the BFSI sector for the new programme launched today. He informed that under the programme, out of the 5000 youth, 2450 will be provided training this year.

Ambarish Datta, Managing Director & CEO, BSE Institute Limited highlighted the objectives behind the initiative and assured that the results that have been committed will be delivered. He expressed gratitude towards the UT Administration, Mission Youth, Heads of Colleges, BSE team and all stakeholders for their support.

Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO Mission Youth, in his welcome address, highlighted the measures taken by Mission Youth to empower the youth and provide them with gainful livelihood opportunities. He said that the BFSI training programme will further carry the concept of 'Earn while you Learn' to the youth and student community.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor distributed certificates among the youth selected for Competitive Civil Services Examination coaching under PARVAAZ, and to those who successfully completed the Mutual Fund program conducted by BSE Institute Limited.

Youth trained under the BFSI sector also shared their training and learning experiences through video messages.

Pertinently, on February 8, 2021, the Lt Governor had launched the Training Program for youth in Banking, Financial Services and Insurance (BFSI) Sector in J&K. Pandurang K Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Neeraj Kulshrestha from BSE Institute Limited, besides senior officials, various stakeholders, young entrepreneurs and youth in large numbers were present on the occasion.

Chibber posted as...

as Director, Youth Services and Sports, J&K. He shall continue to hold the charge of the post of Director, Estates, Jammu, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

SO-192 scrapped...

to the Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K and Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor attended the meeting.

The decision will bring all Government employees being appointed in the Union territory of J&K on an equal footing with their earlier appointed counterparts who may be occupying the same/comparable posts in the cadre.

Further, a significant number of grievances from the newly appointed employees and in-service candidates who apply for higher posts but are not given pay protection, will also be alleviated.

Earlier, the Establishment-eum-Selection Committee (ECSC) headed by the Chief Secretary had found these rules to be discriminatory in nature facing several impediments in their implementation, and had recommended their scrapping.

Police personnel martyred in Kulgam grenade attack Cop injured in Nowhatta encounter

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A policeman was martyred in a grenade attack in Kulgam district, police said on Sunday.

The incident took place in Qaimoh area of the south Kashmir district on Saturday night.

"A grenade incident was reported yesterday night in Qaimoh #Kulgam. In this #terror incident, 01 police personnel namely Tahir Khan R/O Mendhar, Poonch got injured," Kashmir Zone Police wrote on Twitter.

A police official said bike-borne terrorists fired at a police party near Redpora

where he succumbed to injuries.

Meanwhile, a cop was injured during an encounter between terrorists and security forces in Nowhatta area of Srinagar on the eve of the Independence Day, police said, adding a terrorist was also injured.

"In the ongoing #encounter, one policeman namely Ct Sarfaraz Ahmad R/O Batote Ramtan got injured. He was evacuated to hospital for treatment. One #terrorist also got injured. Search is still going on. Further details shall follow," police said in another tweet.

Police recovered a motorcycle and an AK rifle from the spot, the official said.

Registration opens for Agniveer General Duty (Women) in Corps of Military Police

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Army Agniveer Recruitment Rally for Women Military Police General Duty is being organized at Army Public School Primary wing ground on Major General Rajinder Singh Sparrow Road, Jalandhar Cantt for eligible candidates of districts of Srinagar, Anantnag, Ganderbal, Budgam, Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Kulgam, Pulwama and Shopian districts of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and Leh and Kargil districts of UT of Ladakh from December 07, 2022 to December, 10, 2022.

Online registration has already started from Aug 09, 2022 to September 07, 2022. Online registration is mandatory and all candidates should check their eligibility and register themselves on Army Recruitment Website www.joinindianarmy.nic.in.

Candidates who have successfully registered online will be sent admit card on their email address and intimated for the date and time for reporting for the rally. Candidates are asked to maintain caution and advised to refrain from approaching Touts & Fraudulent persons and avoid use of drugs.

Situation in J&K much better now: DGP

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Situation in Jammu and Kashmir is much better than before and the graph of militancy is coming down, Union territory's police chief Dilbag Singh said on Sunday.

However, he said the launchpads across the Line of Control (LoC) were intact and there was a huge pressure to push militants into the Valley.

The situation in J-K is much better. The atmosphere is much better than before and I want to give its credit to the people and express my gratitude to them, the director general of police (DGP) told reporters on the sidelines of an event here.

Singh said the people of Kashmir have helped the security forces and the administration with a great understanding.

Today, students are going to their schools without any fear, employees are attending their offices without any fear, the busi-

nessmen are doing their businesses without any fear. Daily life is going on normally.

There is no obstruction in any way today and everyone, people, security forces, are working together for that. So, the security situation is much better and we will further better it, he said.

Singh said the anti-infiltration grid has been made stronger which has resulted in almost zero infiltration along the borders.

There were attempts, and they succeeded in a few, but in total, the situation along the border is much better than before and there is a much better control. Now, since it has become difficult to come via the ground, they are using drones to transport weapons as the neighbour continues its sinister designs, he said.

Singh said he was happy that several of such youths have returned to the mainstream with the help of police, security forces and their families.

The recruitment has come down, but there is a need to stop it and bring it

in the last two years have been busted and the majority of the items like weapons and narcotics have been seized. We will take stronger action on it and will overcome this challenge, the DGP said.

Singh said the graph of militancy is coming down but Pakistan's conspiracies have not stopped yet.

Small, young boys, who are not yet to mature, are being radicalised one way or the other and involved in the new form of hybrid terrorism.

A common boy who till yesterday was studying and living his life normally is radicalised and suddenly involved in some terror act and the road to his return is closed, he said.

Singh said he was happy that several of such youths have returned to the mainstream with the help of police, security forces and their families.

The recruitment has come down, but there is a need to stop it and bring it

Security beefed up in Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ahead of Independence Day, security has been beefed up and frisking of vehicles has increased here to ensure an incident-free celebration, police said.

The Independence Day celebration will be held at M A Stadium here on Monday.

Police said in-charges of Border Police Posts are directed to keep a vigil on infiltration routes used by anti-national elements in the past. Members of Village Defence Committees and defence personnel will coordinate with each other to ensure security, they added.

Amid heightened vigilance,

Jammu witnessed scores of rallies by government and non-government organisa-

Ghar Tiranga' campaign to mark the celebrations under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'

tions, including political parties, army, police and schools in the last two days, they said.

On Sunday, a walkathon was organised under Har

on Sunday.

The walkathon started from Gulshan Ground Jammu and culminated at Maharaja Hari Singh Park via Jammu University.

Chugh writes to SC Commission for strict action against teacher beating student to death

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) General Secretary Tarun Chugh wrote a letter to National Commission for Schedule Caste Chairman Vijay Sampla for taking strict action against the teacher of a private school for beating a student to death.

Chugh said that the student was mercilessly beaten by the teacher and later shifted to hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Chugh has requested the SC Commission to constitute a team against the accused teacher under the SC Act to give him stringent punishment and provide fair justice to the family of the victim.

1850-metre tricolour displayed in Srinagar, official says 'longest' in country

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An over 1850-metre long tricolour, the "longest" in the country, was Sunday displayed here at an event attended by about 5,000 people, an official spokesman said.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary lauded the efforts of the district administration in organising such a grand event of displaying the 1850-metre long tricolour which, he said, will instil the spirit of nationalism, sacrifice and fraternity amongst the citizens.

Around 500 people were engaged in rolling and unrolling of the flag as per the National Flag Code. It took 10 days to stitch the flag, the spokesperson said.

"Scripting an illustrious chapter in J&K history. 1850 Metres long National Flag displayed in Bakshi Stadium, which witnessed participation of 5000 citizens. #HarGharTiranga, J-K LG Manoj Sinha wrote on Twitter.

I-Day: Max police gallantry medals to CRPF, JKP for counter-terror ops

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The CRPF and Jammu and Kashmir Police were decorated with the maximum gallantry awards for undertaking counter-terrorist operations in the Union Territory as the Centre announced various service medals for a total of 1,082 personnel on the occasion of Independence Day.

The Union Home ministry issued the roll of honour on Sunday, the eve of 76th Independence Day, for the personnel of all the state police forces as well as the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs).

The decorations include a total of 347 police medal for gallantry (PMG), 87 President's police medal for distinguished service and 648 police medals for meritorious service.

Under the PMG category of medals, 204 personnel are being awarded for their gallant action in Jammu and Kashmir, 80 for displaying bravery in Left Wing Extremism or Naxal violence-affected areas and 14 personnel for showing bravery in North-East Region, the home ministry said.

In all, 30 PMGs were given post