

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! J&K generates 1.73 lakh...

handloom, and handicrafts has scripted a new record in J&K in terms of growth and employment. In 2021-22, under PMEGP, the KVIC had established 21,640 manufacturing and service units, way ahead of other bigger states. As many as 1.73 lakh new employment in J&K was generated in FY 2021-22 under PMEGP, which is also the highest across all states and UTs in the country, the Lt Governor noted.

Under PMEGP of KVIC, 52,116 units have been installed from 2014 till last financial year as compared to only 10,401 village units established in J&K between 2008 and 2014.

Further, the limit for financial assistance to handicraft artists through Artisan Credit Card was also increased from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 2 lakhs, besides, 2118 handicraft artists have been given the benefit of Mudra Yojana and 26 units have been set up through the Karkhandar scheme, which will be increased to 50 by the end of this year.

Entrepreneurship development through training and capacity building is ensuring product quality and boosting global demand for the J&K's craft, observed the Lt Governor.

GI certification for seven crafts including Carpets, Pashmina, Sozni, Khatamband, Walnut Wood carving, Paper Mache, Kani Shawl has been done, besides 1.55 lakh artisans have been trained through 432 training centres. Now, artisans have easy access to bank credit to tide over their working capital problems, he added.

The modernization and upgradation of Government Silk Weaving Factory at Rajbagh, Srinagar is another important step taken by the government towards the revival and holistic development of silk industry in the UT, the Lt Governor said.

On the sidelines of the event, the Lt Governor also highlighted the achievements registered in various sectors in Anantnag, and said that all the districts are also setting new paradigms of development work.

In Anantnag district, a record 3000 projects were completed last year and in the current year, Rs. 1068 crore have been allocated for expenditure on development works with a target of completing 3200 projects, he added.

Terming J&K as an oasis of talent, the Lt Governor urged the youth to tread the path of peace and be a part of the developmental journey of the nation.

Mohd. Yousuf Gorski, DDC Chairperson Anantnag, lauded the UT Government for taking dedicated measures for the promotion of arts and crafts to provide livelihood opportunities for the artisans and rural entrepreneurs.

Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, Vice Chairperson, J&K KVIB, speaking on the occasion, said that the establishment of the Martand Chain stitch and Crewel Embroidery is one among many steps taken by the Board for the promotion of traditional arts and crafts.

The VC also shared the vision for establishing more traditional art and craft clusters throughout J&K to provide sustained employment for traditional industry artisans and rural entrepreneurs.

Vivek Bhardwaj, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department, reiterated the UT administration's commitment to enhance the income of artisans and craftsmen, providing necessary handholding to the young entrepreneurs, besides extending support to the artisans for marketing their products at national and international platforms.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor felicitated the artisans and craftsmen for their contribution in the sector. Earlier, the Lt Governor inspected the stalls set up by the stakeholders and various government departments, and also interacted with the artisans.

Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Dr Piyush Singla, Deputy Commissioner Anantnag; Parukh Qazi, Secretary, J&K KVIB; PRI members, HoDs, senior officials, besides artisans, craftsmen and entrepreneurs in large numbers were present on the occasion.

## Three terrorists held...

the public and disrupt peace. "Police along with the Army and the CRPF at a checkpoint established at Fruit Mandi Crossing Handwara intercepted three persons who on seeing the checking party tried to flee the spot but were apprehended," a police spokesman said.

He said two of the arrested persons have been identified as Manzoor Ahmed Kumar and Showkat Ahmed Bhat.

The identification of the third arrested terrorist has been withheld as his age is being verified, he added.

On their personal search, incriminating material and arms and ammunition including one pistol and two grenades were recovered from their possession, the spokesman said.

## Drugs smuggler killed...

different denominations was recovered," a statement issued by the police said. It reads that on this a case under relevant sections has been registered and investigation has been set into motion.

"Preliminary investigation reveals that both the persons were involved in the narco trade. However, detailed investigation of the case is going on," it added.

## AIM, NITI Aayog...

Innovation Lead(AIM); Vishnu Priya Bijapur, Innovation Lead AIM and Sumaiya Yousuf, Media and Communications Lead Atal Innovation Mission Niti Aayog.

Among others, Naseer Ahmad Wani, Additional Secretary School Education Ata-ul Munim Tak, Personal Officer, Directorate of School Education Kashmir; Chief Education Officer, Budgam, Mushtaq Ahamed Qadri, Dy. CEO, ZEOs and other concerned were also present on the occasion.

During its visit to BHSS Budgam, the AIM Team inspected the Atal Tinkering Lab where creative students displayed their innovative models and briefed about challenges they faced while working on these innovations.

The MD lauded the students for their brilliant ideas and hardwork. He said he was very impressed in J&K and has found J&K students one among the brightest students in the country.

On the occasion, students presented various cultural programmes and performed skits to create awareness for promotion of creative and innovative attitude among the student community.

Later, the MD along with AIM Team visited TRC Doodpathri where he interacted and held a threadbare discussion on establishment and robust functioning of Tinkering Labs with Principals and school heads of Budgam.

## NHAI extended undue...

"Any post-tender/contract amendment amounts to vitiating the entire tendering process, against the principle of sanctity of contracts and unfair with respect to other bidders," the government auditor added.

The CAG pointed out that the NHAI proposed a scheme of rationalisation of premium quoted by concessionaires in respect of highways projects.

According to the auditor, the policy or scheme for rationalisation of premium was neither considered nor approved in the NHAI board meeting.

The CAG suggested that NHAI may ensure prevailing provisions of concession agreements are followed before proposing any new scheme for granting concessions beyond contractual provisions. It also recommended that NHAI should avoid post-tender/contract amendments.

## Srinagar reports more...

reported five cases. The ACB central police station registered five graft cases in the first seven months of the year, the data stated.

## 180 IAS, 200...

The Minister stated that as on 01.01.2022, there are 1472 vacancies in IAS and 864 vacancies in IPS in various States. He added that occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process. It is the endeavour of the Central Government to fill up the vacancies in the cadres. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) conducts Civil Services Examination (CSE) for filling up vacancies on direct recruitment basis in the category of IAS & IPS every year.

The Minister also informed that to fill up vacancies in the Promotion Quota, Selection Committee Meetings are held by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) with the State Governments.

Pertinent to mention that the Department of Personnel & Training(DoPT) has been, from time to time, urging upon the different state governments to carry out a timely Cadre Review of the Services. This not only helps in filling up the vacant posts in IAS, IPS and other services but also helps in identifying possible new vacancies. Ever since the Modi government took over in 2014, it has been proactive in filling up the vacant

posts.

The UPSC convenes meetings of Selection Committee from time to time and deliberates upon the induction of officers from State Provincial Services into the IAS depending upon the cadre and vacancy position in the respective States.

## Services to Govt...

Return System (PRS), Vigilance Clearance System (VCS), Employees Monitoring Portal (EPM) and Employees Verification System (EVS).

For facilitation of Government employees and to provide a generic, product based solution for better management of service matters through electronic service record, which includes e-Service Book, Personnel Information System and others, transfers, promotions, vigilance status, PRS etc, the GAD has initiated the process of implementation of 'Administrative Management System' (AMS) for all government employees.

A meeting in this regard was held on Thursday under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary GAD, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi with experts of Directorate of Information Technology, University of Kashmir.

During the meeting, it was observed that 'Administrative Management System' is 'one-stop solution' for addressing issues relating to service records of all Government employees and shall be implemented in a phased manner by all departments. Initially, the online module shall be implemented by the General Administration Department and Health and Medical Education Department. However, in order to implement the system, it is essential to have a clean and error free digital library of all the service records, which can be uploaded on the online AMS portal. To begin with, Drawing & Disbursing Officers (DDOs) have to authenticate the appointment orders of the Government employees, followed by scanning of their service books, so as to ensure that the transition towards electronic service records is carried out in a transparent manner.

In this regard the circular instructions has been issued by General Administration Department vide No. 27-JK(GAD) of 2022 dated: 04.08.2022 and the exercise is to be completed by the DDOs within 30 days.

## AUGUST 5: The...

issues of Article 370 and Article 35A.

Why the Kashmir mainstream was taken aback on August 5, 2019 has a historical background. They had never comprehended any government at the Centre mustering guts to annoy the chosen few leaders, least to make constitutional changes. They were so pampered by the Indian system that they never gave two hoots to them, except when it came to enjoy the loaves of the power. After getting rehabilitated into the power corridors, they would again indulge in browbeat and black mail.

Power has been the only destination for the 'Kashmir mainstream' which was why the National Conference delegation led by Farooq Abdullah and comprising its MPs besides Omar Abdullah met Prime Minister Modi in New Delhi on August 1, amid widespread buzz about the constitutional changes, and sought holding of elections expeditiously. "We are satisfied with the meeting," Omar Abdullah had said after the meeting, little knowing about unexpected to happen just four days after.

## Land-sliding at Gandhtop area creates unrest among residents

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: All Jammu and Kashmir Gaddi Sabha held a meeting at Udhampur under the chairmanship of Kuldeep Kumar. In meeting, serious issue of Gandhtop land-sliding victims was discussed and found that at Gandh Top village Rasli Gadhara Tehsil of District Udhampur, about 14 families are affected due to heavy landslide. The houses of victim families including Sudesh Kumar, Des Raj, Rakesh Kumar, Krishan Lal and other were damaged and they have even lost their agricultural land. Moreover some other houses are at risk. He urged the LG Manoj Sinha to take a serious note of the matter and constitute a committee as early as possible who shall visit the spot and make recommendations for necessary compensation in favour of the victims.

Others who attended the meeting were Rakesh Kumar, Darshan, Sanjeev kumar, Nanak Chand, Vijay Kumar, Rajesh Kumar, Hem Raj, Romesh Kumar, Subash chander, Ashok Kumar, Parkash Premi, Vikash Kumar and Suraj Parkash.

## J&K tourism getting big boost due to transformative initiatives like Art 370 abrogation: Reddy

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union minister G Kishan Reddy on Thursday said Jammu and Kashmir registered a "record footfall" of tourists at airports and sightseeing places in the last several months due to "transformative initiatives" of the Modi government such as the abrogation of Article 370.

His remarks came a day ahead of the third anniversary of the revocation of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution and the bifurcation of the erstwhile state

into UTs -- J and K, and Ladakh.

"Thanks to @narendramodi govt's transformational initiatives like Abrogation of Article 370 TOURISM in J&K Gets Big Boost Record footfall of tourists at airports & tourist places Over 79 lakh TOURISTS Visited J&K between Oct 2021 and March 2022," the Union culture and tourism minister tweeted.

It was on August 5, 2019, when the Centre ended the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and restrictions imposed in the region

had severely impacted tourism there.

In a major intervention for the upliftment of the tourism sector in J-K, the Union government had made a record allocation of Rs 786 crore in the budget for the tourism sector there, which was Rs 509 crore higher than the last budgetary allocation, officials in Srinagar had said in February 2022.

The officials had added the intent of the massive budgetary allocation was to boost tourism and allied services in the union territory.

## DIC Kathua starts second round of plantation drive under ‘Green J&K’ initiative

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: In continuation to the Green-J&K initiative, General Manager, District Industries Centre Kathua, Prem Singh on Thursday kicked off the second round of plantation drive at Industrial Estate IID centre, Govindsar Kathua.

The plantation drive by the Department of Industries and Commerce is being conducted under the guidance of Deputy

Commissioner, Rahul Pandey.

During the first plantation drive held on July 13, 2022, about 500 plant saplings were planted in different Industrial estates of Kathua in collaboration with the department of Social Forestry. In today's drive, the Industrial Estates of IID Centre Govindsar and SIDCO Industrial Area Kathua were covered by planting

500 saplings of different plants.

The Plantation Drive was carried out with active support from M/s Shails Sports, IID Centre Govindsar, Kathua and Kohinoor Reclamations, SIDCO Industrial Area Kathua.

In this connection, GM DIC Kathua convened a series of meetings with the unit holders to encourage them to plant more and more trees to

make the Industrial Estates pollution free.

Speaking on the occasion, the General Manager said that the aim of this plantation drive was to generate awareness among the people especially Industrialists about the importance of planting trees. "Tree plantation is very important for the safe environment and the initiative will go a long way in making life better" he hoped.

## BSF organizes medical camp



DIG BSF Hari Lal inaugurating the camp.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: 67th Battalion of the Border Security Force (BSF) organised a medical camp on Thursday at Maniyari Post located on the International Border. BSF DIG Hari Lal inaugurated this medical camp under the Civic Action Programme. In the camp, villagers from Maniyari, Pansar, Rathua and adjoining border villages got benefited. BMO Hiranagar Dr. Swami Sharan was present along with his team while some doctors were from battalion. BSF also distributed medicines to the villagers after conducting health check-up. Second-in-Command Officer Raj Kumar, DDC member Karan Kumar Attri, Panch Association President Ashok Kumar Sharma, Naib Sarpanch Kuldeep Verma, BSF Jawans and others were present.

## Ganai gets Addl charge of Director Estates Kashmir

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The on Thursday assigned additional charge to JKAS officer. "Tariq Hussain Ganai, JKAS, Director, Hospitality and Protocol, J&K, shall hold the charge of the post of Director, Estates, Kashmir, in addition to his own duties, relieving Subash Chander Chhibber, JKAS, Director, Estates, Jammu of additional charge of the post," read an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Principal Secretary, General Administration Department.

## Former Goa CS appointed as head of J&K's Real Estates Regulatory Authority

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Government on Thursday appointed former chief secretary of Goa, Parimal Rai as the first head of Union Territory's Real Estates Regulatory Authority (RERA).

The Housing & Urban Development Department has issued a notification appointing Parimal Rai, a retired IAS officer of AGMUT cadre, as head of Jammu & Kashmir Real Estates Regulatory Authority. "In exercise of the powers conferred by section 22 of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir appoint Parimal Rai, IAS (retired), as chairperson of Jammu & Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA)," reads the notification.

As per order, the appointment of chairperson RERA shall take effect from the date he assumes the charge of the post of the Authority. "The chairperson of the Authority shall not hold any other office. The terms and conditions of the appointment shall be notified separately," reads the notification.

## Govt constitutes UT-level steering committee on energy transition

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Thursday constituted a UT level committee on energy transition headed by Chief Secretary

As per an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi Principal Secretary, General Administration Department, Chief Secretary will be chairman of the energy transition committee and Administrative Secretary, Agriculture Production Department; Administrative Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Administrative Secretary, Housing and Urban Development; Administrative Secretary, Public Works Department; Administrative Secretary, Transport Department; Administrative Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department; and any other member(s) as may be co-opted by the Committee will be members of the committee while Chief Electrical Inspector/SDA, Power Development Department will be convener and Administrative Secretary, Power Development Department will be Member Secretary of the committee.

"The Committee shall work out the strategy for energy transition in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir and shall meet at regular intervals to review energy transition policies, action plans, targets and achievements of various Departments and Organizations," reads the order.

## Committee constituted for monitoring, implementation of guidelines related to single nodal account

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The government on Thursday constituted a committee for figuring out impediments in implementation of guidelines related to the single nodal account.

"The Secretary, Planning Development and Monitoring

Department will be chairman of the committee while Director General, Project Formulation Division (PFD), Planning Development and Monitoring Department, Director General Budget, Finance Department, Director General Accounts & Treasuries, Nodal Officer PFMS and Director Resources, Finance Department will be members of the committee whereas Joint Director CSS, Planning Development and Monitoring will be Member Secretary of the committee," read an order issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi,

"The terms of reference of the committee will be to figure out impediments in implementation of the guidelines and suggest corrective measures to ensure smooth fund flow from Government of India, to monitor integration of Treasuries with PFMS & exchange of data on daily basis as revised procedure for release & monitoring of funds," the order reads, adding that "The Committee shall submit its report within a period of 15 days."

## 388 pilgrims leave for Amarnath cave shrine from Jammu

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A batch of 388 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here on Thursday to pay obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said. The 43-day yatra commenced on June 30 from the twin base camps -- traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and 14-km shorter Baltal in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

The 35th batch left in a convoy of nine vehicles amid heavy security of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), they said. According to officials, 103 pilgrims heading for Baltal were the first to leave the Jammu base camp in four vehicles, followed by the second convoy of 12 vehicles carrying 285 pilgrims for Pahalgam. Officials attribute the fall in the number of pilgrims visiting the cave shrine to twin factors -- poor weather conditions and the yatra inching towards its conclusion. A total of 1,43,919 pilgrims have left from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp for the Valley since June 29.

## Delegation of Akhil Bhartiya Terapanth Yuvak Parishad meets LG



Delegation of Akhil Bhartiya Terapanth Yuvak Parishad calling on LG Manoj Sinha at Srinagar on Thursday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: A delegation of Akhil Bhartiya Terapanth Yuvak Parishad on Thursday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor released a poster of the campaign for Mega Blood Donation Drive in J&K, to be held on 17th September, 2022. The delegation led by Sanjay Jain, comprising Jitesh Pokharna, and India's biggest blood donor Shabir Hussain Khan apprised the Lt Governor about conducting Mega Blood Donation Drive in the UT.

The blood donation camp which is being held nation-wide will be organized in all the districts of Jammu and Kashmir, it was informed. Jitesh Pokharna apprised the Lt Governor on the work done by the organization towards the service of mankind. The Lt Governor appreciated the noble work done by the Akhil Bhartiya Terapanth Yuvak Parishad and its members and assured all support by the UT administration for making the nation-wide Mega Blood Donation Drive a huge success.