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J&K first in...

the future digital transformation will be fuelled by Artificial Intelligence across the sectors. We are adopting multiple applications to support a wide variety of businesses, public sectors and their functions, processes, goals and objectives," the Lt Governor said

Digital J&K is in the middle of the journey. We have attained functional scale, now time is for population scale and next is big transformational scale. The need is to use technology massively and further enhance the UT systems based on the underlying principle of digital born J&K 2.0, he said.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also released an e-compendium of transformational Digital Services and launched an AI- based Facial Recognition attendance application. He also flagged off Digi-Yatra under IEC activities.

In presence of Lt Governor, a Memorandum of Understanding was also signed between CSC e-Governance Service Ltd and IT Department for doorstep delivery of services through Digi-Dost.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; R K Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; Premna Puri, Commissioner Secretary, IT Department; Sanjay K Rakesh, MD & CEO of CSC e-Governance Service Ltd., senior officers of UT Administration, prominent citizens from all walks of life were present on the occasion.

Massive search operation..

day, they said. The security forces cordoned off over a dozen villages, including Salwah, Sarooti, Gursai Top, Sanai, Keri Kanga and Terkhara, and a search operation launched. The operation was still underway when the last reports were received.

ACB arrests Patwari...

Tariq Ahmad, Patwari, Halqa Zalora, tehsil Bonmai, District Baramulla alleging therein that he is resident of tehsil Bonmai . He recently applied many times through online / offline mode for issuance of revenue extracts to patwari concerned but nothing was done by Patwari Halqa Zalora despite his repeated requests. That finally when he was given one revenue extract he was made to pay ₹1000 to one of the employee's bank account on pretext of fee for issuance of revenue extract. But he found that the document given is not complete and doesn't contain full information.

He again applied fresh for issuance of required documents through online mode as the earlier document/information given was not complete concerned patwari Tariq Ahmad again started delaying on one pretext or other. He agreed to provide document on intervention of one local person who accompanied complainant to patwari office but demanded bribe of Rs 5000 for doing so.

The complainant was made to suffer a lot by concerned patwari who didn't furnish the exact documents which he needed for pursuing his case before authorities. The patwari has asked him to come to office on 12-8-2023 along with the one local person whom patwari also knew ,with bribe money of Rs 5000 to get revenue documents.

As complainant was not interested in payment of bribe, he approached Anti corruption Bureau with written application and requested for taking legal action against concerned patwari for demanding bribe.

As the contents of complaint prima facie disclosed the commission of offence punishable U/S 7 of the PC Act 1988 by accused public servant namely Tariq Ahmad, Patwari, Halqa Zalora, Tehsil Bonmai, District Baramulla, accordingly a Case FIR No. 08/2023 is registered at Police Station Anti Corruption Bureau, Baramulla and the investigation started. During the course of investigations the accused Patwari was caught red handed while demanding and accepting bribe from complainant and the bribe amount was also recovered from his possession in presence of independent witnesses. The accused patwari has been arrested on spot and further investigations are going on.

Chhari Mubarak rituals...

on August 30, Giri said. Meanwhile, after a one-day break, a fresh batch of 915 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for Kashmir this morning to undertake the annual Amarnath pilgrimage, officials said.

The pilgrims left in a convoy of 33 vehicles between 3:30 am and 3:45 am amid tight security, they said.

While 675 pilgrims, including 97 women, 25 sadhus and three sadhvis, are headed to the Pahalgam base camp in Anantnag district, 240 devotees are on their way to the Baltal base camp in Ganderbal district, they said.

So far, over 4.31 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance at the 3,880-metre-high holy cave shrine of Amarnath since the commencement of the annual 62-day yatra from the twin tracks -- the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route and the shorter 14-km Baltal route -- on July 1, according to the officials.

The yatra will conclude on August 31, coinciding with the festival of Raksha Bandhan.

CJ inaugurates JKJA's...

of insurance, duties specified to the police officer, registering authority, insurance companies and claim tribunals to determine just and fair compensation in time-bound manner.

The Chief Justice highlighted that whenever such an accident happens, Insurance Companies have a big responsibility, not only the moral responsibility, not only contractual obligation but also legal statutory obligation under the Act. "There is a bigger responsibility on the police also because reliability of the case depends upon First Accident Report submitted by an Investigating Officer", he said.

He also stated that the Supreme Court in its judgement titled Gohar Mohammad v/s State of Uttar Pradesh laid down certain guidelines and directed all the States/UTs through Chief Secretaries and Director Generals of Police to have a unit of specialized team of police officers in each and every police station or at town-level to deal with such cases and post a trained officer to ensure the compliance of the

provisions of the Act. He added that similar directions were issued by General Insurance Council that Insurance Companies to issue the proper directions to follow mandate under section 149 of the Amended Act and also appoint designated Nodal officers.

In his special remarks Justice Sanjeev Kumar, traced the history as to how the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act and MV Amendment Rules have been brought into force to set up a new regime to deal with the motor accident claim cases. He highlighted that the programme is subject specific in view of the judgement of Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No. 9322 of 2022, titled Gohar Mohammad v/s State of Uttar Pradesh.

He stated that under the amended Act and Rules, the provisions for grant of interim compensation under no fault liability have been deleted and the special procedure has been provided. He further stated that in order to sensitize the stakeholders in the administration of justice with regard to MACT claims, JKJA has organized this one-day sensitization programme.

Director, JKJA, Yash Paul Bourney, in his welcome address underscored the importance of organising this program. He said that based on the guidelines issued by the Supreme Court and Delhi High Court, and on subsequent recommendations made by group of Transport Ministers of States along with other stakeholders, the Union Government with an objective to improve road safety, facilitate citizens in their dealings with transport departments, strengthen rural transport, public transport, last mile connectivity through automation, computerization and online services enacted the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, which came into force with effect from 01.04.2022 and through this amendment, Chapter XI dealing with insurance of motor vehicles against third party risks and Chapter XII dealing with Claims Tribunal were amended.

The day-long sensitization programme was divided into two technical sessions and an interactive session for feedback.

The first technical session was chaired by Justice Rahul Bharti, who analysed the provisions of Chapter XI and XII of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act and the MV Amendment Rules, 2022 and stated that these chapters empower the Judiciary. He stressed upon that Humanity is involved in delivering compensation under the Act, and at the end of the day it is individual commitment which matters, come what may. He remarked that a bad law in hands of a good judge is better than a good law in the hands of a bad judge.

The second technical session was chaired by Justice Rashid Ali Dar, Former Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh, who explained the duties of the police officers to prepare file of FIR within 48 hours and detailed accident report within 90 days. He made the participants aware about the latest pronouncements of Supreme Court and High Court of J&K and Ladakh on the subject.

He underscored the role of Insurance Companies in assessment and computation of just and fair compensation including criteria and principles.

The sensitization programme concluded with an interactive session during which the participants deliberated and discussed various aspects of the subject topic and raised queries which were answered satisfactorily by the resource persons.

PM accuses TMC...

recently, terming it a "Khooni Khela (bloody game)" where victory was secured by the use of "terror and threats" to intimidate the opposition.

"Recently, panchayat elections were held in Bengal. The entire country saw TMC's khooni khel (bloody game). Violence has been used as a means to threaten the opposition. The TMC looted votes. But despite this, the love of the people of Bengal has led to the victory of BJP candidates," he said.

PM Modi also claimed that those who act as "champions of democracy and question EVM" had "undermined" the democratic process in Bengal.

"The TMC did everything to ensure that the BJP candidate can't file nomination. They threatened not only BJP workers but also the voters," the PM alleged.

Reacting sharply to the PM's speech, TMC chief Mamata Banerjee in a recorded message to the media asked him to "behave" instead of maligning Bengal.

"The Prime Minister and the BJP should not talk about West Bengal. He did not take action against his own corrupt party leaders and those involved in character assassination, atrocities on women, atrocities on wrestlers and atrocities in Manipur. "The BJP killed 15-16 people during rural polls in Bengal. You must behave properly instead of giving indulgence to such people," the TMC supremo said.

Party spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said it seems the Prime Minister is yet to accept his party's defeat in the 2021 assembly polls.

"It seems the Prime Minister is yet to accept his party's defeat in the 2021 assembly. His remarks against West Bengal and TMC reflected BJP's deep-rooted hatred for the state's people," he claimed.

The prime minister who addressed his party workers at BJP's Panchayati Raj Parishad in West Bengal also accused the opposition of "not being serious" about the discussion on Manipur as "it would have hurt them the most".

"Only two days back, we had defeated the opposition's no-confidence motion in Parliament. We had also defeated the negativity being spread by them. The whole country has seen the opposition running away from the House. Unfortunately, they betrayed the people of Manipur," he said.

Development of Bhadarwah....

and booming economy but when I look at the present situation people are under immense pressure. Running here and their seeking employment and manual jobs. This is what we have been reduced to," he said.

Azad assured that he will come back with the golden era if voted to power and promised development of the Chenab valley. Azad said that there is no area left that he didn't connect with the roads and provided hospitals and schools.

Azad is on a ten days long tour of Chenab valley where he meet dozens of delegations and addressing public programmes. On Friday he visited Sungli, Bheja, Kholra Basti, Khorwah, Gaajoth block Ballah.

"My aim is to uplift the rural economy and provide source of living for all. We have huge potential in Chenab valley and it is rich in natural resources and I have a plan ready for it," DPAP chairman said. He said it is important for party workers to strengthen the party cadre at grassroots level. "I am asking you all to get ready and reach out to people at their doors and ensure they are becoming part of this car-

avaan of peace and development," he said.

Among others who were present in the meetings were GM Sarori vice chairman , Abdul majid Wani Gen Secy DPAP, Mohd Aslam Goni Working Committee Member; Rtd IGP P.R.Manhas Zonal President, Asif Gattu Dist President DPAP, Vishal Chopra, Farooq Shikari Provincial Gen Secretaries , Arif Najar, Mohm Shafi Rishu , Pritam Kotwal , Fatima Farooq Bdc Chairman Khara, Yasir Sarpanch , Rooplal Bhagat and Rajinder Singh.

Anwaar-ul-Haq...

year. Prime Minister Sharif recommended the dissolution of the National Assembly on August 9, three days before the mandated term, therefore, according to the Constitution, the next general elections will be held in 90 days.

The polls are expected to be delayed for a couple of months as new census results have been approved by the outgoing government, which makes it a constitutional obligation to carry out delimitation before elections.

DIPR lights lamps...

the Government. Officials of the Information Department Jammu were also present on the occasion who paid their respects and homage to the brave sons of soil who laid down their lives in the service of the Nation.

Pertinent to mention that the Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign has been started by the Prime Minister; which shall be running from August 9 to 15 and consists of various campaigns like Veeron ka Vandan, Tiranga Rallies, Plantation drives, Vasuda Vandan, etc being run across the country in respect of the Nation's heroes.

Eastern Ladakh row...

the commander of the South Xinjiang Military District. Last month, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke on the need to stabilise bilateral relations at a dinner during the G-20 summit in Bali last year.

On July 24, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval met top Chinese diplomat Wang Yi on the sidelines of a meeting of the five-nation grouping BRICS in Johannesburg.

Committed to provide...

Shailesh Kumar Singh, Union Secretary Rural Development; Mandeep Kaur, Commissioner Secretary, Rural Development J&K, Gaya Prasa, DDG Rural Housing, Rural Development Ministry and senior officers attended the valedictory session. DDC Chairpersons and PRI members were also present.

Court awards life...

Prem Nagar, Miran Sahib and after inquiry filed the charge sheet in the court under sections 302 and 457 CrPC.

The Additional Sessions Judge after hearing both the sides held the accused guilty. The convict was awarded simple imprisonment for life under section 302 CrPC and rigorous punishment under section 457 CrPC for two years and ordered that both the punishments will run concurrently, subject to confirmation of the conviction and sentence by the High Court.

JPDCL seeks public...

Aadmi Party (AAP), extended their support to the protesting people and also organized several protests in the city over the past two weeks.

"Anyone having any doubt has to simply submit an application to the department and we will use check meters to clear their doubts. Besides the toll-free numbers to register a complaint, all subdivisions have three days a week Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday to address the public grievances between 11 am to 1 pm," the chief engineer said.

Defending the replacement of digital meters with smart meters, he said the metering programme is a component of a revamped distribution sector scheme of the central government as part of the technology upgrade to minimize human interference.

"We are moving to an automatic system where we do not need a meter reader to visit consumers for billing or snapping power supply to defaulters. The reading directly reaches our data centres, while the power supply to defaulting consumers can be switched off from the control room," he said.

On claims of some consumers that they have got higher electricity bills after the replacement of the digital with smart meters, the official said, "Why should the department charge extra money from the consumers? The people should be assured that they will get electricity bills for the units which they have consumed."

"If they have any issue, we are here to resolve it amicably and there is no need to protest," the chief engineer said, appealing to the people not to get misled by propaganda and instead use the energy judiciously.

He said smart meters provide an opportunity to consumers to watch their daily consumption of power, using the mobile application.

"We seek the support of the public in smooth installation of the meters which are highly beneficial to them," he said.

Seth said the smart meters come with a five-year warranty and would be replaced without any cost in case of a fault or damage.

He said the fully metered areas are being provided round-the-clock electricity supply. "We have already installed 1.80 lakh meters in Jammu city, over 50 per cent of the total target."



Chief Engineer (Distribution), JPDCL Sandeep Seth briefing media in Jammu on Saturday.

HDFC Bank Doda distributes stationery items among students



Bank officials along with children during the event.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADARWAH: With an aim to extending helping hand to poor students, HDFC Bank Doda distributed stationery items to School Children in Dheraja and Kotli areas of Bhaderwah under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) on Saturday. HDFC Bank Doda led by Musarrat Butt along with BBM Doda Randeep Kotwal visited two schools in Bhaderwah and distributed stationery items among them. R. R. Jamal from TW team was also present on the occasion.

Musarrat Butt said that as part of our commitment to give back to the society, today we (employees of hdfc bank branch Doda) have distributed essential stationery items to the young learner's in Govt Middle school of village Dheraja Bhaderwah and in

Govt primary school village Kotli Bhaderwah. Staff and Students expressed their gratitude towards HDFC Bank for the initiative.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the spirit of the Azadi Amrut Mahotsav celebration, Command Area Development, Jammu Talab Tillo, hosted a profound event named 'Har Ghar Dhyan'. This session aimed to illuminate the path to mental well-being through the transformative practice of meditation. As a tribute to the significance of this occasion, an exclusive meditation and mental wellness session unfolded, graced by the esteemed presence of Director General, Rajinder Singh Tara, alongside dedicated officers and

Melodies of Patriotism: GCW Bhagwati Nagar organises inspiring group song competition

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: IQAC in collaboration with the Department of Commerce of GCW Bhagwati Nagar organized a Group song competition on the theme "Meri Matti Mera Desh" under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on 12th August 2023. The event was held under the patronage of Dr. Meeru Abrol, Principal of the college who highlighted the main aim of the activity which was to inculcate the spirit of patriotism and remind them of the importance of the dawn of a new beginning in the history of India's Independence.

The group song competition

was held among four teams namely team Lata Mangeshkar, team Asha Bhonsle, team Shriya Ghoshal and team Alka Yagnik. The teams comprised of four students each from B.Com 3rd Sem and B.A 3rd Sem. The event was organized to expose the students to patriotism and music, while also enhancing their language and presentation skills. This was an opportunity to teach them the importance of Independence Day. The participating students were brimming with enthusiasm and eagerness to showcase their talent. All the teams portrayed

calm and composure with their most melodious and soothing voices. Prof. Nisha Bhagat, Prof. Gagan Jyoti and Dr. Mosmi Raina were the esteemed judges for the competition. They praised the efforts of the students in keeping the spirit of solidarity and love for the country alive through such activities. Team Lata Mangeshkar comprising of Anjali Bhatti, Amandeep, Radhika and Sanskriti of B.A. 3rd Sem was adjudged as the winner of the competition. The programme was organized under the supervision of Dr. Preeti Salathia.

Meri Matti Mera Desh celebrations begins at CUJ

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In the auspicious Independence month of August "Meri Maati Mera Desh; Mitti Ko Naman Veeron Ka Vandan" celebrations has been formally launched at Central university of Jammu on Saturday. To pay homage to the Matti of the motherland, CUJ will organise a series of events. The month-long events will include Panchpran Pledge, Vasudha Vandana, Veeron ki Vandana, Cultural programmes, Flag Hoisting, Rastriya Gaan and lectures by

eminent scholars/veers.

The lightening of traditional lamp marked the inauguration of celebrations, by Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu and Ravikant Babu, DDG, Akashvani Jammu. Prof. Jain made Mitti ka Diya on traditional chak (potter's wheel) and it was followed by faculty, staff and students of the university.

In his inaugural address Vice Chancellor Prof. Jain said these Mitti ka diya are symbols of connection with maati and

source of guiding light which our freedom fighters have bestowed to us. We are all bound through Maati and a sense of Patriotism permeates in our blood for the motherland. Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain administered the Panchpran Pledge to all the Participants. Prof. Yashwant Singh, Registrar, Dr. Ritika Bakshi, DSW, Dr. Vinay Kumar, ADSW, Deans, Heads, Faculty, Staff, research scholars and students participated in the event.

Directorate of Handicrafts & Handloom organizes activities under AKAM

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A programme for 'Meri Maati Mera Desh: Mitti Ko Naman Veeron Ka Vandan' drive of activities under 'Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' was celebrated by the Directorate of Handicrafts & Handloom, under the guidance of Vikramjeet Singh Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, Industries and Commerce Department, J&K.

The event was organized at Handicrafts Showroom Janipur Jammu on Saturday under the overall supervision of Assistant director, Handloom Joginder Mangol. Dr. Vikas Gupta Director Handicrafts and Handloom, Jammu was the Chief Guest. Joint Director Handloom, Pradeep Singh Manhas, Joint Director Handicrafts, Tilak Raj Thappa, Development Officer (Tex.) Fareed Kohli, Development Officer (Non-Tex.) Tarun

Sharma and other senior officers/officials besides artisans/weavers community attended the event. The activities led by the chief guest on the occasion includes: Panchpran Pledge to make India developed and self-reliant, Veeron ka Vandan to honour the Martyr's family (Smt. Jyoti Devi W/O Shaheed Shamsheer Singh RO-Village Sarora Jammu), Plantation drive, Hoisting of National Flag and Rashtriya Gaan.

On the occasion, Vikas Gupta acknowledged the efforts of artisans and their contributions to the Department. He also highlighted the milestone of getting prestigious GI tag for two of the Jammu based products viz. Basholi Painting and Chikri wood craft of Rajouri. He urged the craftsmen to register with the Department in order to avail benefits under various government schemes.