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Sustainable farming only...

tagging of local produce, high density plantation and allied activities have successfully brought prosperity for the farmers, the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor further highlighted that various strategies are being adopted for promotion of allied enterprises such as dairy farming, apiculture, sericulture and food processing in augmenting farmers income to reduce losses and open greater opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship.

Underlining the need to make necessary interventions to ensure food security for the growing population, the Lt Governor called on stakeholders to work on mission mode for effective implementation of the Millet mission, Exotic Vegetables Farming, promoting micro-irrigation and reducing crop waste.

Dileep Sanghani, Chairman, IFFCO, speaking on the occasion said that IFFCO is continuously engaged in finding solutions to problems confronting the agriculture and allied sector. He informed that trials of the World's first Nano Urea were conducted at more than 11000 places in every nook and corner of the country on around 94 crops.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, in his address said that J&K's Agriculture Sector will emerge as a role model not only for the country but the whole world. A new J&K is recording unprecedented growth and development in every sector and is figuring as a top performer in several categories, he added.

Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department, informed about the Apex Committee constituted under Dr Mangala Rai to find ways to double the growth rate of the agriculture sector. He said that various technical working groups have been formulated to suggest a policy framework to the Government.

Dr. U.S. Awasthi, Managing Director & CEO, IFFCO, highlighted the features and benefits of Nano Urea. It will immensely benefit the production in the horticulture and agriculture sector, he said.

"To mark the occasion, the Lt Governor also handed over sanction letters for Sprayers to Farmers, FPOs, Cooperative Societies and SHGs as part of the intervention of the Agriculture department for changing the public perception in the field of agriculture.

Balvir Singh, Vice Chairman, IFFCO; Yogindra Kumar, Director Marketing, IFFCO; Board of Directors, IFFCO, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal, Director; Department of Agriculture Production & Farmers Welfare Kashmir; members of FPO, Cooperatives & SHGs and large number of farmers were present on the occasion.

Engagement of project...

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

The Administrative Council (AC) authorized both the DISCOMs i.e JPDCL and KPDCCL to execute smart metering works under Totex model and loss reduction works, sanctioned under RDSS by engaging the central public sector enterprise - RECPDCL/PGCIL as the project implementing agency.

The decision is aimed at improving the quality, reliability and affordability of power supply to consumers through a financially sustainable and operationally efficient power distribution sector. It will further reduce the AT&C losses to pan-India levels of 12-15 per cent and ACS-ARR gap to zero by 2024-25 by improving the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of all DISCOMs/ Power Department.

Under the RDSS scheme, conditional financial assistance shall be provided to the DISCOMs for strengthening of supply infrastructure based on meeting pre-qualifying criteria and achieving basic minimum benchmark.

The decision aims at achieving 100 per cent smart prepaid consumer metering and 100% system metering with communicating features aimed at reducing AT&C losses besides improving operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of DISCOMs.

Karan Singh endorses...

declare September 23 a public holiday in honour of the last Maharaja.

There has been a long-standing demand and agitation among the youths in Jammu for a holiday on the birthday of my respected father Maharaja Hari Singh ji, which I strongly support, Singh said.

Talking about his father, he said Babu ji' was a highly respected figure not only because he signed the historic instrument of accession' to India, but also because of the many progressive measures he took during his reign.

Throwing of Dharmarth Temple open to the Dalits, abolishing the obnoxious policy of 'begar', forced labour in Kashmir; building fine colleges and hospitals both in Jammu and Srinagar were some of the decisions, he said.

I understand that the agitation is on hold for a few days. I would urge the UT government to reconsider the whole matter and accept the demand which will be widely appreciated not only by the youths of Jammu but by citizens of the state in general," Singh said.

He said that continued agitation and disruption of normal life is not desirable in the highly sensitive border region of Jammu.

"I have conveyed my views on this matter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister; said the veteran Congress leader.

India, China to complete...

Organisation (SCO) in Uzbekistan which is expected to be attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping among other leaders of the grouping.

In Beijing, when asked whether India and China are in communication about a possible Modi-Xi meeting on the sidelines of the SCO summit to be held in Samarkand on September 15 to 16, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told a briefing that she has "no information to offer at this moment."

"We believe the disengagement will be a positive development and is conducive to peace and tranquility in the border areas, and China also hopes to work with India to uphold peace and stability," she added.

Responding to a question on the disengagement process, External Affairs Ministry spokesman Arindam Bagchi said,"It has been agreed that all temporary structures and other allied infrastructure created in the area by both sides will be dismantled and mutually verified. The landforms in the area will be restored to the pre-standoff period by both sides."

The two sides have also agreed to take the talks forward and resolve remaining issues and restore peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in India-China border areas, he said.

"The two sides have agreed to cease forward deployments in this area in a phased, coordinated and verified manner; resulting in the return of the troops of both sides to their respective areas," he added.

Bagchi said the agreement ensures that the LAC in this area will be strictly observed and respected by both sides and that there will be no unilateral change in the status quo.

He said the 16th round of talks between the Corps Commanders of India and China was held at the Chushul Moldo meeting point on July 17, 2022.

"Since then, the two sides had maintained regular contact to build on the progress achieved during the talks to resolve the relevant issues along the LAC in the Western Sector of India-China border areas," he said.

As a result, both sides have now agreed on disengagement in the area of Gogra-Hotsprings (PP-15), he said.

Bagchi said as per the agreement,"the disengagement process in this area started on September 8 at 8:30 am and will be completed by September 12".

"With the resolution of the stand-off at PP-15, both sides mutually agreed to take the talks forward and resolve the remaining issues along LAC and restore peace and tranquility in India-China border areas," he said.

In a statement in Beijing, the Chinese defence ministry said the Chinese and Indian troops in the area of Jianan Daban have begun to disengage in a coordinated and planned way, which is conducive to the peace and tranquility in the border areas.

Indian officials said that the Jianan Daban area referred to by China is the same as Patrolling Point-15 in the Gogra-Hotsprings area referred to by the Indian Army press release issued on Thursday.

Restrictions under section...

The restrictions were imposed on orders of District Magistrate Vikas Kundal, officials said.

Official sources said the move was a precautionary measure taken in the wake of a land dispute between two groups of people.

Residents of the area were made aware of it using speakers mounted on police vehicles. "We inform people that restrictions under section 144 of the CrPe have been imposed in Rajouri town. People are advised to remain indoors," the message said.

Barbed wires have also been placed in some sensitive areas to prevent movement of people, besides deployment of additional police forces.

Section 144 of the Code Of Criminal Procedure prohibits the assembly of four or more people.

SC refuses to...

has far-reaching consequences. The court should be circumspect while issuing directions. We would suggest you withdraw your plea, the bench remarked.

The petitioner then withdrew the plea and the matter was declared dismissed as withdrawn.

The top court was hearing a plea filed by lawyer Abu Sohail seeking directions for an independent, credible and impartial investigation into the matter:

The top court had earlier provided relief to Sharma by clubbing all the FIRs lodged across the country and transferring them to Delhi Police in connection with her remark on the Prophet.

The telecast dated May 26, 2022, on the TV channel "Times Now" has led to the registration of various FIRs and complaints against the petitioner in different parts of the country.

Sharma's remark on the Prophet during a TV debate had triggered protests across the country and drew sharp reactions from many Gulf countries. The BJP subsequently suspended her from the party.

Govt Ayurvedic Medical...

constructed building at Akhnoor on the banks of Chenab River and inaugurated by LG, UT J&K.

"Within a short span of time the institution has witnessed incredible progress in all spheres. With the consistent hard work and cooperation of all faculty members, paramedics and other staff, the institution is expecting to touch greater heights in the coming days. The College Hospital is fully equipped with Ultra Modern diagnostic equipment, a fully developed laboratory and providing specialized services to the general public at large" it added.

Prof. (Dr.) Shashi Sudhan, Principal, Nodal Officer; Administrative Officer; Accounts Officer; Statistical Officer; Faculties and students of Government Ayurvedic Medical College Akhnoor have thanked the Secretary, Health and Medical Education Department for constant support and guidance.

Govt to launch...

successful years of PM @narendramodi Ji's visionary #SwachhBharatMission on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti this year; @MoHUA_India will launch #SwachhAmritMahotsav, a fortnight long intensive campaign to make our cities #GarbageFree from 17 Sept 2022," HUA minister Hardeep Singh Puri tweeted.

In another tweet, the minister said September 17 will be observed as 'Seva Divas' when 'Swachh Amrit Mahotsav' will start in the form of 'Indian Swachhata League' -- a youth-led competition.

In a statement, the ministry said Puri released the official logo for 'Swachh Amrit Mahotsav' -- 'Ek Aur Kadam Swachhata Ki Ore', signifying the resolve to intensify and reinvigorate the 'Jan Andolan' in the world's largest sanitation programme.

"In line with the PM's vision of harnessing youth energy for positive action, the minister has announced the opening of the first ever 'Indian Swachhata League' (ISL), an inter-city competition to take place between the youth of the cities on September 17, 2022.

"For the maiden edition of ISL, more than 1,850 city teams from across the country have officially registered to compete," it stated.

JK BJP to...

the welfare schemes of the Modi government and also publicise the messages shared by crores of beneficiaries of such schemes.

Chugh asked party leaders to upload such messages on the NaMo App and also instructed them to promote the book Modi @20.

Will fight for...

and its focus will be on restoration of full statehood, right to land and employment to native domicile. He sought the support from people in forming the government in J&K to initiate a new era of development and progress.

"We have not to fight with weapons to get our demands fulfilled. Mahatma Gandhi was my idol and his ideology will be pursued in J&K also to get our concerns redressed. Azad is scheduled to address a public rally at Chatroo areas of Kishtwar District tomorrow.

India becoming 5th...

US, China, Japan and Germany; according to IMF projections. A decade back, India was ranked 11th among the large economies while the UK was at the fifth position.

"It is not a mean achievement...It is the people of India who should take credit for it," Sitharaman said while addressing the 'BusinessLine Change Maker Awards'.

The finance minister further said that during these 10 years, there was an outbreak of COVID-pandemic and everything came to a grinding halt.

She said there are always questions about the shape of the recovery post-pandemic, "but the fact is the recovery still retains us as the fastest growing economy from among the large-sized economies". Sitharaman also stressed that there should not be negativity and cynicism about the country's achievements.

"So, I take this opportunity for all of us to give ourselves that moment of pause. Think about what we are doing to our country. Even if we don't serve it, at least don't disservice it.

At least don't spread your toxicity. This is a time when all of us want to be positive," she said. The minister also highlighted the achievements India has made in the field of digital payment and vaccination. Referring to the huge amount of payments made through the popular Unified Payments Interface, Sitharaman said UPI "is now the envy of the world".

CRIME REPORT

Huge quantity of illicit timber seized, accused arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BUDGAM: Police on Friday seized huge quantity of illicit timber and arrested an accused involved in crime.

As per details, Police Station Khag received information that one Abdul Hamid Shera, son of Mohammad Hussain Shera, resident of Gujarpathri Drang has kept huge quantity of illicit timber in an orchard at Drung, Gujarpathri road. Accordingly, a party from Police Station Khag raided the spot and seized huge quantity of illicit timber besides arresting accused. Accordingly, FIR No. 50/2022 under relevant sections of law was registered at Police Station Khag and investigation started. More arrests and recoveries are expected in coming days.

10 arrested, 10 vehicles seized for illegal extraction & transportation of minor minerals

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

GANDERBAL: Acting tough against elements involved in illegal extraction and transportation of minerals, Police on Friday arrested 10 persons and seized 10 vehicles involved in crime. On directions of SSP Ganderbal Nikhil Borkar, special teams of Police was constituted under the supervision of DySP Hqrs Ganderbal and SDPO Kangan, led by SHOs of various Police Stations after receiving information regarding illegal extraction and transportation of minerals. These special police teams seized 10 vehicles (6 Tippers bearing registration numbers JK04D-0153, JK01F-5898, JK04B-7284, JK03A-2995, JK16-2502, JK01M-9478 and 4 Tractors) loaded with illegally extracted minerals from Nallah Sindh Ganderbal.

The 10 accused drivers involved in crime were also arrested. They were identified as Reyaz Ahmad Dar resident of Nunner, Fayaz Ahmad Dar resident of Arch, Abid Ahmad Mir resident of Beehama, Javid Ahmad Dar resident of Waheedpora, Ravees Ahmad Bhat resident of Khurhama, Farooq Ahmad Chopan resident of Kachambal Kangan, Waheed Ahmad Dar resident of Watalbagh Lar, Suheel Ahmad Malik resident of Benhama Lar, Irfan Ahmed Chopan & Sabzar Nabi Bhat, both residents of Prang Kangan. Accordingly, cases under relevant sections of law were registered in Police Station Ganderbal, Police Station Kheerbawani, Police Station Kangan and Police Station Lar and further investigation is going on.

Woman thief arrested; stolen gold ornaments, Rs 2.40 lakh cash recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Friday solved a theft case by arresting a thief and recovered stolen gold ornaments weighing around 25 tollas and Rs 2.40 lakh cash from her possession.

As per details, a complaint was lodged at Police Station Bahu Fort by one Isha Gupta, wife of Ritender Gupta, resident of 104/4, Marble Enclave Trikuta Nagar stating therein that gold ornaments weighing about 25 Tollas and Rs 2.40 Lakh cash has been stolen from her house. Accordingly, FIR No 233/2022 under section 380 of IPC was registered at Police Station Bahu Fort and investigation got started.

After this, a team of Police Station Bahu Fort under the supervision of SDPO East Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari led by SHO Bahu Fort Inspr Nayat Ali, after putting in strenuous

efforts and with help of CCTV footages of the area, rounded up a suspect namely Kiran, daughter of Lakshmi Parashad Yadav, resident of Chhattisgarh at present Marble Enclave Trikuta Nagar. During sustained questioning, accused confessed her involvement in the theft and on her disclosure all stolen gold items and cash was recovered. The whole operation was done under supervision of SP South Mamta Sharma.

6 vehicles seized for illegal mining

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a quest to stem menace of illegal mining, a multi-pronged strategy was devised by Jammu Police in which team from Police Stations Kanhaachak, Miran Sahib, Arnia, Police Posts Pallanwala and Phallain Mandal acted stringently on the specific inputs and raided at different locations in their respective areas and seized 6 vehicles involved in illegal mining. The seized vehicles included 2 tractor trolleys without registration numbers seized by Kanhaachak police; a tractor-trolley without registration number seized by Miran Sahib Police; a JCB bearing chassis No.HAR3DXSSJ01874426 seized by Arnia Police; a tractor trolley bearing chassis no. MBNBU53AAMCF89163 seized by Phallain Mandal Police and a tractor-trolley without registration number seized by Pallanwala Police. The recoveries were made by SHO Kanhaachak Inspr Rahul Mahajan, SHO Miran Sahib Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq, SHO Arnia Inspr Sumit Sharma, Incharge Police Posts Phallain Mandal PSI Ajesh Singh Jamwal and Pallanwala-PSI Vijay Kumar in their respective jurisdictions.

Army soldier commits suicide

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: An Army soldier allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself to death in Nogam area of Budgam district on Friday.

As per details, an Army soldier identified as Bhupinder Singh, son of Surjeet Singh, a resident of Makshoorpur, Punjab posted at 53 RR Nagam camp committed suicide by shooting himself with his service rifle. He was immediately shifted to 92 base hospital Srinagar where doctors declared him as brought dead. The reason behind the action has not been ascertained immediately, said a police officer; adding that necessary proceedings have been launched in this regard.

Two rape accused arrested

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Friday arrested two rape accused who were evading arrest since long.

As per details, a complaint was lodged by a woman, resident of Mahore with Bakshi Nagar Police that a social worker Vishal Mattu raped her on name of providing her help for treatment of her husband, who was admitted in GMC Jammu. Acting on complaint, police registered a case and arrested accused, who was absconding after committing crime. Bakshi Nagar Police also registered a case against a man on complaint of female journalist, for passing obscene remarks on social media.

In another case, information was received at Bahu Fort through reliable sources regarding an accuse namely Abu Bakar (Verni), son of Sayyid Hussain, resident of Mayanmar, at present Lahu ka Plot in Channi Rama, who was evading arrest since 2021 in FIR No.330/21 registered under sections 3/4/8 of POCSO Act. On this special teams from Police Station Bahu Fort under the supervision of SDPO East Syed Zaheer Abbas Jafari were constituted and a team led by SHO Bahu Fort Inspr Nayat Ali, after putting in strenuous efforts, arrested the accused.

Youth arrested under POCSO Act

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Friday arrested a youth under POCSO Act on Friday.

As per details, a youth, resident of Rajouri entered a house in Sector-1 Gangyal and on finding a minor girl alone, did obscene activities with her. He was nabbed by people and later handed over to police. A case under POCSO Act has been registered against him.

Snatcher arrested, purse recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Police on Friday nabbed a snatcher and recovered snatched purse from his possession.

As per details, a woman lodged a complaint with Chowk Chabutra Police that somebody has snatched her purse in Bazaar. On her complaint, police registered a case and after scrutinizing CCTV footages of the area, identified the accused and nabbed him. The purse was also recovered from his possession.

House burgled; jewellery, cash stolen

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A house was burgled in Digiana area form where thieves decamped with cash and jewellery.

As per details, a family of Digaina lodged a complaint with police that thieves targeted their house when they were out and decamped with jewellery worth Rs 11 lakh and Rs 25,000 cash. Police has registered a case and started investigation.

Woman among two arrested; 200 lts Lahan, 7 lts illicit liquor, 6 bottles of illicit liquor recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In an act of alertness and prompt action, dedicated police teams recovered illicit liquor and 200 lts lahan in different areas and arrested two persons.

As per details, teams of Police Stations Miran Sahib and Bishnah under the supervision of SDPO R S Pura Surinder Singh led by SHO Miram Sahib Inspr Zaheer Mushtaq assisted by

Incharge Border Police Post Kullian ASI Ranjit Singh while on patrolling duty at Khour Deonian, received information regarding sale of illicit liquor in the area. A team from Police Station Miran Sahib raided at suspected location and rounded up a suspect namely Soma Devi, wife of Daya Ram, resident of village Khour Deonian. During search 200 lts Lahan was recovered from her possession.

Similarly, a team of Police Station Bishnah led by SHO Bishnah Inspr Vikram Sharma received information regarding sale of illicit liquor and raided at suspected place. Accused namely Omkar Singh, son of Kair Singh, resident of Nandpur Tibba Tehsil Bishnah, was arrested and 7 lts illicit liquor and 6 bottles of illicit liquor were recovered from his possession.

FIR No. 106 /2022 under sections 48-a ,48-e, and 48-f of Excise Act was registered at Police Station Miran Sahib while FIR No. 153/2022 under sections 48 A Excise Act was registered at Police Station Bishnah, in this regard.



16 officers from JKAS now part of IAS; eight more to join soon: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Jitendra Singh on Friday said 16 officers from the Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) have been inducted into IAS and another eight vacancies will be filled up shortly after a long gap of 12 years.

The minister said the Centre has also relaxed deputation rules to encourage IAS and other All India Service Officers as well as officers of central services to get posted in Jammu and Kashmir; according to a government statement.

In an interaction with the media on the steps taken to address the officers' shortage in the newly created Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said due to the relaxation in deputation rules, 22 officers belonging to various services and different cadres have been posted in the UT at various levels at a crucial time, the statement said.

He said the DoPT played a major role in facilitating induction of JKAS officers into the IAS by coordinating with UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Ministry of Home Affairs and the UPSC.

"As a result, recently 16 officers from JKAS have been inducted into IAS and another eight such vacancies will be filled up shortly giving opportunities to the JKAS officers to become part of prestigious IAS service after a long gap of 12 years," Singh said.

The minister said mid-career training of JKAS officers of various seniority was carried out in collaboration with LBSNAA and it provided a new level of exposure to the JKAS officers and more than 200 officers.

Singh said central government employees working in the Kashmir Valley in attached and subordinate offices or PSUs falling under control of the Centre have been extended special concessions for a period

of three years from August 1, 2021.

The incentives include an additional house rent allowance, composite transfer grant, per diem allowance, incentive for period of temporary duty, messing allowance,



facility to draw pension at the place of settlement in relaxation of relevant provisions, he said.

The minister said retention of general pool accommodation available to officers who have served in the central government has also been extended to officers posted in Jammu and Kashmir on the pattern of the northeast states.

Singh said in view of home LTC, it can be availed to visit Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for which guidelines have been notified by the DoPT.

It will enhance tourism in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and also provide an opportunity to all central government employees to visit the two UTs, he said.

The minister said the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) has helped the UT administration to switch over to online functioning, as a result of which the UT exchequer would save over Rs 200 crore incurred in transport of records etc during 'Durbat move' -- shifting of capitals from Srinagar to Jammu during winters and vice versa. "The government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gives high priority to Jammu and Kashmir and there is no dearth of support forthcoming, as far as the Centre is concerned," he said.