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Govt aims to...

public services and urban infrastructure efficient with equal participation of all citizens, making cities smart with use of technology, to facilitate rapid socio-economic development and better quality of life.

Highlighting the impact of the Smart City projects inaugurated today, the Lt Governor said that the Facade Lighting of Mubarak Mandi, the priceless heritage of Dogra Dynasty, will add aesthetics to the heritage building, and boost the local economy by attracting more tourist influx.

The 10 new digital panels and advertisement panels at 110 locations apart from generating revenue for Jammu Municipal Corporation will also provide employment opportunities to locals, he added.

The Lt Governor observed that the project of street development from Mubarak Mandi to Raghunath Bazar, will provide a new experience of smart urban mobility to the citizens while preserving the cultural richness of the old market and locality of about five and a half kilometer road and its adjoining city. He expressed hope that once the project is completed in June 2023, Raghunath Bazar, Jain Bazar, Kanak Mandi, Moti Bazar will emerge as a smart commercial hub and will also provide new opportunities for economic growth to the existing businesses.

Another street development project from Canal Road to Talab Tillo Chowk costing Rs 20 crore has been planned to be completed with an integrated approach, keeping in mind the urban design process, urban management, mobility and local economic development, it was informed.

Speaking on the achievements of the revenue department, the Lt Governor said, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, major revenue reforms were introduced by the government in the last two years. Initiatives like 'Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigrani' and institutionalization of 1553 Patwarkhanas has empowered the common citizens. Through digitization and land pass books, land disputes will be substantially reduced and it will be easier to check fraudulent transactions.

The land passbooks that have been distributed today are valid documents and to ensure its security, a unique number and QR code have been arranged in the pass-book given to the land owners, he added.

The work of digitization of land records is going on in all 20 districts and out of 6912 villages, the process of digitization has been completed in 3049 villages i.e. land records of about 44.11% villages have been digitised, it was informed.

Referring to the several issues projected by various quarters, the Lt Governor directed the officials to examine the issue of dilapidated condition of Bahu fort road leading to Bawe Wali Mata Temple and take necessary action at the earliest so that the local people and devotees do not face difficulties. He further instructed for the execution of allied work of entry gate and approach road of Bawe Wali Mata and approach road of Har Ki Pauri at a rapid pace.

The Lt Governor also took note of the slow and unorganized progress of various Smart city works going on in the Gandhi Nagar area, and directed the concerned officials to ensure that works are not executed in a piecemeal manner on any stretch.

He called upon Engineers and Project Managers to draw project strategies that are simple, realistic and utilitarian. Our basic intent about the Smart City projects should be to make Public Services and Urban Infrastructure Efficient.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also directed all Deputy Commissioners to complete the modalities for the disbursement of next installment under PM Kisan to all the beneficiaries of Jammu Kashmir.

The projects inaugurated by the Lt Governor include- Façade lighting Illumination Mubarak Mandi Heritage Complex at a cost of Rs 3.32 Cr; Digital Ad Panels at multiple locations across Jammu City costing Rs 3.48 Cr and Static Ad Panels at multiple locations across Jammu City worth Rs 4.95 Cr.

Projects for which foundation stones were laid today included Complete Street Development from Mubarak Mandi to Raghunath Bazar via Pucea Danga, Moti Bazar, etc. (5.50 km long Heritage Trail) at a cost of Rs 16.18 Cr; Complete Street Development Canal Road-Talab Tillo costing Rs 20.21 Cr; Blue Green Project for Ranbir Canal: from BSF Paloura to Pawan Ice Cream (Phase I and II) worth Rs 20.17 Cr and Blue Green Project for Tawi Canal Zone 1, from Gorkha Nagar to Railway Station at a cost of Rs17.83 Cr.

The Lt Governor also laid foundation for the Development of Park and renovation of Women Vocational Centre at Prem Nagar costing Rs 1.11 Cr; Development of Indoor Gym and Park at Channi Himmat worth 3.86 Cr; Library cum Cafeteria at Mubarak Mandi at a cost of 3.28 Cr; Façade Lighting of Sidhra Bridge costing Rs 3.35 Cr; Vertical Garden- Phase-II at a cost of Rs 1.09 Cr; Landscaping & Development of Green Spaces in Jammu costing Rs 6.62 Cr and Rs 7.50 cr worth Archives Repository project at Kala Kendra.

Chander Mohan Gupta, Mayor JMC, said that several development works under Smart City project are being implemented at a rapid pace. The unprecedented growth of Jammu Kashmir under the LG led UT administration is being discussed across the nation, he added.

Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member Parliament, congratulated the people of Jammu on the occasion. He further lauded the UT Government for accelerating the development process. Those projects which were deliberately delayed for decades are now seeing the light of the day, he added.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary said that the occasion represents the changing scenario of Transforming Jammu Kashmir. He urged the people to link their Aadhaar and mobile numbers with their land records for obtaining maximum benefits of transparent governance.

Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary to Government, Housing & Urban Development Department, in his welcome address highlighted the key features of the inaugurated projects and the one for which foundation stones were laid on the occasion. We will see a transformed and aesthetically appealing developed Jammu City in the coming time, he added.

Vijay Bidhuri, Commissioner/ Secretary to Government, Revenue Department informed that around 100 Land Pass Books are being handed over to people today. It is a legal document admissible in the court of law having a QR code, he added. He also apprised about the progress being made under Aapki Zameen Aapki Nigrani campaign.

Rahul Yadav, CEO JSCL & Commissioner JMC presented a brief description of the projects and delivered the vote of thanks.

Ravinder Raina, President BJP J&K; Purnima Sharma, Dy. Mayor, Jammu, besides corporators of JMC attended the occasion.

Shaleen Kabra, Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department & Financial Commissioner; Revenue; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Avny Lavasa, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, besides senior officers form the civil administration and police, besides scores of citizens were present on the occasion.

Punjab couple held...

by police, leading to the recovery of 7 kilograms of heroin.

The accused, hailing from Ram Tirth Road in Punjab's Amritsar, are inter-state drug smugglers and a case under the relevant provisions of law has been registered against them, the officer said.

Plea on 'genocide'...

also referred to a book and said it gives an account of how the state administration had failed in taking care of Hindus and Sikhs during that period.

The plea sought directions to conduct a census of Hindus and Sikhs, who have been victims or survivors of "genocide" in Jammu and Kashmir and are now residing in different parts of India, and also for the rehabilitation of those who had migrated after the exodus in 1990.

It said, "The dastardly genocide and exodus of Kashmiri Hindus and Sikhs which happened in 1989-90 in the Kashmir valley is a glaring example of complete failure of constitutional machinery in preventing the genocide and protecting the life, property of the Kashmiri Hindu and Sikh in the Kashmir valley".

The plea referred to books such as "My Frozen Turbulence in Kashmir", authored by Jagmohan who was Jammu and Kashmir governor during the relevant period, and "Our Moon Has Blood Clots" by Rahul Pandita.

"These books describe the first-hand account of incident of murder, arson and migration of Hindus and Sikhs from Kashmir," the plea said.

"Kashmiri Pandits (Hindus) and Sikhs have always been in the forefront of the struggle against secessionism, communalism and fundamentalism in Kashmir. The final exodus of Kashmiri Hindus and Sikhs began from the Kashmir valley in 1989. This was a genocide of the highest order with the intent to ethnically cleanse the Kashmir valley from Hindus and Sikhs," it said.

Meanwhile BJP National Spokesperson R P Singh has tweeted ""This is purely in the domain of the Executive," said Justices Gavai & Ravikumar while hearing the plea of NGO 'We The Citizens'. In view of this I reiterate my earlier appeal to @HMOIndia for Commission of Enquiry to identify the perpetrators who were involved in Genocide of KPs".

Man hangs himself...

He said soon after the incident, a team of senior officers of police and civil administration reached the police station and inspected the site and all legal formalities were conducted under their supervision.

Thereafter, the post-mortem was conducted by a board of doctors at Government Medical College (GMC), Rajouri and later the body was handed over to the legal heirs for last rites after all the legal procedures, the officer said.

The family of the deceased, however, did not buy the police version that he had died by suicide and demanded an impartial inquiry into the incident.

"He was arrested on Sunday in connection with some case and was killed in the custody," one of the relatives claimed amid protest by the family outside GMC hospital.

However, they dispersed peacefully after a senior police officer visited them and assured them of fair probe to know the facts.

Crimes against women...

648 women, were arrested and 6,994 of them were charged.

Ninety five people, including five women, were convicted, while 1,056 were discharged and 1,175 acquitted by the courts.

The report said 1,135 cases ended up as false, four were labeled a mistake of fact or of law or civil dispute, 57 cases were found to be true but there was insufficient evidence, the report said.

In all, 4,343 cases were disposed off by police, it said.

The report said chargesheet was filed in 2,346 cases 1,196 cases from 2020 and 801 cases of 2021.

The NCRB also said 12 cases were registered under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes-related acts and another nine were related to the prevention of damage to public property.

Gool Blast Case...

On 2 August 2022, at around 0452 hrs some unidentified person(s) exploded grenade at Police Post Ind under the jurisdiction of Police Station Gool. On this, a Case FIR No 69/2022 was registered in Police Station Gool and investigation was taken up.

Increase in drugs...

peace. There are plays, provocations, but they are not in our favour.

"We have suffered loss of life and property on a large scale for a much time and now the time has come to cover the losses with peace. So, I appeal to the youth to tread the path of peace," the DGP said.

Asked about the increase in pistol fire-related incidents, he said bringing a pistol from across the border and transporting it was easy.

"It becomes easy to run militancy in urban areas with a pistol when you can fire upon an innocent person after hiding the pistol. There have been such incidents in Srinagar city in the last one-two years where pistol was used. Such incidents have happened in rural areas as well," Singh said.

Police have seized a large amount of pistols as well as AK 47 rifles and ammunition which have come from Pakistan, he said.

Singh said the shift from AK 47 rifles to pistols by militants is a "tactical shift" as it is easy to hide it and fire it.

JKPCC Employees protest against non-payment of salary for 4 months

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir Project Construction Corporation (JKPCC) Workers Association held a protest in front of the Head Office of the Corporation both at Jammu and Srinagar and urged the Corporation to release the pending salary of the workers without any further delay.

Speakers of the Association said that due to non-payment of the salary for the last four months, the workers have been reduced to the level of starvation and School authorities have threatened to discharge their children from the school due to non-payment of their monthly school fee for these four months. In addition to that medicines of the family members of the employees, especially older people are not being managed due to financial problem. The speakers appealed to the Corporation to release the salaries of the workers as well as the wages of daily wagers at the rate of Rs 300 per day at the earliest. They further said that their ongoing protest will continue till date their salaries are not paid.

Jat Maha Sabha extends unstinted support to Yuva Rajput Sabha's demand for public holiday on Sept 23



AJJMS headed by President, Ch Mannohan Singh along with Yuva Rajput Sabha members.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: All India Jat Maha Sabha (AIJMS) headed by its President, Ch Mannohan Singh, on behalf of the Jat community has extended full support to the ongoing protest of Yuva Rajput Sabha demanding holiday on the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh that falls on 23rd September every year.

Ch Mannohan Singh

announced the Sabha's unstinted support to the agitation launched in this regard during his visit to the protest site of Yuva Rajput Sabha here today. The Jat Maha Sabha President was accompanied by a large number of members of the Jat community.

While addressing the protesting Yuva Rajput Sabha gathering, Ch

Mannohan Singh, while terming this demand for holiday as quite genuine, said that the holiday would be just a tribute to the last Dogra ruler who transformed the whole scenario by bringing revolutionary reforms in the erstwhile J&K during his tenure. He said that the declaration of a public holiday on the birthday of Maharaja Hari Singh is directly linked to the senti-

ments of the people of Jammu and Kashmir especially the Dogras. He said that Maharaja Hari Singh as a ruler of Jammu and Kashmir did not belong to any particular community but was the leader of masses.

Among those who accompanied the AIJMS President include Brig Pawan Sauntra--Vice President AIJMS J&K UT, CA Sunil Choudhary, District President Jammu Urban; Kamal Randhawa, General Secretary; S Baljeet singh Senior Vice President District Jammu, Vijay Choudhary Vice President, Rakesh Choudhary, Parveen Choudhary youth leader, Gurmeet Singh Bajwa, Sunil Choudhary, Subash Randhawa, Romesh Randhawa, Ch Surjeet Singh.

JMC launches special sanitation drive in all wards

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In addition to continuous efforts to ensure sanitation in Jammu City, Jammu Municipal Corporation under the direction of Municipal Commissioner organised a special sanitation drive for all the 75 wards of JMC.

In this context, special sanitation drive was started from Panjirthi Chowk Ward no. 1 in the presence of Deputy Mayor - Adv. Purnima Sharma & JC (H&S) Kulbhushan Khajuria.

The areas selected to start with this special sanitation drive included Panjirthi Chowk, Mubarakh Mandi Chowk, Jhullaka Mohalla, Jain bazaar and Mastgarh. Team of sanitation & transport from JMC put their best efforts for sanitation by way of deployment of Men & Machinery. Sanitation Staff including SKCs. All put their best efforts to clean & clear dirt, garbage, bushes, blockages etc.

This special drive too aimed for awareness among the citizens/gener-

al public as well. "Our city can be a smart city only when we are smart citizens".

This should be the deed for all of us and we should keep this in our memories, and hence keep our homes & surroundings clean.

Others who were present in this special sanitation drive includes Chairman (H&S) - Raj Kumar, Ward Corporator, Ward No. 2 Jagdish Sharma, Heath Officer JMC, CTO Zone - 1, MVO, sanitation staff, IEC Team and officials from UEED.

BJP to celebrate PM Modi's birthday as Sewa Pakhwara from Sept 17: Kavinder



Former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta speaking during a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta stated that party will celebrate Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday on September 17 for a period of 16 days as Seva Pakhwara in J&K.

He was addressing a meeting of BJP activists here at Party Office in Trikuta Nagar. Kavinder said that the Seva Pakhwara will commence on September 17 and will culminate on the day of Gandhi Jayanti on October 2, 2022. He asked the party workers to participate in the Seva Pakhwara activities with enthusiasm and zeal as such occasions are significant to reach out to people and tell them about the achievements of the Modi Government which has

steered the country to new heights of progress.

Kavinder said that the PM Modi has appealed to the party not to celebrate his birthday in a grandiose manner and keep it a low key affair but J&K BJP is celebrating this important occasion as Seva Pakhwara by doing its bit towards public welfare through organizing social service events like blood donation camps, etc. He said that Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya's birthday will also be celebrated during the Seva Pakhwara as his call on principle of 'Antyodaya', which means the rise of the last person has been adopted by the BJP-led Centre.

Kavinder said that Upadhyay has batted for providing benefits to the last man standing in the

queue claiming this to be real economic growth.

Kavinder has therefore asked all the party workers and leaders to celebrate PM Modi's birthday as Seva Pakhwara. He said that all BJP workers in districts will organise unity in diversity festivals and send a message of Ek Bharat, Shresth Bharat among masses.

"As part of Seva Pakhwara, BJP will also run a campaign for the promotion of COVID-19 booster doses. The tree plantation drive and several cleanliness campaigns will also be included in programmes organized for PM Modi's birthday celebrations", he said, adding that party activists should show exuberance in making this programme a great success.