Ladakh holds immense potential as global film destination: LG Kavinder

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Ladakh possesses immense potential to emerge as a premier film destination, thanks to its breathtaking landscapes and unmatched natural beauty, which offer filmmakers a perfect canvas for storytelling. Tapping into this opportunity can significantly boost Ladakh's tourism industry, attract global attention, and create sustainable economic avenues for the local population.

This was stated by the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, while interacting with members of the Film and Television Federation of Ladakh (FTFL) at the LG Secretariat.

The Lt Governor emphasised that films not only showcase a destination's culture, traditions, and scenic wonders but also build an emotional and aspirational connection with audiences worldwide. This, he said, directly translates into increased



Delegation from DIHAR led by Dr OP Chaurasia calling on Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta.

tourist footfall, job creation. and economic growth. He further highlighted that film productions in Ladakh would provide a platform for local artists, technicians, and cultural ambassadors, thereby nurturing homegrown talent and creating opportunities within the entertainment industry.

Recalling the impact of the iconic 2009 film 3 Idiots, which turned Pangong Lake into a global tourist hotspot, Kavinder

Gupta said, "Cinematic exposure can transform Ladakh's tourism sector and place it firmly on the international tourism and film-making map.

He added that the UT Administration is committed to extending all possible support to filmmakers and industry stakeholders, ensuring that Ladakh evolves into a vibrant hub for film tourism while preserving its ecological and cultural heritage.

Earlier, the members of

Governor and apprised him about the organisation, its ongoing projects and specialisation in the fields of organic farming, harnessing solar energy, along with animal and poultry.

Another delegation from Barsoo met the Lt Governor and apprised about the mobile connectivity issue, the need for macadamisation of roads and assistance for damage caused by recent heavy rainfall.

Similarly, Nominated Councillor from Raru, Zanskar, met the Lt Governor and requested compensation for damage caused by the recent flood.

A delegation comprising Junior Assistant aspirants from Kargil and members of All Ladakh Students Association Kashmir also met the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor, after giving a patient hearing to all the delegations, assured that the Administration would take every possible step to address the genuine concerns of stakeholders.



CGPWA distributes relief among flood victims



Association members distributing relief material among people.

Week-long CME for AYUSH faculty commences at IIIM

STATE TIMES NEWS

A weeklong Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme on "Modernaspects in the preparation validation Traditional Medicines", for Teachers, has commenced on Monday at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu which is sponsored by Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India.

A total of 30 participants across the country have registered for this programme. which aimed at to integrate the traditional medicines with the modern medicines besides fostering the academic collaboration, knowledge sharing among the medical and scientific fraternities

Dr. N. Zaheer Ahmed, Director General, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), Ministry of AYUSH, GoI was the Chief Guest and Dr.

Dr. N. Zaheer Ahmed, Director General, CCRUM and others inaugurating CME.

Subarna Roy, Director, ICMR-National Institute of Medicine (NITM), Belagavi. Karnataka was the Guest of Honour, during the inaugu-

Dr. Zaheer mentioned that CCRUM is engaged in multifaceted research in Unani medicine. He also focused on 5 mantras i.e. innovation, collaboration, integration, publication and commercialization for the validation of traditional medicines.

Dr. Subarna Roy urged

the participants to connect traditional medicines with modern medicines by identification of novel formulations for research. He also mentioned that solutions should be worked out for the challenges in traditional system of medicine for the global acceptance.

Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, CSIR-IIIM Director, emphasized the institute's ongoing commitment to advancing integrative medicine and fostering a collaborative ecosystem between science and clinical prac-

Further, Dr. Ahmed said, "CME Programme underscores the CSIR-IIIM vision to bridge the gap between India's rich traditional knowledge system and the modern scientific research" and added that India is bestowed with rich natural resources and by modernization of our traditional medicines will not only contribute to improve the healthcare system and but would enable to position the indigenously developed products into the

FTFL requested an audi-

torium to showcase their

works, the framing of the

UT Ladakh Film Policy at

the earliest, the establish-

ment of a Community Film

Centre, assistance for the

screening of documen-

taries/short films by local

filmmakers at national and

international film festivals,

Similarly, a delegation

from Defence Institute of

High-Altitude Research

(DIHAR) led by Dr OP

Chaurasia met the

global market.

Earlier, Dr. Vikash Babu, Scientist/ Principal Coordinator, CME, welcomed the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, other various dignitaries and participants for this event and also briefed about the programme.

Among others were also present Er. Abdul Rahim, Chief Scientist & Head, RMBD&IST, Dr. Asha Chaubey, Senior Principal Scientist Head, Fermentation Microbial Technology, Dr. Dhiraj Vvas. Senior Principal Scientist & Head Sciences Agrotechnology, Dr. Sumit Gandhi, Senior Principal Scientist Head, Infectious Diseases, Dr. Qazi,Senior Principal Scientist & Head, Natural Products and Medicinal Chemistry, Dr. Rajkishore Rai, Senior Scientist & Head, Quality Management

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, Jammu (CGPWA) in collaboration with the Jammu District Administration organised a Relief Camp for flood victims at Prem Nagar, Jammu this evening.

The President of the CGPWA, Kuldeep Khoda, former DGP & CVC, Additional Dy Commissioner, Jammu Ansuya Jamwal and members of the association distributed the items of immediate needs of Prem Nagar locality where the recent floods have played

Most of the families have lost everything in the floods and were in dire need of items of daily use. Nearly one hundred flood affected families were provided relief.

The items arranged both by the CGPWA and District Administration included utensils, cooker, a pair of blankets, mattresses, bed sheets, pillows, and phenyl

The members of the CGPWA have raised fund for providing relief in the shape of daily items of use as identified by the administration.

Speaking on the occasion. Khoda expressed his sympathy for the huge loss of their households in the unprecedented torrential rains and floods in Tawi river and said that while administration is doing its best to provide relief but the quantum of destruction to the people is a huge challenge which administration cannot meet alone.

The civil society too has come to the aid of the flood victims to meet the deficiencies, wherever occurred. It is with this intention, the pensioners have also decided to contribute to provide some solace for these families. There are sentiments of the civil society behind this gesture to convey that in this hour of their distress, they are not alone.

He appreciated the role of

Administration in organising such relief camps at different areas to minimize affected people's pain.

Ansuya Jamwal apprised the flood victims of the efforts of the Dy Commissioner Jammu, and the administration in reaching out to them in the different parts of the district, many times with the help of civil society to lessen their agony.

She thanked the central Govt Pensioners for their thoughtful gesture in standing by their brethren in this hour of their distress caused by the natural calamity.

Among those who were present and helped in distribution of these items of relief included General Secretary, CGPWA, K B Jandial, Treasurer O P Sharma, former IGP, Ashok Gupta, former Executive Director NTPC, Vinod Padha, K L Sharma, former Dir GSI, M L Kachroo and Dy Director Field Publicity and General Secretary J&K Volleyball Association V K Magotra.

DC directs measures to ease traffic in city with focus on Kunjwani, Satwari, Narwal-Kunjwani stretches



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu has directed stakeholder agencies to ensure smooth vehicular movement and public safety amid the ongoing Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway works at the Kunjwani, Satwari and Narwal-Kunjwani stretches. The directions were issued to officers from NHAI and other concerned authorities by the DC during an inspection of the area. He inspected several points of the project from Qasim Nagar and Narwal up to Satwari. The Deputy Commissioner assured the public that the measures decided today will be implemented within seven days and people can expect smoother and safer traffic flow. He was accompanied by SSP Joginder Singh; SSP Traffic Jammu Farooq Qaiser; ACR Dr Rajesh Kumar; SDM Jammu South Manu Hansa and Tehsildar Jammu South Arti Bhardwaj.

Disaster-hit pipelines re-aligned to restore Jammu's water lifeline **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The catastrophic floods, attributed to the severest rainfall sed by Jammu in nearly a century, caused unprecedented damage to the water supply infrastructure. The flood level in river Tawi reached 34 feet, surpassing even the disastrous level of 33 feet recorded in 2014. The Tawi Water Treatment Plant was badly affected, while massive landslides on the road from Panjtirthi to Sidhra Bridge extensively damaged more than 500 meters of the Sitlee-Lohar and Sitlee-Manda transmission pipelines, disrupting supplies to the Old City, Janipur, Rehari Colony, New Plot, Subhash Nagar, Sarwal, Chinore and Roop Nagar areas. A critical rising main (water pipeline) connecting five tubewells along the left bank of the River Tawi between Bikram Chowk Bridge to Gujjar Nagar Bridge, feeding Boria Water Filtration Plant was extensively damaged along with pump room, HT line, poles transformer and



panels. Large amounts of debris and silt also accumulated at the Boria Intake and Dhounthly Water

Treatment Plants The entire hilly terrain had slid into the road and beyond towards the Tawi river, leaving huge blocks of mulba. The 500 mm dia rising main was washed away along with heavy concrete blocks, while the 600 mm dia rising main also suffered major damage with portions hanging in the air. The 500 mm dia

Sitlee-Lohar rising main was washed away at RD 1350 (around 30 metres). Once the approach road was cleared, men and machinery were deputed immediately. As restoration along the existing alignment was not feasible, both rising mains were re-aligned along the road using 600 mm dia MS casing pipes available with the depart-

Considering the fact that the entire supply of the Jammu City is Jal Shakti Department promptly intervened to restore water producdeploying its technical staff across the province.

The Department meticulously assessed damage at Sitlee, Lohar, Manda, Boria and Dhounthly and orchestrated arrangements for materials, tools, equipment, cranes, welding sets, generators and a trained workforce.

Despite adverse weather and continuous rainfall, rehabilitation began within 24 hours. Skilled labour mobilized by JMC from neighbouring states worked tirelessly in the sliding zones to re-lay the 600 mm and 500 mm dia rising mains on the hilly terrain. Although these pipelines suffered extensive damage due to floods of 25thand 26thAugust, subsequently more damages were reported on 29th and 30th August due to heavy rains, yet round-the-clock efforts ensured that regular water supply through Sitlee, Lohar, and

dependent upon lift schemes, the Dhounthly was partially restored Parallelly, as power supply was

> restored 70% of the tub urban Jammu were operationalized within 48 hours and the remaining within 72 hours, ensuring nearly half of the city's potable water demand was met. As part of the emergency response, irrigation pumps from the Ravi Tawi system were promptly deployed to maintain raw water supply to the Boria Filtration Plant. In one week, from 30th August to 6th September, overall water supply improved from 39 MGD to 50 MGD, against a

It may be recalled that in February 2021, the management of urban water supply infrastructure was transferred to Jammu Municipal Corporation under the 74th Constitutional Amendment. while the Jal Shakti Department continued to provide technical expertise through its manpower on deputation.

pre-disruption level of 62 MGD.

CS calls for greater focus on quality, capacity building and timely credit flow

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo on Monday chaired the Apex Level Committee meeting of Mission YUVA in Jammu, during which the progress of the mission was comprehensively reviewed and key directions were issued to further accelerate its implementation across the Union Territory.

The meeting besides Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan was attended by Principal Secretary, Finance, Santosh D. Vaidya; Vice-Chancellors of Universities; Commissioner Secretary, of H&UDD; Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce; Commissioner Secretary, RDD: Cooperatives: Secretary, Director, IIM Deputy Jammu; Commissioners; Director, Colleges; CEO, CiTAG; representatives from J&K Bank, NABARD, IIT Jammu;

Reviewing the mission's performance, the Chief Secretary underscored the importance of targeting specific poten-

and other concerned officers.



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing a meeting at Srinagar on Monday.

tial groups such as college students, Self Help Group members (especially Lakhpati Didis), Vishwakarma-sponsored artisans, and existing nanoenterprises for their upgradation.

He directed departments to ensure that Detailed Project Reports (DPRs)

are meticulously prepared to minimize the risk of business failure and stressed the need for continuous capacity building of applicants. He also emphasized hiring skilled manpower for the Project Management Unit (PMU) to ensure professional execution of the mission.

Calling upon banks to clear existing pendencies at the earliest, he urged them to play a proactive role in assisting applicants in DPR preparation, noting that the quality of DPRs is pivotal in translating ideas into sustainable enterprises.

He further asked financial institutions and departments to fast-track sanctioning and disbursement of loans so that eligible youth do not face delays in setting up their ventures.

Expressing satisfaction over the progress achieved so far, the Chief Secretary directed all stakeholders to work in synergy to scale up the mission's outreach and impact.

Principal Secretary, Finance, Santosh D. Vaidya, in his remarks, underlined that the programme's success hinges on three pillars including that of skilling of youth, financial support through banks, and strong market linkages. He stressed leveraging existing institutional mechanisms to ensure the goals remain practical and achiev-

Director, IIM Jammu, highlighted the need for a year-long activity calendar for capacity building of stakeholders, with timely listing of training topics and resource persons from reputed institutions.

Presenting the progress report, Secretary, Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, informed that Mission YUVA has so far received 42,334 applications including 36,951 for nano enterprises, 1,557 for new MSMEs, and 210 from existing

MSMEs. He further added that the mission has also recorded 90,611 registrations on the YUVA portal, of which 20,304 applications have been verified by Single Business Development Units (SBDUs) and 15,438 approved by Implementation District Level Committees (DLICs).

At the banking level, 15,771 applications involving projects worth Rs 1,071.43 Cr have been submitted. Of these, 4,190 applications have been sanctioned and 2,087 projects disbursed, reflecting strong momentum in vouth-led entrepreneurship.

The average project cost, supported under the scheme, was said to stand at Rs 6.3 lakh, with banks sanctioning projects worth Rs 264.47 Cr, disbursing Rs 133.46 Cr, and subsidies worth

Rs 23.18 Cr claimed so far. Director, Employment, Shahzad Alam, further highlighted the strong digital engagement of the mission, with the YUVA mobile app crossing 50,000 downloads and the portal recording over 9 lakh visitors, positioning it as one of the most transparent and accessible platforms for youth empowerment

Later, the Chief Secretary reviewed the live YUVA Dashboard, assessing district-wise performance on applications, credit flow, DPR generation, and youth skilling activities across blocks and municipal areas. He also reviewed the status of DLIC clearances, pendencies at banks, and the impact of Udyam Jagriti sessions being conducted across J&K.