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Jammu, Srinagar to have IT Towers worth Rs 50 cr each

expected to significantly increase Jammu and Kashmir appeal to top national investors in the field of Information Technology and enabled services", said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor set deadlines of 15 months and 17 months for completion of the IT Towers at Jammu and Srinagar, respectively, against the time period of 24 months which was earlier set for completion of the projects.

Detailed presentations were given on establishment of IT Towers in J&K, proposed sites and future plans thereof.

It was informed that the proposed amenities in IT Towers, Jammu and Srinagar include Raw Incubation space; Raw Office space; Plug and Play; Data room; Conference hall; Finishing school; Work-station; Cafeteria;



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha during MoU signing ceremony for setting up of LT Towers in Jammu on Monday.

Gymnasium/yoga room; Electrical room; HVAC, BMS, CCTV, Fire-fighting; Parking, STP, Sub-station; Landscaping & Horticulture.

Baseer Ahmad Khan, Advisor to the Lt Governor; BVR Subrahmanyam, Chief Secretary; Nitishwar Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Lt Governor; Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Commissioner/Secretary, Industries and Commerce

Department; PK Gupta, CMD NBCC; Ankita Kar, JK IT Infrastructure Development Company; MK Chawla, CGM NBCC and Anoo Malhotra, Director, Industries & Commerce, Jammu were present on the occasion.

IT Dept quizzes Robert Vadra

He was questioned for about eight hours and his statement was recorded as part of the proceedings related to the Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, they said.

Sources added that the questioning was linked to the purchase of some land parcels by a firm linked to Vadra in Rajasthan's border town of Bikaner in which another central probe agency, the Enforcement Directorate, had filed a money laundering case in 2015.

The ED has questioned Vadra in this case in the past and had attached assets worth Rs 4.62 crore of his firm Ms Sky Light Hospitality (P) Ltd (now LLP) in 2019.

Sources said the ED shared case documents of this probe along with that of possession of some alleged undisclosed assets abroad with the tax department for action under the anti-benami law that is enforced in the country by the latter.

"Everyone knows it is (political vendetta). Whenever Priyanka (his wife Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra) moves out for helping farmers...And other issues then whom will they (probe agencies) come to?" Vadra said to reporters after the tax department team left.

"They will come to Robert Vadra. I don't want to go into political issues but they

(Government) are digressing from real issues...Like the farmers issue," he said.

Vadra said he had "nothing to hide and worry about" and that the truth will prevail.

"Whatever questions or notices they have sent, we have answered those. They (probe agencies) are most welcome and I am ready to answer," he said.

When reporters asked him if the latest questioning pertains to proceedings under the anti-benami law, he said "it was general and nothing related to that (benami)."

Vadra also told reporters that the latest queries of tax officials revolved around his activities over the last 5-7 years.

The I-T department has also been probing Vadra on charges of alleged possession of some undisclosed assets in the UK.

The ED too is investigating these charges, under the anti-money laundering law, against the businessman.

The ED has accused Vadra of money laundering in the purchase of a London-based property at 12, Bryanston Square worth 1.9 million GBP (British pounds), which is allegedly owned by him and this transaction involves the role of absconding defence consultant Sanjay Bhandari.

Bhandari has never joined the I-T or ED probe in this case and is stated to be based abroad. (PTI)

4 Al Badr militants, one Pak army man killed

with large quantity of arms, ammunition and explosives.

This was after a long time that the militants tried to infiltrate from Tarkundi area of Manjakote sector in Rajouri district, sources said pointing out that exchange of shelling and firing between India and Pakistani troops in this sector are also very less in Manjakote.

Tarkundi in Manjakote sector was picked up for infiltration by the militants with the support of Pakistan army anticipating that alertness of the Indian troops might be less as compared to other sectors as no ceasefire violations were taking place there. However, the high alert troops successfully thwarted the intrusion bid," sources said.

The militants were trying to infiltrate into Rajouri to take Pir Panjal mountains and reach South Kashmir, they added.

However, Pakistan army and the militants have also been making attempts to revive militancy in the Jammu region including twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri. In the

past few days, three militants have been arrested in Mendhar tehsil of Poonch district, who were directly in touch with their Pakistani handler, and large quantity of arms, ammunition and explosive devices were recovered from their possession.

The militant modules have also been busted in Jammu and Reasi districts where also police have recovered arms and explosives devices. Besides, there has also been a militancy related incident in border area of Hiranagar in Kathua district where a militant had lobbed grenade targeting a temple in Jandi area but missed the target.

Ceasefire violations have also been on the increase on the LoC in Rajouri and Poonch districts where the Pakistan army has been targeting forward areas and civilian locations.

There were reports that Pakistan army was trying to push trained militants into the Indian territory under the cover of ceasefire violations.

A number of Pakistan army personnel have been killed or injured in retaliatory firing by the Indian troops on the LoC. Besides, there has also been heavy infrastructural damages of Pakistan army.

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WEATHER
JAMMU :
Possibility of light rain/thundershowers
TEMPERATURE
Max: 17.7 Degree C
Min: 12.2 Degree C
RELATIVE HUMIDITY
RH-I (Morning): 72.0 per cent
RH-II (Evening): 54.0 per cent
Sunset on Tuesday: 05.40 p.m.
Sunrise on Wednesday: 07.34 a.m.
SRINAGAR:
Possibility of rain/snow
TEMPERATURE
Max: 3.0 Degree C
Min: -0.9 Degree C
RELATIVE HUMIDITY
RH-I (Morning): 96.0 per cent
RH-II (Evening): 35.0 per cent
LEH:
TEMPERATURE
Max: 2.0 Degree C
Min: -14.0 Degree C

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NH closed on Day 2, avalanche warning issued; air traffic badly affected

Ramban, Chenani, Nashri-Chanderkote, Kud, Udhampur Bypass, Nagrota Bypass near Jammu and Dhar Road in Jammu region. As the weather improved around 2.30 pm some stranded vehicles were cleared for Kashmir but again hardly after two hours, the road was closed due to bad weather slippery road condition in Jawahar Tunnel axis.

IG Traffic, J&K, T Namgyal told the 'Excelsior' that during afternoon, the weather improved and single passage was created in Jawahar Tunnel area of Pir Panchal. About 900 vehicles were cleared for Kashmir including most of them carrying essential commodities. Some LMVs for Jammu side were also cleared but again the road turned slippery and rain started. The highway was again closed at around 5 pm.

Namgyal further said that only stranded vehicles in Binhal and Ramban areas were cleared and no movement of vehicles from Jammu, Udhampur or Kashmir side was allowed. Since the MeT office has predicted rain and snowfall tonight and tomorrow, the highway is unlikely to be opened tomorrow. He has advised road users to start journey from Kashmir and Jammu side only after seeking clearance from respective Traffic Control Rooms.

The J&K Disaster Management Authority today issued medium and low levels avalanche warning for upper reaches of avalanche prone areas of Jammu and Kashmir.

Medium level avalanche warning has been issued for upper reaches of Poonch, Rajouri, Ramban, Jawahar Tunnel, Doda, Kishtwar, Anantnag, Kulgam, Kupwara and Tangdhar.

Similarly, low level avalanche warning has been issued for upper reaches of Gulmarg, Gurez, Kanzalwan, and Sonamarg. The people living in these avalanche prone areas are advised not to venture out to avoid loss of lives.

Intermittent snowfall continued in Kashmir for the second day today throwing life out of gear by disrupting surface and air traffic, snapping electric supply with Weatherman forecasting heavy snowfall at scattered places across the Valley till Wednesday.

Srinagar, Gulmarg, and other tourist destinations experienced fresh snowfall today, bringing the temperature further down.

Director Meteorological department (MeT), Sonum Lotus said that the prevailing weather conditions would continue till January 6 across J&K and Ladakh. He added that as predicted, most parts of the Valley received moderate snowfall since this morning.

He said that there is a forecast of heavy to very heavy snowfall at scattered places till Wednesday, adding that the weather conditions would start improving on Wednesday afternoon.

Govt-farmers' talks inconclusive

Government said it needs to consult internally and thereafter it would come back to the unions.

The union leaders will also have their own meeting on Tuesday to decide their next

Uncertainty looms large over execution of 7500 MW solar power projects in Ladakh

moil over policy matters saw the tender extended multiple times over 2018 and then into 2019", sources said.

The tender was brought back into focus in August 2020 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterated the Centre's aim to establish a 7.5 Giga Watt solar power park in Ladakh to set the Union Territory on course to becoming carbon neutral, they further said.

The Prime Minister had said: "Ladakh has several specialities. Not only do we have to preserve them, we have to nurture them as well. As Sikkim has made it mark as an organic state in the North-East, Ladakh can also create own niche as a carbon-neutral Union Territory".

Thereafter, the Solar Energy Corporation of India extended bid submission deadline for Request for Selection for setting up of 7500 MW grid-connected solar power projects in Leh and Kargil till January 31, 2021.

"Prospective bidders are requested to remain updated for any notices/ amendments/ clarifications etc to the Request for Selection documents through the websites as no separate notification will be issued", the Solar Energy Corporation of India had mentioned in the bid extension notice.

However, few days back the Corporation issued notice regarding termination of Request for Selection for 7500 MW solar PV projects in Leh and Kargil. "The Request for Selection issued for selection of solar power developers for setting up of 7500 MW grid-connected solar PV projects in Leh and Kargil on 31.12.2018 hereby stands terminated", read the notice, the copy of which is



People protest against PDD at Arnas in Reasi district on Monday.

Srinagar recorded 13.4 cm snowfall till 08:00AM in the morning while Qazigund received snowfall of 51.7cms, adding that Pahalagam, Kupwara, Kokernag and Gulmarg received 21.0 cm, 3.5 cm, 32 cm and 3.8 cm snowfall respectively till 8 AM today. He said from 8:00AM till 5:00 PM, Qazigund and Gulmarg received 0.8 cm and 1.5cm snowfall, respectively.

The officials said South Kashmir's Kulgam district received highest snowfall with two to three feet of snow accumulated at some places. Anantnag district has also received heavy snowfall between one foot and two feet.

The flight operations to and from Srinagar remained suspended for second consecutive day due to poor visibility and freak weather.

At Jammu airport six flights, including two Air India and two SpiceJet were cancelled due to bad weather and poor visibility. The chopper service to Mata Vaishnodevi shrine from base camp Katra also remained suspended for most of the day, due to bad weather.

The minimum temperature in Valley though improved in most places due to snowfall, but still stayed below the freezing point.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.9 degrees Celsius - up from the previous night's minus 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The minimum temperature in Gulmarg tourist resort remained unchanged at minus 5 degrees Celsius on Sunday night compared to a night earlier.

Pahalagam recorded a low of minus 6.7 degrees Celsius - plunging from minus 1.45 degrees Celsius on the previous night.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of minus 0.3 degrees Celsius, Kupwara, in the north, minus 0.3 degrees Celsius and Kokernag, minus 1.4 degrees Celsius.

Drass was coldest place in the region where temperature settled at minus 15.0 degree Celsius.

Meanwhile, the melting of snow inundated the roads, lanes and bylanes across Srinagar and other areas of the Valley, thus leaving the commuters as well as pedestrians to suffer at large. The slippery conditions of the roads triggered by the fresh snowfall added to the miseries commuters today.

People especially in Old City areas had to face hardships today

as the melting of snow inundated almost all lanes and bylanes in the residential areas.

Mayor Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Junaid Mattu held a meeting to take stock of the post snowfall work mechanism from various line departments to assess the situation in the Srinagar city on various fronts.

He said that at least 3000 sanitation workers are on job since yesterday early morning to clear up the snow from lanes and bylanes in the city, besides snow clearance drive is being taken up in hospitals, religious places, ration depots, vital roads, major markets, city centre and other important stretches.

He said that all the 85 permanent dewatering stations were fully functional and 32 mobile pumps were deputed in low lying and vulnerable spots in Srinagar City.

The fresh snowfall also affected the electricity in many areas across Kashmir, thus forcing the people to face hardships.

Majority of the areas are still under darkness in Central and South Kashmir despite restoration of maximum electricity feeders. People in majority areas mostly rural areas of the South Kashmir and Central Kashmir said that they are without electricity. In some places, people said that electricity is playing hide and seek.

Chief Engineer, Power Development Department (PDD), Aijaz Ahmad Dar said that 80 transformers got damaged due to the snowfall while many among them have been lifted from the spot. "We have adequate stock available and the damaged transformers will be replaced soon," he said.

He also said since this morning

5 die of COVID in J&K; 133 test +ve, 419 recover

fatality count has reached 1191 in the Valley.

Srinagar district with 450 deaths topped the list followed by Baramulla 172, Budgam 110, Kupwara 91, Pulwama 88, Anantnag 83, Bandipora 60, Kulgam 53, Ganderbal 44 and Shopian 39.

Those who tested positive today include 29 from Srinagar, Baramulla 7, Budgam 7, Kupwara 21, Pulwama 1, Anantnag 2, Bandipora 4, Ganderbal 2 and Shopian 2.

As per officials figures, 25,482 positive cases including 450 deaths and 24,495 recoveries are from Srinagar, 8,004 including 172 deaths and 7,712 recoveries are from Baramulla, 7,644 including 7,426 recoveries and 110 deaths are from Budgam, 5,571 including 5,357 recoveries and 91 deaths are from Kupwara, 5,600 including 88 deaths and 5,361 recoveries are from Pulwama, 4,823 including 4,632 recoveries and 83 deaths are from Anantnag, 4,660 cases including 4,542 and 60 deaths are from

a total of 427 feeders remain affected due to snowfall while the men and machinery already pressed managed to repair 382 feeders, adding that 20-25 feeders will be restored till late evening. "In case the snowfall stops, all the remaining feeders will be repaired till tomorrow," he said, adding that the electricity across the Valley will be restored by tomorrow.

Reports from Reasi said that one week since heavy snowfall threw life out of gear in the higher reaches of Reasi, electricity supply in various areas of Reasi district continues to be affected including Mahore, Chassana, Gulabgarh and Arnas besides Reasi town.

It is for the third straight day that around dozen adjoining villages in Mahore, Dharmari Sub Division in Reasi district have gone without electricity amid the ongoing cold wave. Whereas, in several villages of Chassana tehsil, the situation is worst. Locals said, it is for the straight seven days that the electricity comes for 10 minutes but remained out of supply for several hours. Tractors and private vehicles are new charging points for mobile phones and chargeable lights. Patients, businessmen and students are the most sufferers.

In Mahore town, there is no electricity for the last three days. Various villages including Hammosan, Sherghari, Mamankote, Chandlykote, Sarsote, Dandkote, Sanglikote, Bagankote and others are facing power crisis.

A strong protest was also held today at Arnas where there is also no electricity for the last two days. The locals blocked the main road and after the assurance from Tehsildar, they dispersed peacefully. Xen PDD Reasi, Satpal Bhagat when contacted said that due to snowfall and heavy rainfall in the area, there was fault in the power lines and PDD staff was on the job to restore supply.

The power supply to many snow bound areas of Baderwah, Gandoh, Paddar, Chhatro, Dessa, Gool Gulabgarh, Mahu Mangat, Chhatro, Dudu-Basantgarh, Khawas-Budhal, Loran, Balakote and Bafiaz areas of Jammu region continued to be snapped for the last several days.

Bandipora, 4,500 including 4,375 recoveries and 44 deaths are from Ganderbal, 2,666 including 2,556 recoveries and 53 deaths are from Kulgam and 2,524 including 2,378 recoveries and 39 deaths are from Shopian.

With fresh cases, the number of cases in Kashmir division has reached 71,474 including 68,834 recoveries and 1,190 deaths.

The active cases in Jammu and Kashmir are 2,684 including 1,450 from Kashmir division.

With 419 more recoveries, the tally of total recoveries in Jammu and Kashmir has reached 117,211 which is 96.24 percent of the total cases. Those discharged from various hospitals include 141 from Kashmir Division.

Meanwhile, five more COVID cases were today reported in the Union Territory of Ladakh, all in Leh district, which have taken the UT's Corona count to 9561 including 241 active and 9193 recoveries.

There were 127 Corona casualties in Ladakh-84 in Leh and 43 in Kargil.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
DIRECTORATE OF SOCIAL WELFARE JAMMU
HAJJ HOUSE, BLOCK-A, 2nd FLOOR, RAIL HEAD, JAMMU-180012.

NOTICE
Subject:-Date Extension under Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Means Scholarship Schemes under Minority Communities for the year 2020-21.

In reference to the Ministry of Minority Affairs, GOI communication received via e-mail on Dated:-30/12/2020, it is for the information of the students of Minority Communities that the DBT Mission has extended the timelines of filling up of forms for fresh and renewal applications for **Post-Matric Scholarship schemes and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme** on NSP up to **20th January, 2021** and also extension of last date for first level of verification up to **5th February, 2021** and second level of verification up to **20th February, 2021**.

For Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, the date extension is under consideration.

(R.S. Jamwal) KAS
State Nodal Officer,
Post Matric Scholarship for Minorities J&K

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL KATHUA
SHORT TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Municipal Council Kathua 05 Nos shops out of 11 nos shops located at W.No.13 New Bus stand Kathua already got published in Early Time Dtd:- 15-10-2020, Dainik Jagran Dated 01-11-2020 & auction Notice No:- MC/K/2020/4408, Dated:- 02/12/2020, through sealed bid auction are again invited for auction on prescribed application form, which can be obtained from the Office of the Municipal Council Kathua on or before 09/01/2021 upto 1.00PM on any working day against the payment of Rs.1000/- each form as detailed below:-

S. no	Location of shops	Shop size	Min. Reserve price (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs).	Rent per month (in rs)	Sale of tender forms	Receiving of tender forms	Opening of tender forms
1	W.no.13 New bus stand Kathua	11.4 X 17.3	5.00 Lakh	2.00 Lakh	800/-	01/01/2021 to 09/01/2021	11/01/2021	12/01/2021

Other terms & conditions can be seen in the office of the Municipal Council Kathua on any working day. However, the date of opening of tenders forms can be extended if found necessary.

DIP/J-3481-P
Dt: 4-1-2021

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer,
Municipal Council, Kathua.