

DISHA meeting

Agri StartUps, Lavender entrepreneurship to be extended to Ramban: Dr Jitendra

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMBAN, Nov 13: Soon, district Ramban will also initiate Agri StartUps and Lavender entrepreneurship under Aroma Mission which has been successfully experimented in the adjacent district of Doda.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes was made, giving an overview of various major projects being executed by different departments and agencies in the district. Senior officials of the District gave the status of scheme-wise physical and financial progress of projects being executed under various CSSs.

In the district wherein he enquired about the status of each scheme. On the occasion, public representatives flagged various issues before the minister who issued on spot directions to the concerned for early redressal.

Dr Jitendra Singh also directed the concerned departments to work with renewed zeal and dedication for effective implementation of all schemes and coverage of 100 percent eligible beneficiaries under all schemes.

He said that it is the endeavour of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to trickle down the benefits of all the centrally sponsored schemes to the deserved lot and to the last person in the queue while urging all the concerned to work in close coordination for better results at the grass root level.

He also directed the concerned officers to remain in touch with the public representatives whenever they visit their area and make people aware about the benefits of these schemes.

On the occasion, Dr Singh also complimented the District Administration for implementing various CSSs successfully in the district.

DDC Chairperson Dr Samsahad, DC Ramban Mussarat Islam and DDC members gave their views.



Dignitaries posing for a group photograph during session on implementation of POCSO Act.

Two days Consultation on POCSO Act concludes

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 13: Two days consultation on implementation of POCSO Act, 2012 organized by Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare UTs of J&K and Ladakh and supported by UNICEF India concluded today at Police Auditorium here.

The brain storming deliberations of day one had already set the tone and tenor of the second day consultations. Today, fifth session of the conference, on a very important topic relating to mental health and psycho-social support to the survivors and their families was chaired by Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, J&K Judicial Academy in which Saurabh Sashi Ashok, NIMHANS Bangalore was the resource person.

While addressing the participants through virtual mode from Bangalore he shared his experiences with the child victims of intellectual disability. Justice Sindhu Sharma, in her deliberations emphasised on providing psycho-social support not only to the victims but also to their families particularly parents.

In the last technical session the topic for discussion was the "Role of the Police in the investigation of POCSO cases and inter-section of POCSO and Juvenile Justice Act". This session was presided over by Justice Rajesh Oswal, Member, Juvenile Justice Committee. Anant Kumar Asthana, a prominent Child Rights Lawyer from New Delhi was the resource person.

While speaking on the occasion, the resource person informed the delegates that recently the POCSO Act of India has been rated as one of the best legislations in comparison to similar legislations enacted by some developed countries like U.K and Sweden. He also stressed upon the grant of compensation to the child victims

under the POCSO Act, which is the sole discretion of the Judge dealing with the POCSO cases. Justice Rajesh Oswal, highlighted the grey areas in the legislation and stressed upon the need for having separate agency and institution to deal with the POCSO related crimes. The queries raised by the delegates were responded satisfactorily by the resource persons as well as the Chairpersons.

The closing session was also attended by Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chairperson, Juvenile Justice Committee, who impressed upon the participating delegates to make best use of the techniques gained during the conference in their day to day working vis-a-vis the cases relating to POCSO Act. Justice Rajesh Oswal, Justice Rahul Bharti and Justice Rajesh Sekhri also remained present during the course of deliberations of the day.

The programme concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, Juvenile Justice Committee. The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Swati Gupta, Senior Civil Judge.

AJKTWA discusses demands with Transport Secy

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 13: The demands of the transporters were discussed threadbare with Commissioner Secretary Transport Department by All J&K Transport Welfare Association (AJKTWA) in a meeting held here today.

The meeting was organized by Association chairman Ajit Singh and attended by all the presidents, representatives and other members of the commercial transport association including Vijay Singh Chib, Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Sanjeev Choudhary, Kuldip Singh, Labh Singh Chib, KD Singh, Sher Singh, Daviender Choudhary, Parmajeet Singh, Shanti Saroop Gupta, Gurdeep Singh, Inderjeet Sharma and Mangat Ram.

MoS Cooperation, DoNER concludes two day visit to Anantnag

Excelsior Correspondent

ANANTNAG, Nov 13: Union Minister of State for Cooperation and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), B L Verma, today concluded his two day tour of Anantnag.

The visit was part of Centre Government's ambitious public outreach program which is aimed at to assess the ground situation and take the feedback from the public and PRIs so that corrective measures are taken remove development deficit.

The Minister chaired an officers' meeting to review the development scenario and implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and other programmes in the district.

Verma enquired about the implementation of 'Har Ghar Nal Se Jal' scheme and was informed that the schemes for the same are being implemented under JJM and are under execution. The MoS said that the schemes related to this initiative must be completed within the stipulated timeline to ensure portable drinking water reaches each household in the district.

The Minister also reviewed sector wise physical and financial progress on R&B, Education, Health, KPDC, Jal Shakti, RDD, DIC, Sports Council, Handicrafts and Handlooms, Agriculture,

Horticulture and other departments. He emphasized timely completion of works taken up under all vital sectors.

He took stock of implementation of PMAY(G), PMAY (U), CRF, languishing, geography, healthcare facilities, key infrastructure projects and district development plan.

Union Minister e-inaugurated ANM School at Kokernag completed at a cost of Rs 2.68 crore besides laying e- founda-



Union MoS DoNER BL Verma handing over a certificate to a beneficiary at Anantnag.

PMGSY, PMDP, PM SEHAT, OoSC, PM POSHAN, SAMAGRA Shiksha, NSAP, ISSS, Scholarships, PMEGP, MUMKIN, TEJASWINI, PM KISAN and PMMSY in the district.

Regarding wool production, it was appraised that unprocessed wool is being exported outside the UT due to unavailability of wool processing industry in J&K and the breeders fetch poor prices for their unprocessed produce.

MoS directed the concerned officer to prepare and submit a proposal regarding setting up of a wool processing unit in the UT so that value addition can be accrued to the producers which will incentivize more people to take up sheep rearing. He said that suitable interventions and market linkages in sectors where there is excess demand are critical for creating sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Several issues including construction of new DC office complex, new building for Maternity and Child Care Hospital, widening of Janglat Mandi Khanabal road, Mini Secretariat at Kokernag, Administrative Complex at Dooru among others were put before the Union Minister who assured that assistance will be provided to projects of public importance.

Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, gave a brief overview of the demography,

tion of BDO Office Larnoo to be constructed with a cost of Rs 50 lakh, 3 projects in education sector including 9 room double storey building at HSS Seer, 6 room additional accommodation at HSS Devalgam and 6 room additional accommodation at HSS Salia worth Rs 4.25 crore.

To promote innovation and entrepreneurship, the Union Minister distributed appreciation letters and cash rewards among three students and their mentors from Anantnag who had recently innovated an egg incubator. He also gave an appreciation letter as well as cash reward to Tufail Yaqoob, a student from Anantnag who qualified the prestigious JEE Advanced.

Union MoS, later, interacted with members of various cooperative societies as well as employees of Cooperative Department Anantnag.

Union MoS said that the Ministry of Cooperation aims to increase the Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies from 63000 to 3 lakh. He said that special focus is on agriculture, horticulture, dairy and fisheries sector. He said that these societies increase the leverage as compared to individual sellers and help in fetching favourable prices for the members. He said that societies will be instrumental for more equitable distribution of benefits among the genuine beneficiaries.

cial progress of projects being executed under various CSSs.

While stressing for the synergy between public representatives and the administration

*** Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com**

while taking up the projects for execution, Dr Jitendra Singh said better coordination between these representatives and the district administration is key to schemes being implemented on ground.

The Minister took detailed review of all the schemes undertaken by different departments

Cong delegates' convention in Kokernag

Remote control policies of Centre won't last long: Mir

Excelsior Correspondent

ANANTNAG, Nov 13: Former JKPC president Ghulam Ahmed Mir today said that remote control policies of BJP led Central Government in Jammu and Kashmir would not last long.

Addressing booth level delegates' convention in Sagam Block of Kokernag in Anantnag district today, Mir said that people of Jammu and Kashmir are dead against the remote control policies of the Central Government. BJP is indirectly controlling the affairs in the Jammu and Kashmir through Lt Governor's Administration and such policies will not last long.

He said only Congress Party is capable enough to defeat divisive and anti-people policies of the BJP, it will remain committed to the cause of working and strengthening people of all shades living in the country. BJP Govt at Centre is out to destroy the very foundation of the democracy in the country as it has done in Jammu- Kashmir aiming to rule it through remote control.

Mir laid emphasis on strengthening the Congress Party at booth level as it is the Congress alone which is fully capable to fight against the divisive and wrong policies of the BJP Government towards people.

Referring to the challenges, Mir said though there has been a little damage to the Congress Party due to the defections by some leaders, but the Party would stand against the challenges, besides the anti-Congress policies adopted by the BJP Govt. It would not weaken our resolve to fight for the people's rights and safeguarding their interests, Mir added.

He said J&K was the vic-

Strawberry cultivation in J&K proving "Apple of Farmers' Eye"

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Nov 13: Strawberry cultivation is picking up in J&K thus yielding good fortunes and providing ample employment opportunities to youth.

Both Government of India and J&K Government are providing loans coupled with technical handholding to young farmers to attract them towards the farming business. The favourable climatic condition in the J&K has provided ample opportunities for the youth to take up strawberry farming as a business for better sustainability.

Farmers in Gassu Batpora village on the outskirts of Srinagar city are happy with the bumper crop of strawberries. Having the highest number of people growing strawberries, Gassu is famously known as the 'Strawberry Village' where farmers cultivate tonnes of exotic berries on hundreds of acres of land every year.

In recent years, strawberry has emerged as a cash crop in the valley with many vegetable farmers switching to strawberry cultivation. Besides strawberry, Kashmiri fruits like apple, cherry, grapes, apricot and plum are also very famous across the world for

their quality and rich taste and are bringing good returns to the Valley's farmers.

The Progressive farmer Dheeraj Kumar hailing from Hariapur Village of Border Sub Division Hiranagar has cultivated strawberries on a field measuring 22 Kanal. With the handholding of the Department, he has cultivated three different varieties viz. Camarosa, Winter Dawn & Nubila.

Regarding the support extended by the Department, an official said that out of the total investment of Rs 6 lakh by the farmer, the Department has provided subsidy to the tune of Rs 2.86 lakh which is nearly 50% of the total investment and it is expected to produce a yield of Rs. 15-20 Lakhs which is in line with the PM's vision of doubling the farmers' income.

In addition to this, the Department has also provided the subsidy to the farmer on purchase of power tillers and installation of the drip irrigation system. Dheeraj Kumar has engaged around 10 people for levelling, picking, packaging and transport purposes, which he termed as a gratifying experience as offering the avenues of employment to the locals has given him great happiness.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh convening district DISHA meeting at Ramban on Sunday.

This was disclosed here today by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, while chairing the DISHA meeting of district Ramban. He said, Ramban is a part of the erstwhile Doda district, which shares same geographical and topographical conditions and it should not be difficult to replicate Doda's lavender success story over here. This will provide an alternative and attractive option of livelihood for potential StartUps, he said.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation on the achievements and progress recorded under different

Teachers/Masters Association threatens stir if DPC is not conducted by Dec 1

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 13: Jammu Kashmir Teacher/Master Association (JKTMA) has threatened pen down strike if long pending DPC of Teachers to Masters is not conducted by 1st of December, 2022.

An ultimatum in this regard was issued during monthly meeting of the Association, held under State president Rakesh Singh.

While addressing the meeting, Rakesh Singh said that after 2014 no DPC of Teachers to Masters was conducted despite repeated assurances by the concerned authorities, which has created atmosphere of frustration among Teachers due to long gap of stagnation. He urged the teachers' community to be ready for pen down strike if same is not fulfilled before 1st of December 2022.

"If Govt. is serious to implement NEP 2020, then all the vacant posts of lecturers be filled on fast track basis by 100 percent DPC, on one time basis by excluding Distance degrees in Science stream, as due to shortage of Lecturers in far flung areas academic studies of students are adversely affected, which defeats the objective of NEP 2020," Singh said.

Singh urged Principal Secretary School Education to authorize the Chief Education Officers to conduct transfer of Teachers, Joint Director of Masters and DSEJ of Lecturers as this will streamline the Transfer process in well defined manner.

The Association also demanded change in school timings in winter schools of Jammu Division on analogy of Kashmir Division and reshuffling of MDM charge after every 3 years.

JKTJAC demands resolution of all issues, old pension for NPS employees

Excelsior Correspondent

RAMNAGAR, Nov 13: Jammu Kashmir Teachers' Joint Action Committee (JKTJAC) held a special meeting at Ramnagar in Udhampur district, under the leadership of Tehsil President Amit Sharma and others while Vinod Sharma, UT President JKTJAC was the chief guest and special invitee.

While speaking on the occasion, Vinod Sharma demanded Old Pension Scheme for the NPS employees of J&K UT. He urged the LG Administration to implement old Pension Scheme at the earliest for the welfare of the employees and their families.

Highlighting genuine issues of the teaching fraternity, he sought the attention of the Government for the resolution of the same. He demanded the provision of comprehensive transfer policy in favour of teachers appointed under ReT scheme who have been working in the same schools for last more than 20 years and suffering badly due to stagnation at one place. He demanded incentives for those teachers who serve in far flung areas instead for those who stick to cities.

Seeking intervention of Director School Education Jammu towards the process of

rationalizing the teaching staff wherein Principals are filling Posts in their own staff crowded schools and not considering the shortage of staff in under staff primary and middle schools, he demanded review of said process.

Other demands raised in the meeting included allocation of substantive posts to the teachers Grade II as per their seniority, consideration of mutual transfer cases of 3rd teachers and ReTs, filling posts of ZEOs/Principals/ Headmasters in headless zones/schools of the UT, DPC of teachers to Masters, regularisation of ReTs, Conversion of Headteacher posts into non plan posts of Masters to resolve the salary issue, provision of release of more than two years arrears of Teachers/ Masters and sanctioning of posts (Headmasters) and other staff in hanging high schools upgraded under RAMSA during 2014 and onwards.

Others who also spoke on the occasion, included Sham Parkash, Ashok Seth, Ravinder Singh Rathore, Sahil Sambhal, Maan Chand, Bhushan Khajuria, Shamsher Singh, Gopal Sharma, Sham Singh, Ankush Sharma and Pankaj Singh.

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