

From page 1

**Cooperatives being transformed to ensure growth in agriculture: LG**

Government's vision to strengthen the cooperative movement in Jammu Kashmir.

This year's theme "India@75: Growth of Cooperatives & Future Ahead" is our resolve to build a resilient and viable business ecosystem of Cooperatives with special participation of youth & women and enable Cooperative-based economic model to realize the Mantra of 'Sahkar Se Samridhii', he said.

Cooperatives need to address the challenges our rural economy and people are facing today and must offer financial and non-financial benefits. Since it is driven by the local members who understand the needs, it can have a greater impact on health, education, agriculture, credit, tourism, green energy and hospitality sectors, the Lt Governor said.

He observed that the UT administration is laying special thrust on registration of Cooperatives, training and capacity building of the stakeholders, modernizing cooperative markets, bringing transparency in the system and creating new markets & enabling Government departments to purchase directly from these markets.

"We have registered 1006 Cooperatives in the last one year and 31,578 members were trained during Jan-Abhiyan. It shows that the determined efforts are being made to widen the network and ensure capacity building for professional functioning of the cooperatives," the Lt Governor said.

"We are also determined to revive and revitalize the defunct Cooperatives. Recapitalization amount of Rs. 255.71 crores in favour of three District Central Cooperative Banks were released to improve their fiscal health", he added.

The Lt Governor maintained that Cooperatives also need to improve business viability and capacity to create employment and income to empower people. The creation of new cooperatives should be people-driven, the demand for new cooperatives must come from society and their success as a commercial entity will encourage others, he stressed.

The Lt Governor further underscored the need to promote close coordination among Primary, District, and State-level Cooperatives. Cross marketing efforts among Self-Help Groups and Handicraft Cooperatives can contribute to women empowerment and various income generating activities. Such efforts can transform Cooperatives in rural areas as vibrant entities, he added.

He said that Government's focus is on promotional drive for formation of new multi-purpose Cooperatives, reducing regional imbalance by increasing more Cooperatives per person and exploring new and commercially viable sectors.

Sinha also called for replicating successful models of other States and preparing a comprehensive framework, keeping in mind the viability and the vulnerable sections of the society. There should be proper representation of members of deprived/marginalized sections in the Cooperative sector, he emphasized.

The Lt Governor called for providing Capital infusion and market access to FPOs through the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, and encouraging them to undertake construction of godowns, as being done in other States/UTs.

He spoke on the efforts being made for establishing multipurpose and multidimensional PACS (Primary Agricultural Credit Societies) in every village.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor, in his address, said the motto of 'Sahkar Se Samridhii' is dedicated to the upliftment and benefit of the common man through cooperatives.

Atal Dulloo Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Production Department on the occasion said Cooperative sector is being rejuvenated with renewed energy. He extended his greetings on the inauguration of the 69th All India Cooperative Week.

In her welcome address, Yasha Mudgal, Secretary, Cooperative Department, highlighted the achievements of the department, and informed about the aims & objectives of the 69th All India Cooperative Week.

After three decades, J&K is witnessing the launch of Dairy Cooperative Federation which will explore the untapped potential of Milk production and processing, it was informed.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor handed over registration certificates to FPOs/Cooperatives, felicitated Cooperative Societies and also inspected the stalls set up by the Cooperative department. A compendium of the Cooperative department was also released.

Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu; Administrative Secretaries, officers of UT Administration, besides representatives & members of cooperatives and students of Cooperative Schools were present.

**6 officers transferred**

posted as Deputy Secretary in the office of Administrative Secretary (YM) and will look after the work of FCS&CA and Election Departments relieving Musharraf Ali Haf and Abied Hussain, OSD respectively of the work of the departments.

Fesal Iqbal Tantray shall hold the charge of the vacant post of Assistant Commissioner State Taxes, Ladakh till further orders. Khanzada Mohd Usman has

been posted as Assistant Director FCS&CA Kargil relieving Sherab Gyalston, Incharge AD FCS&CA Kargil of the charge of the post. Khanzada Mohd Usman shall also hold the additional charge of the post of Deputy District Election Officer Kargil till further orders.

Sherab Gyalston Incharge AD FCS&CA Kargil was attached with Director FCS&CA and Junaid Amin Bhat has been posted as District Panchayat Officer Leh relieving Sarwar Shahzad, BDO Nimoo of the additional charge of the post of DPO Leh till further orders.

**WEATHER**

**JAMMU:**  
Partly cloudy  
**TEMPERATURE**  
Max: 20.0 Degree C  
Min: 12.4 Degree C

**RELATIVE HUMIDITY**  
RH-I (Morning): 32.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 89.0 per cent  
Sunset on Tuesday: 05:32 p.m.  
Sunrise on Wednesday: 07:02 a.m.

**SRINAGAR:**  
Possibility of light rain/thundershowers  
**TEMPERATURE**  
Max: 8.5 Degree C  
Min: 3.4 Degree C

**RELATIVE HUMIDITY**  
RH-I (Morning): 94.0 per cent  
RH-II (Evening): 84.0 per cent

**LEH:**  
**TEMPERATURE**  
Max: 4.9 Degree C  
Min: -4.1 Degree C

**CINEMA**

APSARA AUDI- 1. BLACK PANTHER - WAKANDA FOREVER (2D) HINDI - 9:45 AM - 12:45 PM, 03:45 PM, 09:20 PM. (ENGLISH) 06:45 PM.

APSARA AUDI- 2. CHOBBAR - 10:30 AM, 12:35 PM, 3:30 PM, 06:30 PM, 09:00 PM.

HARI THEATRE: KULCHE CHOLE (PUNJABI) - 10:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 3:30 PM, 06:30 PM, 09:00 PM.

PVR KC AUDI 1: 1. CHOBBAR (PUNJABI) 09:55 AM, BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER (2D) HINDI - 12:30 PM, (HINDI) 4:00 PM (ENGLISH) 7:30 PM (HINDI) 11:00 PM.

PVR KC AUDI 2: 1. BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER (2D) HINDI - 09:50 AM, AUN AN SHINDA (DOGRI) - 1:20 PM, UUNCHAI (HINDI) 03:30 PM, HONEYMOON (PUNJABI) 07:00 PM, UUNCHAI (HINDI) - 10:00 PM.

WAVE CINEMA AUDI 1: BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER-3D-HN (UA) - 10:00 AM, 2. BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER-3D-ENG (UA) - 1:15 PM, 3. BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER-3D-HN (UA) - 4:30 PM, 4. BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER-3D-ENG (UA) - 7:45 PM, 5. BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER-3D-HN (UA) - 11:00 PM.

WAVE CINEMA AUDI 2: 1. KULCHE CHOLE PUNJABI (UA) - 9:30 AM, 2. UUNCHAI (UA) - 12:15 PM, 3. UUNCHAI (UA) - 03:30 PM, 4. HONEYMOON- PUNJABI (U) - 6:45 PM, 5. UUNCHAI (UA) - 09:30 PM.

WAVE CINEMA AUDI 3: 1. RAM SETU (UA) - 11:00 AM, 2. OYE MAKHNA-PUNJABI (UA) - 2:00 PM, 3. CHOBBAR- PUNJABI (UA) - 4:45 PM, 4. KULCHE CHOLE- PUNJABI (UA) - 7:15 PM, 5. BLACK PANTHER WAKANDA FOREVER-2D-HN (UA) - 10:00 PM.

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**Rijiju again attacks Nehru, says he backed Sheikh's 'Quit Kashmir' movement**

Kashmir Government not to accede to India till his personal wishes and agenda were fulfilled (which he explicitly enunciated in the same letter). Will this evidence be denied as well? he asked.

Further, the Law Minister said, in a speech delivered on November 25, 1947, in Parliament, when the issue was still evolving internationally, Nehru stated - "We did not want a mere accession from the top but an association in accordance with the will of her people. Indeed, we did not encourage any rapid decision."

As clear as daylight, not once but on multiple occasions, Nehru himself stated as to who was putting conditions on accession and thereby delayed it till the personal agenda was fulfilled, Rijiju said.

He said the 'Quit Kashmir' movement was launched by Sheikh Abdullah in 1946 and he was supported in this agitation by Nehru.

"Hari Singh, a Dogra king (father of Karan Singh), was not an outsider to Kashmir and had as many rights in the Kashmir Valley as anyone else. Every other Congress leader understood the absurdity of replicating the 'Quit India' call against colonial British with a 'Quit Kashmir' call against a Kashmiri Hindu ruler. Yet, Nehru plunged headlong in support of Abdullah and even landed up in Kashmir to support him. This started a chain of events that had decades-long tragic consequences," he added.

Hari Singh had asserted in the House of Lords as Vice-Chancellor of Chamber of Princes: "I am an Indian first, and then a Maharaja." The same Hari Singh was, thus, obviously pleading to join India in 1947 on multiple occasions but was thwarted on each occasion till Nehru's agenda was fulfilled."

Rijiju also took on Dr Karan Singh, a senior Congress leader, former Minister and ex Sadr-e-Riyasat, saying response to his recent article 'Panch Bhool' or 'Five Blunders' on Kashmir by Dr Karan Singh is deeply disappointing.

"The response to my article by Dr Karan Singh is deeply disappointing. He completely skipped the other four blunders of Nehru - suo motu insisting that the acces-

sion was provisional; moving the UN under the wrong Article after Pakistan's invasion, thereby making it a party to the dispute instead of an aggressor; letting the myth of a UN-mandated plebiscite perpetuate; and creation of the divisive Article 370," Rijiju wrote.

Asserting that there were no answers or even a modicum of plausible defence, he said on the first and primary blunder - of Nehru delaying the accession itself - Dr Karan Singh has presented a sanitized history, resorted to poor wordplay, and, that too, in a roundabout way to somehow extricate Nehru.

But even voluminous evidence of Nehru's blunders could still not save Dr Karan Singh from the acerbic reminder of his place by Jairam Ramesh of the Congress, the Law Minister said.

Rijiju claimed that Nehru moved the United Nations under the wrong Article after Pakistan's invasion, thereby making it a party to the dispute instead of an aggressor. He added that Nehru let the "myth" of a UN-mandated plebiscite perpetuate and created the "divisive" Article 370 of the Constitution.

"Nehru rejected Maharaja Hari Singh's plea to accede to India not just once but thrice," he wrote.

"Nehru was aware even in June 1947 that all that Hari Singh wanted was to join the Indian dominion. Nehru stated as much in his note to Mountbatten (the last Viceroy of India)," Rijiju wrote.

He said it was time for the citizens of the country to rebuff attempts to falsify history and stand true to the people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

"The people of this region, along with the rest of India, deserve to know the truth of what actually happened during those tumultuous months and years," the Minister wrote.

That the Congress and its ruling dynasty puts Nehru (and the later members of the dynasty) first and India later, is a well-established fact, the Law Minister said, adding it is time for students of history to find the courage, in light of facts, to set history right, clear the name of those unfairly besmirched by family historians to make Nehru look good.

**Declared unsafe; Govt to raze Ware House, Nehru Market buildings, shops in Jammu**

Sharing details, official sources told the 'Excelsior' that initially, two blocks were declared unsafe during 2012. On September 11, 2015, the Jammu Development Authority after fresh evaluation had forwarded report to the Divisional Commissioner, Jammu regarding unsafe building structures at Ware House and Nehru Market area behind Asia Hotel and adjoining old RTO office, expressing concern over the safety of the occupants there. The Committee also identified 72 Government quarters allotted to government employees and to some Kashmiri migrants there.

On Sept 29, 2016, the Vice Chairman JDA wrote to the Deputy Director, Estates department Jammu and Director Estates to get all the Government quarters vacated for the safety of the occupants. But due to the delaying tactics, the occupants continued to live in these unsafe structures. Moreover, the shopkeepers also did not vacate their shops/business establishments since long as they were demanding some alternative site for the same.

The JDA, again on Sept 28, 2022 published public notices in several Jammu news papers including Daily Excelsior for wider publicity, seeking vacation of the unsafe buildings by the occupants including Government/retired employees and the traders/ shopkeepers. Hardy a week ago, caution notices on four notice boards at different locations at Ware House/ Nehru Market were displayed by the JDA asking occupants to vacate these unsafe structures without any more delay.

Sources further revealed that if these people do not comply with the orders of the Vice Chairman, JDA then the occupants will be forcibly removed from these unsafe buildings with the help of police. These buildings have lived more than 65-70 years of life. At one portion there are old godowns of FCI Food & Supplies department. Many buildings have developed cracks and portion of ceiling of several structures also found broken during assessment/evaluation exercise.

"The Government proposes to construct India Habitat Centre at one portion of the vacated land while some portion could be utilized to accomplish other important projects under Jammu Smart City and Tawi River Front development for creating various facilities for the visitors/people," the sources added.

Nehru Market happens to be J&K's biggest Ware House having firms serving the region since 1950s, when the buildings were first raised. The three buildings located in the market have 72 quarters and over 54 shops which were constructed in early 1950s.

The occupants, however, alleged that these buildings have remained victim of neglect and poor maintenance by the Estates department and the JDA. They alleged that for the last over 30 years no maintenance work was carried out by the JDA or

Estates department. Their occupants have been demanding that they must be shifted to a safer place with proper accommodation.

A senior officer of JDA claimed that these buildings were declared unsafe for living and for carrying out trading activity in 2012-13 after conducting the assessment through Public Works (R&B) Department which had notified that the JDA buildings had outlived their utility and structural stability. Though some occupants left the buildings after JDA put up warning boards, still more than 55 families live in them and scores of other people run businesses there.

Deepak Gupta, president Ware House/ Nehru Market Traders Association, when contacted, said if the JDA wants to dismantle these old buildings, they should devise some mechanism and provide suitable alternative site for their proper rehabilitation at some nearby place. There is question of livelihood of many families including traders and those working there, he added.

"It is the biggest Ware House of Jammu and Kashmir which has been supplying essential commodities and other goods to the twin provinces even to the Ladakh since 1960-62," Gupta added.

"Government cannot escape from its responsibility by putting up warning sign boards only. They have to ensure security to the flat dwellers and also care for the livelihood of the traders and shopkeepers," he asserted.

Gupta urged the Government to relocate residents to safe accommodations and build temporary shops for the traders to carry out their regular work in some nearby area before dismantling these buildings. He said the traders have been paying rent to the JDA to the tune of Rs 2000 to Rs 3000 per month and even more for a shop since decades. The JDA hiked/ revised rent many times as well. Now, it is their responsibility to rehabilitate them, he added.

Vice Chairman, Jammu Development Authority, Pankaj Mangotra said this process was actually commenced during 2012. Notices were served to the occupants time to time and even JDA wrote to the Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Director Estates J&K for it.

"For wider publicity, notices in several news papers were also published. Recently, the JDA raised four boards and displayed notices there issuing warnings to vacate unsafe quarters' structures. All the four blocks have to be cleared. The people must respond to the appeal of the Government," Mangotra said.

**SE R&B Doda, X-En among 4 die as Bolero slips into gorge; boulder falls on vehicle, 2 hurt**

shifted to Assar hospital and later referred to GMC Hospital, Jammu, SSP Doda Abdul Qayoom said.

Qayoom said the preliminary investigation indicated that accident occurred due to rain and slippery road conditions. The road at the accident point is sloppy. The police party from Assar reached the spot immediately and the bodies were evacuated to the road from deep nallah with the help of locals by police.

"The SE Doda was brought to the local hospital along with three bodies. The post-mortem of the deceased was conducted and bodies were handed over to their families for last rites after completion of the necessary legal formalities," BMO Assar Dr Tanveer said.

SE Doda, Suresh Kumar, however, succumbed to the injuries in GMC Jammu during treatment late this evening, a police official said.

Meanwhile, Union Minister in PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh, who happens to be the MP from Udhampur-Doda Lok Sabha constituency spoke to the Deputy Commissioner, Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan during the day and expressed his shock over the tragic accident in which two Engineers and a driver of PWD were killed on the spot and SE Doda seriously injured. He extended his condolences to the bereaved families.

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha expressed grief over the Doda road accident and directed the district administration to provide all possible assistance to the injured.

"Pained by the loss of lives due to an accident in Doda. My deepest condolences to the bereaved families. Directed the district administration to provide all possible assistance," Sinha wrote on Twitter.

Former J&K Chief Minister and DAP chairman, Gulam Nabi Azad expressed deep shock over the tragic road accident near Assar in Doda today in which three engineers and a driver were killed in Doda. Azad conveyed his condolences to the bereaved families.

Another report from Kishtwar said that two persons were injured

**Sinha to review security situation today with Home Deptt, police officials**

consignments sent from across the border are seized by the Border Security Force (BSF) and Police, possibility of some material reaching to the militants is also not ruled out.

"Anti-militancy operations in the Kashmir valley and strengthen-

ing of anti-infiltration grid on the borders are among priorities of security agencies," the sources said. Yesterday, the Lieutenant Governor had briefed the Defence Minister about security scenario in the hinterland as well as the Line of Control.

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**Modi's commitment for J&K development turning into reality: Puri**

Interacting with the beneficiaries of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Puri said that there are many schemes and projects under Housing and Urban Affairs that people need to take advantage of. He added we could now improve resource utilisation through the use of technology better than the earlier times."

Elaborating on the work undertaken in Srinagar under the Smart City project, Puri highlighted that urban planning is essential as new settlements in cities have come up and there is a need to replace the old traditions to deal with the new challenges. He said that urban work has one litmus test that is to produce benefits for the citizens, and the voices of the people need to be heard for the same.

Commenting on the economic boost due to development in urban space, the Minister said that the urban space had been neglected earlier and the Government took the opportunity to reform this sector, which is evident from the fact that cities are now the largest contributors to the GDP of the country.

The Minister was briefed about the redevelopment of the city by the district administration. He complimented the administration for working with dedication in order to bring about the timely completion of different projects. He advised district administrators and local bodies to take appropriate measures for dealing with solid waste management, discourage the use of single-use plastic and address the voices of people on a timely basis.

While handing over the sanction letters to the beneficiaries of various schemes, the Minister said that the benefits of development should reach the poorest at the grass-roots level and the Government is ensuring that it takes care of people in terms of any adversity.

Puri targeted first PM of India Jawaharlal Nehru over Kashmir, saying the decision of country's first Prime minister to take the issue to a

multilateral forum was a "monumental blunder".

"Why was the (Kashmir) issue taken to international or multinational fora. My information has been that then Maharaja Hari Singh was happy to sign the instrument of accession. That's what I have read as a student of history," he said.

"But the political leadership in Delhi was saying they wanted it (accession) to be more broad based and therefore they wanted a plebiscite. So they wanted to take it to a multilateral forum. You cannot have a higher folly than that. I am told word folly very mildly," Puri told reporters here.

The Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas was responding when asked if he agreed with the views of his cabinet colleague Kiren Rijiju on Nehru's handling of Kashmir that the Union Law Minister had expressed in an article.

"Was it an error of judgment? You can say the man made a mistake but you cannot justify it. The historical facts are staring you in the face that making the reference (to multinational fora) and calling for a plebiscite is not a folly, I think it is a monumental blunder. So I agree with my dear friend and colleague Kiren Rijiju entirely," Puri said.

The minister said it was because of the mistake made by Nehru that Pakistan was able to foment trouble in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Because you made that mistake, other people took advantage of it. One country has been using terror as an instrument of state policy. I have said it 20 years ago. On 'BBC Hard Talk', I said this is a problem created from across the border but they could create this problem because someone on our side allowed them to do it," he said.

The Minister said he was pleased that today when he is in Kashmir. "We are talking about development. Some years ago, what we were dealing with was an entire cadre of professional stone pelters," he said.

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**IED recovered near Police Post**

The drone dropping isn't ruled out as the area is close to the International Border, Kohli said.

Police teams rushed to the spot soon after detecting the bag. A Bomb Disposal Squad has also reached there to defuse the explosive device.

A search operation has been launched in the area.

Police teams headed by Phallian Mandal PP Incharge SI Ajesh Singh Jamwal were conducting searches.

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enced snowfall. It has gripped entire Jammu region in cold wave. It was raining in Jammu since early hours today but the