

From page 1

Dr Jitendra calls for change of mindset to avail StartUp opportunities

rivers including Jhelum, Sindh and Chenab. He accused Pakistan of creating hurdles in construction of power projects in J&K. Dr Jitendra Singh said instead the unutilized water of Ravi river was flowing to Pakistan due to failure of previous Governments in constructing Shahpur Kandi Project which was delayed for over four decades.

He said credit goes to Prime Minister, Narendra Modi who took an initiative in getting the MoU signed between J&K and Punjab Government over the much talked about Shahpur Kandi project and work on it was started.

He said the first phase of the project will start functioning soon. He said the Pakistan has unnecessarily raked up the issue of Rattle and Kishan Ganga Projects despite the fact that India has not blocked the water from flowing to neighboring country.

He regretted that work on Rattle Project was stopped by previous Governments for eight long years and now it has been resumed under joint venture of Centre and UT Government and work is going on in accordance with Indus Water Treaty.

Earlier addressing the conclave of Young StartUP Conclave, organised by CSIR, Dr Jitendra Singh called for change of mindset to avail StartUp opportunities knocking at their door.

He said the Government job mind-set is proving an impediment to StartUp culture, mainly in this part of the country.

Referring to the success stories of some of the young StartUps participating in the Kathua Conclave today, including two B-Techs IT and one Mechanical Engineer, who quit their Corporate jobs to launch StartUp ventures, Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that "Purple Revolution" spearheaded through CSIR became a part of the Republic Day Parade Tableaux in the national capital and thus earned country-wide recognition and popularity.

Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that the "Purple Revolution" originating from Jammu & Kashmir offers attractive StartUp avenues and those who have entered the lavender sector are making a fortune out of it. He said, it is important to take note of some of the exemplary instances of many young entrepreneurs who are seen quitting their lucrative jobs in the MNCs to establish their own Start-Ups, as they are now beginning to realise the possibility of greater fortunes in this.

The Minister also underlined that J&K has huge unexplored potential of Agri-Tech StartUps as the geographical and climatic conditions here favour the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants. Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the Biotech Kisan Hub has rejuvenated over 40 orchards till date in Jammu and Kashmir under rejuvenation of apple orchards, where a very innovative methodology has been used to transform the old orchards. The Minister promised full help by DBT and CSIR for setting up of Agri-tech Start-ups.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Start-Up ecosystem in India has gathered momentum since Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave the slogan of Start-Up India and Stand-Up India from the ramparts of the Red Fort on August 15 in 2015. He said from 350 odd Start-Ups in 2014, the number swelled to 75,000 in August, 2022 and now stands at over 88,000 spread across 653 districts and generated more than nine lakh job opportunities in the country. The Minister said India is also home to 107 Unicoms and 23 of them emerged in 2022 itself, a sign of India's rapid upward ride on STI (Science, Technology & Innovation) ladder.

The Minister pointed out that a new wave of Agri-tech Start-Ups has emerged in the country in the last few years and these Start-Ups are solving problems related to supply of chain management, cooling and refrigeration, seed management and distribution, besides helping farmers to access a wider range of markets.

In the next 25 years of Amriti-Kal, said Dr Jitendra Singh, Jammu & Kashmir and several hill territories as well as the Himalayan States are going to make a significant value addition to build India's future economy because these are the territories whose resources have remained under-utilised in the past. With Prime Minister, Narendra Modi giving a focused attention to these areas, they are going to play a pivotal role in placing India on the world pedestal by 2047, he said.

Earlier, Dr. Singh also took round of the StartUp kiosks set up by the entrepreneurs of J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and other parts of the country besides the models setup by the students from different educational institutions of Kathua.

DDC Vice Chairman Raghunandan Singh Babloo, Director CSIR-IITM, Jammu Dr D. Srinivasa Reddy, DC Kathua, Rahul Pandey, SSP Kathua, Shivdeep Singh Jasmwal and Principal GDC Kathua, Prof Somen Jasrotia were present in the conclave. The conclave witnessed the presence of renowned entrepreneurs, industry leaders, academicians, representatives of leading venture capital firms, incubators and accelerators.

During the conclave, the local progressive farmers also shared their success stories and experience and expressed gratitude to CSIR for making it possible through proper hand holding and considerable support in their endeavours.

Ex ATP in SDA suspended

Authority is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect," read an order.

During suspension, the order said, Sodagar shall remain attached in the office of the Vice Chairman, Srinagar Development Authority.

WEATHER

Table with weather details for Jammu: Generally cloudy, Temperature (Max: 20.7 Degree C, Min: 6.1 Degree C), Relative Humidity (RH-I: 83.0 per cent, RH-II: 67.0 per cent), Possibility of rain/snow, Srinagar weather details, and Leh weather details.

CINEMA

APSARA AUDI- 1: PATHAAN (HINDI) - 11.00 AM, 2.00 PM, 5.00 PM, 8.00 PM, 11.00 PM. APSARA AUDI- 2: KUTTEY (HINDI) - 11.00 AM, 1.15 PM, 3.45 PM, 6.45 PM, 9.00 PM. HARI THEATRE: HIT 2ND CASE (HINDI) - 10.00 AM, 12.30 PM, 3.30 PM, 6.30 PM.

Edited, Printed, Published by Kamal Rohmetra and owned by Daily Excelsior. Executive Editor Neeraj Rohmetra. Printed at Daily Excelsior and Excelsior Printer Pvt Ltd, Janipura, Jammu and published from EXCELSIOR HOUSE, Janipura, Jammu 180007 (J&K). Phones: 0191-2537055, 2537901, 2539178. Fax: 0191-2537831 and 2530272 Editor's Residence: 0191-2431830, 2433288. E-mail: editor@dailyexcelsior.com. Advertisement Manager Ajay Mengi 9419187959. For Advertisement queries: advt@dailyexcelsior.com (M) 9419111428. Residence Nos: Jammu Bureau Chief: Sanjeev Pargal (94191-80969), Special Correspondents: Mohinder Verma (9419185803), Gopal Sharma (9419180803), Avtar Bhat (9419142184), Nishikant Khajuria (9419143132), Srinagar Office: 2 Pratap Park Srinagar. Phone: (O) 0194-2450213, New Delhi Bureau Chief (Advt): C.S. Paul 9810068545, 9910997733 (M), 011-23327188 (O), 3/15, INS Building, Rafi Marg. Mumbai Advertisement Office Incharge: K.S. Nitin 9322509953 (M) 022-22883904, 22821859 (O) 22845484 (Fax) C/o S. J. Business Centre, Islam Building Room No. 17/18, 1st Floor, 46 Veer Nariman Road.

To subscribe Excelsior Internet Edition, send-e-mail at: subscription@dailyexcelsior.com For complaints regarding newspaper delivery or Advertisement Production. Contact: 9419187956, 941911428

Centre set to release pending grants of Urban, Rural Local Bodies

Current year's budget of Jammu and Kashmir (2022-23) was to the tune of Rs 1,12,950 crore and the UT administration is expecting the budget to touch Rs 1.20 lakh crore for next fiscal. Spending such a huge amount also needs resources, sources pointed out but said J&K administration has been doing well on the fiscal front.

"If Jammu and Kashmir gets Rs 1.20 lakh crore worth budget for 2023-24, it will be a good achievement for the UT administration," the sources said. Finance Minister Nirmala

Sitharaman had presented J&K's budget for 2020-21 on March 17, 2020, 2021-22 on March 17, 2021 and 2022-23 on March 14, 2022. The budget for 2019-2020 was adopted by the then State Administrative Council (SAC) here while budget of 2018-19 was last to be presented in the Assembly of erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir by then Finance Minister Dr Haseeb Drabu before the Government collapsed after withdrawal of support to Mehbooba Mufii-led coalition Government by the BJP in June 2018.

HC directive to issue degrees

degrees in order to pursue their next academic career and for the use of professional qualification for their prospective employment. Justice Rahul Bharti directed the University of Jammu to issue the provisional degrees in favour of the candidates if they have qualified their MD and MS Ayurveda (PG course) on the basis of examination conducted by the University.

Court, however, has made it clear that the issuance of the provisional degrees by University of Jammu shall be without prejudice to the stand of varsity against the petition of the petitioner-candidates and further the issuance of the provisional degree will not result vesting any equity in their favour in the event of their admission to the MD/MS Ayurveda (PG Course) being found to be misconceived, unmerited or contrary to rules and regulations, as a final outcome of the present petition.

Court directed the Registry to forward the order of the court to the Registrar of the University for notice and compliance within a period of one month. These candidates through their counsel

contended that they have undergone MD and MS Ayurveda (PG Course) from the Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research and their admission in the said Institute was on the basis of their merit based selection in furtherance of selection notification of BOPEE

These candidates earned their professional education by paying academic fees for the same and have passed the examination held and conducted by the University of Jammu. However, University has withheld the issuance of the professional degrees in their favour leaving them qualified but degreeless in terms of their educational profile.

It is in this context, the candidates were seeking the indulgence of the Court for a mandamus for earning degrees in their favour for their MD/MS Ayurveda (PG Course).

Forecast of heavy snowfall on Jan 30

widespread moderate snow and rain (in Jammu) with "heavy" snowfall in Pirpanjal, South Kashmir, Doda-Kistawar etc.( more than 75% chances). Kokernag recorded a low of minus 0.7°C against minus 0.9°C the previous night and it was 1.9°C above normal for the place.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 7.2°C against minus 8.6°C the previous night and it was 0.3°C above normal for the skiing resort. In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at minus 2.6°C against minus 3.7°C the previous night and it was above 0.1°C below normal for the town.

Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 13.6°C and minus 14.8°C respectively. Kashmir is under the grip of Chillai-Kalan, the 40-day long harsh winter period that started on December 21 and will end on Jan 30. It is followed by a 20-day-long period called 'Chillai-Khur'd' that occurs between January 30 and February 19 and a 10-day-long period 'Chillai-Bacha' (baby cold) which is from February 20 to March 1.

J&K has shown remarkable improvement on sustainable development goals: LG

lineage of great personalities who continue to inspire the nation", he added. Speaking on the traditional wisdom and cultural heritage shared by the two regions, the Lt Governor said, the creative expression of civilization rooted in Vitasta and Kaveri river always embraced the totality of human experience. Seekers from both Jammu Kashmir and Tamil Nadu have made enormous contribution to enrich this experience and by strengthening the literary and cultural heritage they have served the society well, he added.

Sharing the changing scenario of the UT of J&K, the Lt Governor said, Jammu Kashmir has shown remarkable improvement on sustainable development goals which has been recognized by NITI Aayog, among other agencies.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor also paid homage to Rukmini Devi, the founder of Kalakshetra Foundation.

Dr R Nataraj, Governing Board Member, Kalakshetra Foundation spoke in detail about the Vitasta festival. Siddharth Kak, renowned Filmmaker spoke on the culture and heritage of Jammu Kashmir.

Sufi, Kashmiri and Dogri folk music by renowned folk singer Aabha Hanjura and troupe; theatre presentation and Vitasta by National School of Drama and Bhand Pather and Therukoothu

presented by Dr VR Devika remained highlights of the evening. Pertinently, the State of Tamil Nadu is paired with Jammu Kashmir under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Programme, which aims to integrate the nation culturally.

Moreover, the Vitasta Festival will be travelling to Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Sikkim after Tamil Nadu before it culminates in Jammu Kashmir - the land of curiosity for intellectuals, philosophers, spiritual seekers, travelers and historians. This festival as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav by the Union Culture Ministry provides glimpses of river Vitasta and its influence on socio-political, cultural heritage and Sufi, Buddhist and Shaivite philosophy of Jammu Kashmir.

A host of activities like Classical and folk performances, exhibitions, seminars, workshops, craft bazaar will showcase the legacy of Jammu Kashmir during the festival. The people will get an opportunity to get acquainted with the dance forms, Sufi music, art, handicrafts, cuisine of Jammu and Kashmir.

Dr CK Gariyal, ret'd. IAS and author; Revathi Ramachandran, Director Kalakshetra Foundation, experts in various fields and prominent personalities from J&K and Tamil Nadu were present on the occasion.

Encroached land retrieved from 2 ex Ministers, DDC chairman

district administration, Kathua today retrieved more than 35 kanals of State land from encroachers during an anti-encroachment drive in Basohli tehsil.

According to official sources, during the drive, a total of 35 kanals and six marlas of State land was retrieved from encroachment including 03 kanals, 14 marlas from the occupation of Prem Sagar Aziz, ex MoS in previous PDP and Congress Government in Plahi, 09 kanals 15 marla in Plakh from District Development Council Chairman, Kathua Col (ret'd)

Govt directs depts to conduct internal reviews, submit reports

servants for the first time after his/her completion of 22 years of service or attaining 48 years of age and anytime subsequently as may be required.

"A register of Government servants who are due to attain the age of 48 years or to complete 22 years of service is required to be maintained by the Administrative Department and scrutinized at the beginning of every year by officers to be nominated by the Administrative Department concerned", sources said.

The Government may, at any time after a Government servant has attained the age of 48 years or completed 22 years of service may retire him or her in public interest and committees at different level have been constituted to implement the provisions of Article 226.

The Review Committee is required to ascertain whether the integrity of the Government servant is doubtful, whether he or she is ineffective in work and the basic consideration in identifying such Government servants includes their fitness/competence to continue in the post held and their utility for the purpose for which they are employed.

We stand here today because of soldiers' sacrifices: Farooq

Vishnu Yagya organised in the memory of martyrs met Sant Shri Bal Yogeshwar Das Ji.

On the occasion, Farooq called for united efforts for strengthening the communal harmony and brotherhood. "Jammu people are pluralistic by nature. The cultural life of Jammu has been shaped by great sages and saints, who enriched it with the teachings of universal brotherhood by teaching and preaching the philosophy that considers world as a family.

He said "The agenda of communal forces remains at work to divide us. However, but what such forces fail to recognise is that the spirit of our unity is deep-rooted and widespread. It is very reassuring to see how both Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs participate in each other's festivals and shoulder each other's worries".

Dr Abdullah said "Our country's, for that matter J&K's true potential lays in our unity. The everyday life of our people across Jammu espouses examples that brings alive the idea of India and restores our faith in humanity".

"More so the people in Jammu have fraternal ties with the people of Kashmir and Ladakh as well. It is really unfortunate to see how the enemies of humanity have over the years done everything to create hatred among people of Jammu region and Kashmir valley towards each other on communal lines. I'm sure that my brothers and sisters will not let such forces succeed in their nefarious designs. I congratulate the organizers and management, particularly Shri Yogeshwar Das Ji Maharaj for their efforts. I'm sure that the devotees will benefit from the Yagya. I pass on my good wishes to the entire management for their future endeavours, "he said.

He was accompanied by Rattan Lal Gupta, provincial president, JKNC Jammu region, Ajaz Jan provincial president, JKNYNC, Israr Khan, Abdul Gani Teli, Vijay Lochan, Mohinder Ghiri, Sudagar Chand Gupta, Chander Uday Singh, Rakesh Singh Raka, Rahul Mahajan and Rajeshwar Singh.

Mehbooba, Priyanka join BJJ in Pulwama under tight security

arrangements before the yatra stopped for a break at Lethpora. Gandhi also paid homage to the 40 CRPF personnel who were killed in a suicide car bomb attack at Lethpora by laying a bouquet at the spot where the security force's bus was blown up in February 2019.

After a stop near Birla School in Galandar area of Pampore, the yatra has halted at Pantha Chowk for the night.

After a night's halt there, the yatra would resume on Sunday morning from Pantha Chowk and will culminate near Nehru Park on Boulevard Road in the city. Prior to culmination flag hoisting will be done at Lal Chowk.

The press conference of Gandhi that was scheduled for tomorrow at 3 pm has been put on hold. A Congress leader said that there is no function on January 30, an invitation was extended in good faith to like-minded political parties who we believe oppose the policies and programmes of the BJP. It is not to build platform for 2024," he added.

"It was, as I said, a courtesy extended to like-minded parties to come and take part in the formal conclusion of the Bharat Jodo Yatra's flag-hoisting ceremony at the PCC office at Lal Chowk. The parties had been invited to take advantage of Bharat Jodo Yatra. So I don't see it as a setback," he said.

He said that three-tier security arrangements were in place for the Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY). He acknowledged stating that "adequate security measures were in place today."

He said that the security arrangements unlike yesterday were adequate. He further added that the restoration of democratic process and restoration of Statehood is the utmost priority at present.

Ramesh further said that of a total 136 days, Rahul Gandhi led a yatra that marched 4080 kilometers in 116 days in which the people from different walks of the life participated and extended their support.

In J&K also, the yatra was held in five districts each in Jammu and Kashmir while a main and culmination function will be held on January 30 and flag hoisting ceremony will be done at PCC headquarters in Srinagar. He further said that the main function will be held at Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium here in Srinagar.

Court orders attachment of Hurriyat office

terrorism" and makes it clear that such expression shall also include "any property intended to be used for terrorism".

The Court said that the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act-1967 does not in any manner hinder powers of court to attach any such property of which accused is facing trial under the UAPA of which he may be partly owner.

The court, however, added that the attachment in itself does not mean that there is any pre-trial conclusion regarding that property.

The Court further said that among the different allegations and evidence, it was also the case that office of APHC was the place where meetings were held to strategize different protests, funding activities of stone pelting on security forces, recruiting of unemployed youths to carry out unlawful activities as well as terrorist activities to create an unrest in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir to wage war against the Government of India.

"In such situation taking into consideration the serious nature of the allegations as against A-5 itself, the fact that he is part owner of the property in question, cannot be a reason for not attaching the property when it is not even made clear as to who others were co-owners of that property," the court said.

The NIA had moved an application seeking passing of an order for attachment of building office of All Parties Hurriyat Conference situated at Raj Bagh, Srinagar.

4 of family found dead in Ramban

would be ascertained only after the post-mortem of dead bodies

Officials said three members of a family were found dead and one girl was found in unconscious state at their residence in Ward number 6 Balihote, Ramban.

She was evacuated to District Hospital Ramban where doctors pronounced her as brought dead.

Locals of the area noticed that there is no movement in and around the house of Chain Singh for the last few days.

On Saturday morning, they visited the house where they found the door of the house locked from the inside and informed police.

After receiving the call, SHO Police Station Ramban, Sandeep Charak along with cops rushed to the spot, broke the door and entered the Kacha House where they found three family members dead and a girl in unconscious state.

Chief Medical Officer Ramban, Dr. Kamal Zadood said

Kharge seeks adequate security for BJJ

after the Bharat Jodo Yatra was suspended for the afternoon session on Friday following a "security lapse", with the Congress alleging that the J and K Police had withdrawn security around its leader Rahul Gandhi in the wake of surging crowds during the foot march in Qazigund.

"We are expecting a huge gathering to join the yatra over the next two days and also the function that will be held on 30th January at Srinagar. Many senior Congress leaders and leaders of other important political parties are attending the culmination function to be held on the 30th of January.

"I shall be grateful if you could personally intervene in this matter and advise the concerned officials to provide adequate security till the culmination of the yatra and the function on the 30th January at Srinagar," the Congress president

said in his letter to the Home Minister. He said he is writing after the "unfortunate security lapse" during the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

On the advice of the security officials in charge of the security detail of Rahul Gandhi, the Yatra had to be suspended, Kharge said.

"We appreciate the Jammu and Kashmir Police and welcome their statement saying they will continue to ensure complete security till the culmination of the journey," he said.

However, the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha also said, "You will appreciate the fact that a large crowd of common people has joined and walked in the Bharat Jodo Yatra every day. It is difficult for the organisers to tell exactly how many people are expected over the day as it is a spontaneous gesture of the common people to join the yatra."(PTI)

Advertisement for 'Zardalt' featuring a petition and a respondent. The petition is in Urdu and mentions 'Zardalt' and 'Kashmir'. The respondent is also in Urdu and mentions 'Zardalt' and 'Kashmir'. There is a signature and date at the bottom.