

## Dir Agri for 100% fund utilization allocated under CAPEX, CSS

SRINAGAR: 'Farmers in Kashmir have gone hi-tech, using precision farming methods to boost the production of vegetables, and poly houses to facilitate early sapling production leading to a surge in the sale of vegetables.

These views were expressed by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Altaf Ajaz Andrabi during a meeting convened to review progress achieved under Capex and centrally sponsored schemes. The meeting also reviewed progress recorded under formation of farmers produce organizations (FPO) and implementation of Kissan Credit Card scheme.

Andrabi asked Deputy Director, Farmers Training and Education Center (FTEC) to conduct district wise training programs for agriculture officers regarding mushroom cultivation, so that their knowledge will benefit the farming community of the valley.

While deliberating on various issues, Director Agriculture impressed upon the officers to gear up the process of installation of Hi-tech green houses with alternate modes of power to keep them running 24hrs a day. He further stressed them to visit the fields and advise farmers with regard to different preventive measures and modification in the agriculture practices.

While reviewing vegetable growing sector, the director emphasized on introduction of exotic and organic vegetable production in the valley. He instructed Chief Agriculture Officers to provide all assistance to the vegetable growers of valley to export their produce to the local as well as national markets.

Regarding Farm Produce Organizations, he emphasized that Farm Produce Organizations (FPOs) in all district must be framed to facilitate the better production and smooth marketing of agriculture products.

The Director Agriculture also asked for immediate up-gradation of Padgampora farm.

In-charges of Quality Control Laboratory, Seed Pathology, Soil Testing Lab, Seed Testing Laboratory were directed to make labs relevant and effective.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Agriculture Extension, Mohammad Iqbal Chowdhary, Joint Director Agriculture Inputs, Deepak Kumar Kuchroo, Chief Agriculture Officers and other concerned officers of the department.



## Banks, Industry complement each other; have a Symbiotic relationship: Lt Governor

### Inaugurates J&K Bank Cluster Office, Industrial BU at Samba

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Lt Governor Girish Chandra Murmu today said that Industry and Banks complement each other and have a symbiotic relationship. He was interacting with the industrialists at SIDCO Industrial Estate, Samba after inaugurating the Cluster Office and Industrial Finance Branch of J&K Bank.

The Lt Governor maintained that the banks and Industrialists mutually grow with each other's support, and in a healthy economy, this interface must be strengthened further. The industrialists highlighted their issues,

some of which were resolved on the spot and it was assured to them that all the genuine issues would be examined for redressal. The industrialists also thanked for the positive steps taken by the Lt Governor's administration which bore fruits in the shape of budgetary announcements for Jammu and Kashmir today.

The Lt Governor also interacted with delegations comprising of BDC Chairpersons, Chairpersons and Members of Municipal Committees of District Samba. The delegations put forth various demands like up gradation of roads and health centres in Bor-

der areas, STP for Samba Town, office accommodation for BDC Chairpersons, and augmentation of various facilities. The Lt Governor assured the delegations of prompt appropriate action on the issues after examination and also urged them to make proper, futuristic plans in whatever works they take in hand. He also issued on the spot directions to the concerned officers for necessary action wherever required.

Meanwhile, the Lt Governor also laid the foundation stone for additional OPD Block at District Hospital Samba. He also took a round of the Emergency and OPD wards to take stock of

the facilities for the patients. Later on, the Lt Governor visited the AIIMS site at Vijaypur to review the progress on the proposed medi-city. He asked the authorities to take all necessary steps and complete the project in a time bound manner.

Financial Commissioner Health, Sh Atal Dulloo, Chairman and MD J&K Bank, Sh RK Chibber, Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Sh MK Dwivedi, Divisional Commissioner Jammu Sh Sanjeev Verma, Senior officers of Industries and Commerce department and Health department accompanied the Lt Governor.

## SHORT TAKES

### DSEK promotes 130 non-teaching officials

SRINAGAR: Directorate of School Education (DSEK) Kashmir today issued confirmation orders of 54 non-teaching officials, including 02 teachers to the higher standard pay scale, a statement from Directorate has said.

According to an order 01 Sectional Officer, 16 Head Assistants, 05 Senior Assistants, 02 Librarian, 02 Jr. Librarian, 02 Teachers and 26 Laboratory Assistants Incharge have been confirmed. These promotions have been accorded after the approval of Divisional Level Departmental Promotion Committee and cleared by GAD (Vigilance) under SRO: 308 of 2008 dated: 16/10/2008.

Moreover, in another order issued by the Directorate 63 and 09 Class-IV employees have been placed as I/c Lab. Assistants and I/c Library Assistants respectively. While as 04 eligible Library Assistants of different districts have been placed as I/C Junior Librarians.

It is pertinent to mention here that in another order Directorate has posted 519 PG Masters/Teachers as I/C Lecturers in various disciplines and 500 more are likely to be posted as lecturers in different higher secondary schools.

Director School Education, Kashmir, Mohammad Younis Malik (KAS) said that promotions are affected in order to make the system more effective and functional.

### DC Budgam reviews Capex expenditure status

BUDGAM: District Development Commissioner (DDC) Budgam, Tariq Hussain Ganaie today reviewed the progress of expenditure registered under revised Capex budget of current fiscal till date.

The meeting among other was attended by ADC Budgam, CPO, SDMs, CEO, Executive Engineers of various engineering streams and other concerned.

During the meeting, it was given out that under district capex outlay for 2019-2020 an amount of Rs. 154.94 crore was approved including central and state shares barring loan provision. Out of this approved outlay till date Rs 20.40 crore was made available to be expended on the projects identified under key sectors including R&B, PHE, PDD, RDD, Education, Health, Agriculture, Horticulture and other allied sectors.

The DDC was informed that up to ending October-2019 an amount of Rs. 12.79 crore has been spent thus achieving a target of 62 percent expenditure from the available outlay.

The DDC urged all concerned to put added efforts needed to achieve targets under given time frame.

The meeting was told that under MGNREGA an amount of Rs 35.94 crore was made available and till date Rs. 31.98 crores has been allotted to the concerned DDOs for onward expenditure.

The DDC stressed on the timely completion of all projects.

## November 7 snowfall

## Disburse cash compensation to affected Orchardists immediately: Div Com to DCs

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Baseer Ahmad Khan today directed Deputy Commissioners (DCs) to disburse cash compensation to the Orchardists whose apple crop was damaged in heavy snowfall of November 07, 2019.

It meeting was informed that Joint Assessment had already been done by Horticulture, revenue and other concerned department officials jointly at village, block, tehsil and district level.

The Divisional Commissioner directed DCs to transfer the payments through Direct Bank Transfer (DBT) mode and complete the disbursement process in a week's time so that affected orchardist



can start horticulture activity in ensuing season, in a hassle free manner.

He asked DCs to send report of compensation transferred to Orchardists to the Divisional Commissioner's office, on daily basis.

The meeting was informed that district Budgam will start the process from Sunday while other districts of the valley from Monday.

Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Tadsaduq Hussain Mir, Director Horticulture, Kashmir, Aijaz Ah-

mad Bhat, Assistant Commissioner (central) with Div Com and other concerned officers were present in the meeting where as Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of Kashmir Division participated the meeting via video conferencing.

## CPI(M) terms Union Budget disappointing for people of J-K

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the CPI(M) on Saturday termed the Union Budget "disappointing" for the people of the Union territory, saying it lacks any concrete plan to revive various sectors, including tourism, which were hit hard after the revocation of the special status of the erstwhile state in August last year.

"There is no policy statement in the Budget. We need something specific in the Budget and unfortunately, it is the most disappointing Budget for the people of Jammu and Kashmir," senior CPI(M) leader and former legislator M Y Tarigami said in a statement here.

The Centre has allocated Rs 30,757 crore for the newly created Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in the Budget 2020-21 presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday.

"They have been talking about development as if earlier there was no development. The al-

location and the mention in the Budget itself does not say anything about that mission development which the BJP has promised to the people of Jammu and Kashmir," Tarigami said. He said whole businesses have been shattered in Kashmir in the last five months.

"There has been no mention in reviving the business and to assist those who are working in this area in anyway. There is no concrete plan," Tarigami said.

"Not only the fruit, but the fruit bearing trees got destroyed in snowfall. There is no mention of that or any sort of expression to compensate this sector," he added.

Tarigami said the farming community and growers need to be assisted in this hour of "deep crisis" to revive the agricultural sector. Even in Jammu, rains caused devastation and resulted in huge losses of crops.

He said there was no mention of road and railway connectivity. "How many decades will it take further to connect Kashmir with rest of the country by a dependable road or rail link,"

Tarigami asked.

He said the Centre has failed to speed up work on the problematic Ramban-Ramsu axis on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway, which frequently needs to be closed due to landslides.

"The highway and railway line project should have been given a priority since the BJP-led government came to power in 2014," the CPI(M) leader said.

He said the Centre was talking about large scale investment but no one was going to invest when there is no electricity.

"There is no electricity and the people are living in a pathetic condition. They are talking about investment but without electricity who will invest here as even for running a shop, you need an electricity connection," Tarigami said.

He added that providing employment to the youth has become a chronic issue at the national level and much more so in Jammu and Kashmir because there is no industry in the Union Territory.

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