

BUSINESS

PDP seeks agri development strategy for JK

Mehbooba calls on Union Agriculture Minister; Presses for 'Relief, Restructure and Replant' scheme

GK NEWS NETWORK



New Delhi, Aug 16: Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) has sought the intervention of the Government of India for formulating a comprehensive agriculture development strategy for Jammu and Kashmir to enhance productivity and returns in this crucial sector concerning almost 80 per cent of the State's population.

need for an orchard re-plantation and restructuring scheme. "As such, the Centre and State governments must design a 'Relief, Restructure and Replant' scheme for horticulture and agriculture sectors," she said and added that in addition to a financial package, there is need for technological and scientific interventions like setting up of soil and pesticide testing laboratories in each district, making SKUAST more vibrant and familiarizing farmers with latest technological advances in the field.

PDP President and Member Parliament, Mehbooba Mufti called on the Union Agriculture Minister, Radha Mohan Singh and raised the issues confronting the agriculture and horticulture sectors in the State.

She was accompanied by senior PDP leader and Member Parliament, Tariq Hameed Karra.

Mufti informed the Minister that the horticulture sector in J&K, which provides livelihood to more than 7 lakh families and nearly 35 lakh people, is in the throes of crisis as the two crucial sectors, which used to be the mainstay of State economy, are now not able to provide basic subsistence and sustenance to the people, a statement here said today.

She called for increasing the area under the horticulture regeneration scheme from the existing 2000 hectares to 10,000 hectares in the State with funding to be raised from existing Rs 30000 to Rs 1 lakh per hectare. She also called for redefining the Saffron Mission scheme in J&K with more focus on irrigation and market intervention so that the growers not only are able to cultivate good crop but also get good returns.

"Although more than 75 per cent of the country's apple production is from J&K with almost 90,000 acres of land in Kashmir are under apple cultivation. Unfortunately, during the past few years not only has the production plummeted, the input costs have increased much more than the returns. With squeezing margins and low production the business model of this crucial sector has virtually collapsed," she informed the Minister.

Mehbooba also called for shifting the agriculture development strategy from food security mode to the value addition mode by growing certain products like high value fruits, vegetables and some cash crops which can give good returns to the cultivators.

She said the sheer size and scale of horticulture and its significance, not just in the local economy but even nationally, should wake up the government to the incipient crisis.

"There is good scope for the production of high value, low volume crops like saffron, black zera and other spices especially in Kashmir region," she said and added that regular availability of agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, credit, etc. should be ensured.

Mehbooba said considering the growth potential of this sector, the government should plan for higher production and productivity of major cereals and fruit to achieve an annual agricultural growth rate of 3-4 per cent.

She said the state government should encourage a mix of supplementary crops in each region. Comprehensive cost of cultivation studies needs to be conducted in each region/zone.

She called for devising both short and long term strategy to put the agriculture and horticulture sectors back on track. In the short term, she said, there is need for a package to give relief in the form of income support to the growers while in the long term, there is

she said.

Govt against high taxation: FM

New Delhi, Aug 16: Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley today said the Narendra Modi government does not believe in a high taxation regime but is being pro-business and pro-poor at the same time.

"If your taxation policy is so fragile then there is no authenticity to your economic and tax policies. The UPA government had pushed the country to this situation," he said, adding that the present dispensation is not a "high taxation government".

Addressing a BJP function here, Jaitley said there is nothing wrong in being "pro-business" as the country wants investments for better economic growth which in turn will lead to job creation and higher revenue for the government. "Unless government goes into higher investments," he said without offering specifics.

Jaitley blamed the high inflation for the low savings rate. "Last year, during the UPA regime, the savings rate declined to 30 per cent from 33 per cent. There is a need to incentivise savings which get converted into higher investments," he said.

Welcoming the Prime Minister's announcement yesterday to replace the Planning Commission with a new institution, Jaitley said, "We do not need a command structure where thing would be decided by the government sitting in New Delhi. Every state should have the right to decide on how it can take benefit from the country's resources."

for 'Independence Day'. The market resumed on a firm note after SEBI cleared REIT norms. Industry and experts welcomed REIT and Investment Trust guidelines and said it would help attract foreign as well as domestic investments to the tune of USD 15-20 billion (over Rs one lakh crore) through such trusts.

BSE Sensex reclaims 26,000; up 3% to end at 3-week high

Mumbai, Aug 16: Shrugging off rise in retail inflation and fall in industrial production, other national as well as global positive factors send both the key indices, the BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty, up by three per cent to end at three-week high during the truncated week.

The BSE and NSE were closed on Friday, August 15,

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR J&K SERVICES SELECTION BOARD

ZAM ZAM BUILDING RAMBAGH, SRINAGAR. (WWW.JKSSB.NIC.IN)

Subject:- List of Disqualified candidates.

Through the medium of present notice, the candidates reflected at Annexure "A" are hereby informed that their OMR/ICR application form(s) for the Items/notifications (shown against particular Barcode) for which the Objective type written test is to be conducted on 23rd

of August 2014 (Morning and Afternoon Session) has/have been rejected for the reason shown against each.

DPK-5465 16-08-2014

Sd/- Secretary Services Selection Board

Table with columns: LIST OF DISQUALIFIED CANDIDATES, District, Divisional Cadre, State Cadre, DOB, Category, Permanent District, Advt. Item No., DIST. CADRE ITEM No., DIV. CADRE ITEM No., STATE CADRE ITEM No., Item No., Status, Age status, Final status. Contains a large list of disqualified candidates with their details.