

Diwali high-tea media interaction

Rs 254 cr earned from scrap disposal in 3 weeks: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Over Rs. 254 crore has been earned so far from disposal of scrap, including electronic scrap, during a short period of three weeks of the ongoing Special Swachhta campaign 2.0, while 37.19 lakh square feet of space has been cleared, which was earlier occupied by junk and scrap.

This was disclosed here on Tuesday by Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh during a media interaction over Diwali high-tea at his residence, at which an update was presented about the status and progress of Special Swachhta campaign 2.0 which was launched on 2nd October and will conclude on 31st October. Dr Jitendra said, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Swachhta campaign is also a testimony of the "whole of government" and "whole of nation" approach, which has ultimately achieved the form of a countrywide "Jan Andolan". The Minister also informed that 40 lac files reviewed, 3,05,268 Public Grievances Redressed, 5,416 MP's references replied and 588 Rules eased during the said timeline.

Secretary, I&B Apurva Chandra, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARE, Dr Himanshu Pathak,



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh holding a media interaction over Diwali high-tea at his New Delhi residence, on Tuesday.

Secretary, Posts, Vineet Pandey, Principal DG, PIB, Satyendra Prakash, CEO, Prasar Bharati, Mayank Aggarwal also shared their thoughts on the occasion.

Dr. Jitendra said tremendous enthusiasm was being witnessed in Ministries/Department for institutionalising Swachhata and minimising pendency. He urged officials to draw inspiration from Prime Minister's words in his tweet that "such efforts are not only innovative and commendable but most importantly remind us of our basic civic duty of keeping our surroundings and public places clean."

The Special Campaign 2.0 has been implemented in remote outstation offices, foreign missions and posts, attached and subordinate offices and citizen centric swachhata initiatives. The Campaign was holistic in size and scale, witnessed widespread participation from thousands of officials and citizens who came together to create a movement for Swachhata in Government Offices.

Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State and Secretaries to Government of India participated in the Special Campaign 2.0 providing leadership and guidance in implementation. In 3 weeks, the Department of Posts has conducted the cleanliness campaign in 17767 Post

Offices, the Ministry of Railways has conducted in 7028 Railway Stations, Department of Pharmaceuticals in 5974 campaign sites, Department of Defence in 4578 campaign sites and Ministry of Home Affairs in 4896 campaign sites.

The progress of Special Campaign 2.0 is monitored on a dedicated portal www.pgportals.gov.in/scdpm22 on a daily basis. Nodal Officers have been appointed in all Ministries/Departments who monitor work undertaken by field offices. The Special Campaign 2.0 is reviewed on a weekly basis by Secretaries to Government of India. The progress of the Special Campaign 2.0 has been widely reported in social media with over 10,000 social media tweets by Ministries/Departments.

In 3 weeks of Special Campaign 2.0 from October 2-25, 2022 the progress was achieved which include (a) Swachhata Campaign Sites - 68363 (b) Records Management: Files Reviewed (physical files + e-files) - 40.52 lakh (c) Public Grievances + Appeals Redressed - 3,20,152 (d) Revenue Earned (Rs. Cr) - Rs. 254.21 cr (e) Space Freed (lac sq feet) - 37.19 lac sq feet (f) MP's References - 5,416 (g) Easing of Rules/ Processes - 588.



Mining Deptt organises e-Challan, e-Marketplace awareness meet



Secretary, Mining Department, Amit Sharma interacting with officials.

CJ visits Kulgum, inspects under construction New District Court Complex

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KULGAM: Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey, on Tuesday visited District Court, Kulgum, and inspected and reviewed under construction New District Court Complex.

Justice Magrey issued certain on spot directions regarding the construction process and timely completion of the project. Chief Justice also inaugurated Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) Centre, at ADR Kulgum. Chief Justice elaborately explained about the objective of establishing LADCS saying that the innovative system will help in management and implementation of legal aid system in a professional manner as far as criminal matters are concerned. This system will provide qualitative and timely legal services in criminal matters to all eligible persons, he added.

Justice Magrey also visited Higher Secondary School,



Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey interacting with students.

Manzgam, of which he had been a student. He had an exclusive interaction with the students there regarding his own experiences and memorable moments in the school during his student life there. The school authorities felicitated the Chief Justice and spoke high of his achievements.

Chief Justice exhorted upon the students to work hard towards achieving their set goals in life. "Every student possesses unique caliber and

capability of reaching to zenith of success and achieving their dreams lest one should study things keenly and with dedication", he maintained. He said that the school has changed somewhat but his nostalgic feelings attached with the school have not changed a bit.

The teachers and students of the institution expressed gratitude to Chief Justice for his visit to the school. They described him as a source of inspiration and guiding force for them. On the occasion,

Chief Justice also interacted with the Judicial Officers of the district and the members of the Bar Association, Kulgum.

Chief Justice had detailed discussion with them regarding their respective issues and concerns. He assured the Bar members that all their grievances will be examined and addressed at the earliest.

Chief Justice also inspected

the Court Rooms, E-Court Room, Judicial Staff Rooms, facilities available for Litigants, Lawyers and overall infrastructure of the Court Complex at Kulgum. Tahir Khursheed Raina, PDJ Kulgum, Gowhar Majid Dalal, Registrar Judicial Srinagar, Manzoor Ahmad Zargar, CJM Kulgum, Mehreen Mushtaq, Secretary DLSA, Abdul Bari, Joint Registrar Judicial Srinagar, other Judicial Officers of District Kulgum, Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, Director Education Kashmir, Director Tourism Kashmir, Director Horticulture, Director Health, SSP Kulgum, DDC Member Kulgum, Joint Director Education, CEO Kulgum, Bar President, Bar Association, Kulgum, Bar President, Bar Association Qazigund, Bar President, Bar Association, Damhal Hanji Pora, Kulgum, Principal HSS Manzgam and other senior officers of district administration were also present on the occasion.

He emphasized the need for

strenuous efforts by all stakeholders to encourage public for purchasing mined material through e-marketplace which is readily available at G2B2C website "geolo

gymining.jk.gov.in". This would give total autonomy, choice and flexibility to the consumers for placing order, making e-payment and getting delivery of materials at doorsteps without human interface like it happens at Amazon and Flipkart e-Marketplaces, he added.

Secretary mentioned that candid directions have been issued to all the District Mining Officers of the UT to create special cells in their respective offices to give round the clock (24x7) approval to e-Challans on department's G2B2C portal so that the work doesn't suffer due to its non-issuance during the odd hours.

Director Geology and Mining assured that there shall be total support to the

Kashmir all set to welcome migratory guests

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: The arrival of winter season in Kashmir, the migratory birds have started arriving here from far-off lands in an attempt to escape the harsh winter months of other countries for the relatively-less harsh cold of Kashmir, causing a stir in wetlands like the world famous 'Hokarsar' and other water bodies. Wildlife officials said, "Day and night temperatures in parts of Kashmir are suitable for these migratory

aliens. While maintaining their centuries-old efforts with Kashmiri, migratory birds have started reaching here from far off lands to spend the winter months in the relatively less harsh winter of the Valley. These hardcore spirits were flying from Siberia and China, as well as the Philippines, Eastern Europe and Japan".

As per official data, thousands of migratory birds started arriving in Kashmir and have made different

wetlands their home. The migratory birds arriving mostly from Russia, Siberia and central Asia are landing these days in famous wetlands of Valley, including Hokarsar, Wular Lake, Haigam and Shalbugh and other water bodies. "We have increased our vigil to put an effective check on poaching and are conducting regular checks around these wetlands to restrict illegal hunting of migratory birds," officials told.

Gaurav Gupta, in his address, observed that this festival sym-

bolizes the triumph of truth and righteousness over falsehood and of good over evil, highlighting the high values and ethos of the country's civilizational history.

He hoped that the festival would further strengthen the bonds of communal harmony, brotherhood, amity, tranquility and secularism, which are the hallmarks of our glorious composite cultural traditions.

Managing Committee members who were present on the occasion Ashwani Gupta, Aekta Gupta, Ajay Sabherwal, Indu Puri and Vikram Sharma,



Jammu Club members during Diwali celebrations at club premises.

Jammu Club celebrates Diwali with enthusiasm

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Club celebrated Diwali Festival with great enthusiasm in the Club premises here today. Gaurav Gupta, Hon. Secretary Jammu Club along with Executive Members and entire staff of Jammu Club has participated in the Diwali Poojan and prayed for the well-being of the people of the Union Territory.

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Why not part-time private practice be allowed to all Government employees like it is allowed to doctors?

Even Government Doctors are not writing prescriptions by Chemical name, why ?

■ DAYA SAGR

Not so encouraging fate of affairs concerning Jan Aushadi Scheme -2008 conceived by Lt Ram Vilas Paswan, the then Union Minister for Fertilizers & Chemicals, for uprooting the unfair trade practices of marking the medicines with exorbitantly inflated MRPs and selling the same with the help of 'prescription writers' even after naming that as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadi Pariyojna and Narendra Modi himself almost promoting the Pariyojna like a 'brand ambassador' in 2022 even when under the Prime Minister Pariyojna the medicines can be provided at rates as low as 15 to 20 % of the many medicines that the prescription writers are found prescribing by 'Brand' names where as the medicines marked with fair & genuine prices under the do not have been able to take hold of even 5 % of the total trade of allopathic drugs through PMJAKs outlets of PMBI even after 14 years over rides the worth that Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India - PMBI (earlier known as Bureau Pharma PSUs of India)- Department of Pharmaceuticals, Government of India has been trying feed through the success stories to Government of India. The government doctors could do a lot to save the patients/ their families from

the unfair burden of the 'profiteering and unfair' trade practices like breaking the 'prescription writer' and drug seller racket, but even they are not doing that, why?

Civil society can work for strengthening the Prime Minister efforts by providing the real feedbacks from the ground. The comparative number of PMJAKs and the medical shops selling branded medicines even in cities like Jammu / Srinagar well speaks of the status on ground.

A few months back I had to purchase Roxithromycin 150mg Tablet and asked for Roxivista 150MG Tab (Roxithromycin 150 mg) from a drug store in Jammu but the man on the counter regretted non availability and instead he offered me ROXID 150mg Tab manufactured by Alembic Pharmaceuticals Ltd with MRP of 134.50/- 10 Tab strip. Since the MRP of Roxid 150mg appeared almost double the MRP of ROXIVISTA 150 Mg Tab (Roxithromycin 150 Mg) i.e Rs.68.62 I hesitated to accept his offer and in response he said brand asked for by me was not kept by since that was of a 'local company'. And when I told him that Cadila Pharmaceuticals Ltd was not a 'local' company the salesman simply said "sir, we keep what doctors in general prescribe". What should be the

genuine MRP for that drug could be well seen from the MRP with what it appeared in the price list of Jan Aushadi - Roxithromycin 150 mg film coated Tablets IP 10's Rs.22.32 { it has to be noted here that the Jan Aushadi drugs that mostly cover the allopathic drugs that do not come under the patent rights of any particular drug manufacturer (like of what are included in the National List of Essential drugs 2011 with revisions) are not marked with low MRP due to some subsidy from the government }.

The questions that are worth raising before a Health Minister/ Administration are (i) why even the majority of the government doctors do not prescribe even brands like ROXIVISTA 150 mg costing just Rs.6.86 /tab as against prescribing ROXID 150MG costing Rs.13.45 / tab what to talk of prescribing the same drug by Chemical Name / Generic name as Roxithromycin 150 mg could be got for just Rs.2.2 per Tab (ii) why did the vendor call even a company like 'Cadila' a local manufacturer, (iii) why has not the (PM) Jan Aushadi Pariyojna has not visibly taken off commercially even after 14 years of its launch (2008) inspite of its MRPs being genuine/ reasonably

low?

Ideally in areas like UT of J&K inspite of Doctors being government employees, they were and are allowed to do private practice outside during office hours so that the suffering people do get some local care and the serving doctor also gets some compensation for the services rendered. It was for the reasons of health related emergencies and social cause that the government doctors were allowed to render consultancy services before/after their official working hours and also accept some 'honorarium' / fee from the beneficiary.

The permission for private practice was given to Government doctors not to increase the income but was simply to make available emergency attention / consultation in the near vicinity at odd hours wherever possible. For such clinical consultations a doctor could at the maximum put a 10cm x 40cm name plate at his/her house but these days one could easily find large boards like a Kariyana shop on the house / private clinic of government doctor. But the way even the commercialization of relaxations given in the shape of permission for private practice to government has grown need has emerged for withdrawing the service relaxations.

Some government doctors have even invested in installation of equipment / laboratories with fully commercial intentions.

Most of the government doctors are these days doing nearly a 'full time' private enterprise under the garb of permission for private practice. The interaction between the sellers of medicines & utilities and the practicing doctors have almost shaped into trade relations. The custom of inflated prescription writing have started badly inflicting the family economy of common patients. In a way the social cause behind allowing government doctors private practice has been totally overshadowed by the commercial enterprise interests of doctors.

In the earlier times the provision for private practice was drafted for the benefit of the common man keeping in view the level/ quantum of available professional health services but now it is being alleged that it has started harming the common cause.

Health services in Private sector have also grown, private practitioners' number has also grown, number of retired doctors is also reasonably high now, people do appreciate that services of doctors in institutions like AIIMS and PGI are much more dedicated to medical ethics since there doctors are not

allowed private practice. More so no such relaxations have been allowed to other professionals in government service like engineers, accountants who too can increase their income by working off time.

It is not out of place to also mention here where the doctors in government service are not allowed private practice so they are given non practicing allowance. It may be a news for a rational thinkers that doctors in Army are also given non practicing allowance, how funny !!! Not only that a close look will reveal that in Medical College Jammu / Srinagar some doctors are given non practicing allowance who belong to a stream where in general no patient would like to go for private treatment to them.

Not only that even doctors in armed forces are given non practicing allowance, how strange!

So, in case the greater public cause is not being served with the relaxation given to doctors , rather some damage too is being alleged and permission to government doctors for private practice is to increase their income then why not allow private practice to all other employees with the government?

(The author is a Sr Journalist and a social activist
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