

Rs 1,162 cr earned from scrap disposal during ‘Swachhata’ campaign: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The Centre has earned a whopping Rs 1,162 crore from disposal of scrap during its special cleanliness drives and plans are afoot to further accelerate it with the help of states, Union Minister Incharge Personnel/ DoPT, Dr Jitendra Singh said on Monday.

In an exclusive interview, the Minister said, a cleanliness campaign carried out at over 4 lakh sites resulted in weeding out of nearly 96.1 lakh files, including electronic files besides freeing up of 355.5 lakh square feet of spaces, which could house a huge mall.

"As much as Rs 1,162.49



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh in an exclusive interview to a national news agency at New Delhi on Monday.

crore has been earned through disposal of office scrap including e-waste like old computers and other electronic items. The cleanliness drive has become India's largest campaign for institutionalising 'swachhata'," Singh said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, without spending any significant sum, the government has been able to earn so many crores of revenue through the cleanliness campaign, "which in my opinion is a huge success". The revenue of Rs 1,162.49 crore

was earned in the three special campaigns carried out by the central government during 2021 to 2023, he said. "We have seen tremendous improvement in the office space. There was a time when we had cluttered office spaces with huge piles of files".

Through these campaigns, Dr Jitendra said, that typical image of the government office space is no longer a reality. The special cleanliness campaign is one big initiative out of several other initiatives being taken to improve the overall functioning of the government," the minister said.

Singh said, the central government wants to make its cleanliness campaign a mass

movement with the help of state governments.

"We are in touch with the state governments, the Minister said. Some of the state governments, including Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, have already taken noteworthy initiatives in this regard. We expect more state governments to accelerate this drive to make wealth out of waste," he said.

The Minister said, during the special campaign 3.0 this year, a saturation approach was adopted to cover all field/public-centric offices covering around 2.5 lakh sites. IT alone helped in earning around Rs 556 crore of revenue through scrap disposal," the minister added.



IGP Jammu adheres new rank to newly promoted DySP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Inspector General of Police (IGP) of Jammu Zone, Anand Jain, on Monday decorated newly promoted DySP (M) Administrative Officer Narinder Singh by pinning new rank on his promotion in a function held at ZPHQ Jammu. The officer who was decorated is presently posted at ZPHQ, Jammu.

IGP Jammu, while felicitating the DySP (M), urged him to work with zeal and zest to make the department proud. He expressed his hope that the promotion would bring a new spirit of public



IGP Jammu Zone Anand Jain after decorating newly promoted DySP (M) Narinder Singh.

service among the officer: S.O to IGP Jammu, The other police officers Janardhan Singh Slathia who were present on the DySP (S) Private Secy. to occasion are Vishal Manhas, IGP Jammu Zone.

Dr Andrabi inaugurates blood donation camp, distributes blankets to poor at Haj House

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chairperson of Jammu & Kashmir Waqf Board & Minister of State, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Monday inaugurated the new office of Human Rights Judicial Protection Council at Srinagar. The function was held at Haj House in Srinagar. Shabnum Mehraj represented IIHR/JPC Kashmir Chapter.

BJP Media Incharge Kashmir Sajid Yousuf Shah was also present on the occasion. The Council aims at providing social justice protection to the deprived sections of the society.

Dr Darakhshan Andrabi inaugurated a blood donation camp also on the occasion. She also distributed blankets among the needy. In her address, Dr Darakhshan said that social service



JKWB Chairperson Dr Darakhshan Andrabi speaking at a programme.

is the basis of public welfare and when the government is doing its best possible for serving people, the contribution of the volunteers also remains very significant. "Social service has always been at the core of my politics and I continuously remain busy in social service initiatives. We all need to develop the interest of your youth in volunteer services at a bigger scale", said Dr Darakhshan Andrabi. She praised the youth of J&K who are taking part in different public welfare initiatives at individual & collective levels. "Drug addiction among youth is alarming and Waqf Board is planning to establish a Drug De-Addiction Centre for Girls in Srinagar", said Andrabi. She also felicitated many volunteers on the occasion for their social contribution.

College on Wheels: Day-2 J&K student' contingent visits Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament House

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: In an enriching endeavour, a contingent, comprising 780 students, mentors and Administrative Staff from University of Jammu, University of Kashmir, Cluster University of Jammu, Cluster University Srinagar, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Kashmir besides the affiliated colleges of the varsities of Jammu, Kashmir and the Cluster Innovation Centre (CIC), embarked on a unique educational journey, as part of the "College on Wheels" initiative on Monday visited the Rashtrapati Bhavan and Parliament House in the national capital.

The highlight of Day-2 of the visit was the brief interaction between the students and Utpal Kumar Singh, Secretary General, Lok Sabha & Lok Sabha Secretariat at Parliament House.

The Secretary General commended the initiative



VC JU, Prof. Umesh Rai with J&K contingent during visit to Parliament House.

taken by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chairman Higher Education Council, Government of Jammu and Kashmir and Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu. He appreciated the collaborative effort to provide students with the opportunity to visit significant places, emphasizing the importance of such educational journeys in shaping well-rounded individuals.

Complimenting the students, the Secretary General acknowledged their wisdom and sense of understanding,

and exuded confidence in their potential to excel in their future endeavors. The Vice Chancellor also presented a memento to Utpal Kumar Singh.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu observed, "We believe in providing our students with diverse learning experiences that go beyond the confines of traditional classrooms".

"The College on Wheels initiative aims to broaden horizons and nurture well-rounded individuals equipped for the challenges

of the real world," remarked Prof. Rai.

At Parliament House, the contingent had the privilege of interacting with officials and gaining insights into the legislative process. They also had an opportunity to explore the historic halls of the Parliament House.

Subsequently, the contingent was welcomed to the majestic Rashtrapati Bhavan, the official residence of the President of India.

Exploring the historic halls and gardens, they immersed themselves in the rich heritage and grandeur of the country's highest office. Mementos were also

presented to Rajesh Verma, Secretary to President of India, Swati Shahi, Deputy Secretary, Rashtrapati Bhawan, Anupam Nag, PRO, Rashtrapati Bhawan.

The visit was not only a testament to the innovative approach of "College on Wheels" but also an opportunity for students to witness the functioning of the country's political and administrative core.

Prof. Umesh Rai accompanied the students who actively participated in this immersive experience.

The experience was designed to broaden their understanding of democratic governance and the role of the legislative body in shaping the nation's future. As the sun set on this memorable day, the "College on Wheels" contingent carried with them a wealth of experiences and newfound knowledge. The initiative continues to break conventional barriers, proving that education knows no bounds.

In the evening the Gyanodaya Express - College on Wheels was flagged-off by Prof. Dinesh Singh and Prof. Umesh Rai for onward journey to Ahmadabad.

BJP delegation meets Jammu SSP, demands enhanced security at migrant KP camps



BJP delegation calling on SSP Jammu Vinod Kumar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A BJP delegation on Monday called on Senior Superintendent of Police (Jammu) Vinod Kumar and demanded enhanced security at camps housing migrant Kashmiri Pandits.

The demand was highlighted in a memorandum submitted

by the BJP's Kashmir displaced unit led by the party's district chief Chand Ji Bhat.

The delegation raised the alleged incidents of vandalism of vehicles in the Jagti township and sought intensified efforts to apprehend the culprits and implement preventive measures.

It also emphasised the urgent need to bolster manpower at the Jagti police post and recommended frequent and comprehensive night patrolling at all Kashmiri Pandit camps in Purkhoo, Muthi, Jagti and Nagrota.

"This proactive measure aims to deter criminal activities and enhance residents' sense of security," the delegation said.

It also proposed monthly campaigns on drug awareness, crime prevention and police-public meetings to foster community engagement.

The delegation raised the issue of CCTV camera installation at Jagti and other camps, the statement said, lauding the positive response of the police official.

■ MASROOR AHMAD

SRINAGAR: In response to the plummeting temperatures and challenging weather conditions in Kashmir, the Private Schools Association of Jammu and Kashmir (PSAJK) has urged the administration to announce winter vacations, particularly for lower classes.

The association has received numerous representations from both parents and schools, highlighting the difficulties faced by young students in the current weather.

Expressing concern, a spokesperson for PSAJK emphasized the hardships faced by young children in preparing for schools amidst freezing temperatures and foggy conditions.

"For a 4-year-old, getting up early and preparing for school in this weather is extremely difficult. We are not a developed nation where houses, buses, and schools are centrally heated. We have to adapt to the weather," the spokesperson stated.

The association also underscored the challenges faced by parents in preparing their children for school in such adverse weather conditions.



PSAJK raised the issue of the potential negative impact on children's health due to exposure to extreme foggy conditions and sub-zero temperatures. The association pointed out that such conditions in schools make it difficult for children to

focus, resulting in wasted class time.

"To safeguard the health of our children, we urge the government to announce winter vacations as early as possible," the spokesperson urged.

Additionally, PSAJK reiterated its long-standing demand to align the academic calendar with local temperature conditions. The association argued that the current March session is not suitable for Kashmir, given that schools typically complete their syllabus up to November. The spokesperson emphasized the need to switch back to the old calendar, aligning it with the October session, which is a norm in countries with harsh winters.

"The March session has created numerous problems, and it needs to be dealt with before more damage is done. The October session is a norm in almost every country that has harsh winters, and we are not demanding something extraordinary," the spokesperson added.

PSAJK has exuded confidence that the government will consider their plea to ensure the well-being of students and align the academic calendar with the local weather conditions.

Yasha Mudgul reviews progress on Special Summary Revision 2023-24 in Udhampur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR : Commissioner Secretary Cooperatives, Yasha Mudgul, who is also the Roll Observer for District Udhampur, on Monday chaired a meeting at the DC Office Complex here to assess the ongoing Special Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls for the year 2023-24.

District Election Officer, Saloni Rai, Additional DC, Joginder Singh Jasrotia, Deputy District Election Officer Gurdev Kumar, SDM Rannagar Shishir Gupta, ACR, Rafiq Ahmed Jaral, Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) and Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) besides Booth Level Officers (BLOs) attended the meeting.

District Election Officer presented a detailed overview of the ongoing special summary revision in Udhampur. She highlighted



Comm Secy Cooperatives, Yasha Mudgul chairing a meeting at Udhampur.

Reviews developmental scenario

UDHAMPUR: Commissioner Secretary Cooperatives, Yasha Mudgul, on Monday convened a comprehensive meeting to review development scenario in the district.

Deputy Commissioner, Udhampur, Saloni Rai, SSP Joginder Singh, Additional District Development Commissioner, Ghan Sham Singh, DFO Rushal Garg, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Rafiq Ahmed Jaral, and Chief Planning Officer

Mudassar Yaqoob Zargar besides others attended the meeting.

Commissioner Secretary emphasized effective implementation of all schemes, directing departments to mobilize resources for 100% coverage of eligible beneficiaries.

Necessary directives were given to address drinking water issues in schools, increase cooperatives in the dairy sector, and promote women membership through camps.

While reviewing road-wise progress in the PWD sector, Yasha Mudgul asked the authorities to expedite work execution to meet set timelines for completion.

She asked the officials to gear up for target completion and fund utilization before end of the financial year.

She emphasized generation of self-employment opportunities and directed district officers to organize awareness programs for local communities.

the right to franchise.

Commissioner Secretary

CBI court frames charges against JKGB Branch Manager, others

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Special Judge CBI Srinagar SC Katal framed charges against Ishtiyaz Ahmad Parray Branch Head at JKGB Mirgund, Mushtaq Ahmad Wani and Ghulam Mohammad Dar U/Sec. 5(1)(c)/5(2) J&K PC Act. Svt. 2006 r/w Sections 120-B, 409, 420 & 471 RPC. Special Judge after hearing both the sides observed that prosecution case is that one Ishtiyaz Ahmad Parray during his tenure (from 01.02.2014 to 04.06.2018) as Branch Head at JKGB Mirgund in pursuance to criminal conspiracy hatched with other unknown public servants and Private persons, have embezzled bank money to the tune of rupees three crores by way of sanctioning of car loans in favour of non-existing borrowers on the basis of fake and fictitious KYC and other mandatory documents resulting wrongful loss of about rupees three crores along with interest caused to the bank and corresponding wrongful gain to himself and other unknown persons, accordingly, the FIR came to be registered.

As per this charge-sheet, the accused No. 1 in connivance with the accused No. 2 have dishonestly and fraudulently sanctioned 16 car loans (as mentioned in the charge sheet) on the basis of false/forged documents thereby violated norms of the bank. The accused persons were knowing the fact that borrower have never applied for loan despite, the accused procure their documents and sanctioned the loan, there-

by, caused huge loss to the government/bank exchequer. It is also revealed during the investigation that the borrower had never applied for the loan. The statement of the borrower in this regard have been recorded. The allegation against the accused No. 2 are that he had lured the public on the pretext of providing benefit of government sponsored scheme and collected their Adhar & photographs etc.

It is also the case of prosecution that accused Ishtiyaz Ahmad Parray in connivance with accused Ghulam Mohammad Dar have dishonestly sanctioned car loans of Rupees five lacs (for purchasing I-20 Sports Hyundai) in favour of Ghulam Mohammad Dar. The accused No. 3 Ghulam Mohammad Dar provided his fake/forged driving licence and the accused No. 1 Ishtiyaz Ahmad Parray on basis of fake driving licence and without verifying the income of the accused No. 3 sanctioned car loan in favour of accused No. 3 which is violation of the norms of bank, thereby caused huge loss to the government/bank exchequer. In this regard I/O has assembled the sufficient material evidence.

Court after perusing the record, observed that there is sufficient material on record at this stage to proceed against accused persons. Hence, Prima facie case is made out for framing of the charge U/Sec. 5(1)(c)/5(2) J&K PC Act. Svt. 2006 r/w Sections 120-B, 409, 420 & 471 RPC against the above mentioned accused persons.