

LG inaugurates Amrit Yuva Kalotsav, terms it an opportunity to build self-reliant India

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday inaugurated Amrit Yuva Kalotsav, a cultural festival organised by Sangeet Natak Akademi to mark 75 years of India's independence. The event featuring young artists from across the country in the field of performing art will showcase India's art styles & traditions.

The Lt Governor said, the Amrit Kaal Khand is the opportune moment to build a powerful and self-reliant India by strengthening the cultural and social unity of the country. The onus to achieve this goal and ensuring the welfare of humanity rests on the shoulders of our youth, he added.

Underscoring the need to bring the young generation closer to the roots of art and cultural heritage, the Lt Governor said, Amrit Yuva Kalotsav is also an opportunity to look at our rich cultural legacy. India is the only country in the world which has created a balanced environment for science, art and spirituality to grow and blossom together,

he observed.

Art is a living element of our tradition and its different forms will play an important role in building a self-reliant India. This festival is an opportunity to see the vastness of life's values, noted the Lt Governor.

Our collective resolve for the cultural journey of the next 25 years is to re-establish the glory of India on the world stage. Youth energy, national unity and self-reliant society will play a crucial role in realizing this resolution, he further said.

The Lt Governor said, youth is the most powerful



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha lighting ceremonial lamp during inauguration of Amrit Yuva Kalotsav in Jammu.

not about technicalities but the flow of the heart, he observed.

Art is a powerful instrument for social transformation. On the path of developmental journey, India always considered cultural divinity and spirituality as the top priority, the Lt Governor added. For centuries, various performing arts, Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Kathak, Hindustani classical music and other genres have kept the arts alive for the future generation and have also made efforts to unite the whole country through it, he further added.

The Lt Governor also motivated the youth to recognize their unique potential and contribute towards nation building.

We must remember that the responsibility of preserving our cultural treasure and the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat is on the shoulders of the youth, the Lt Governor said.

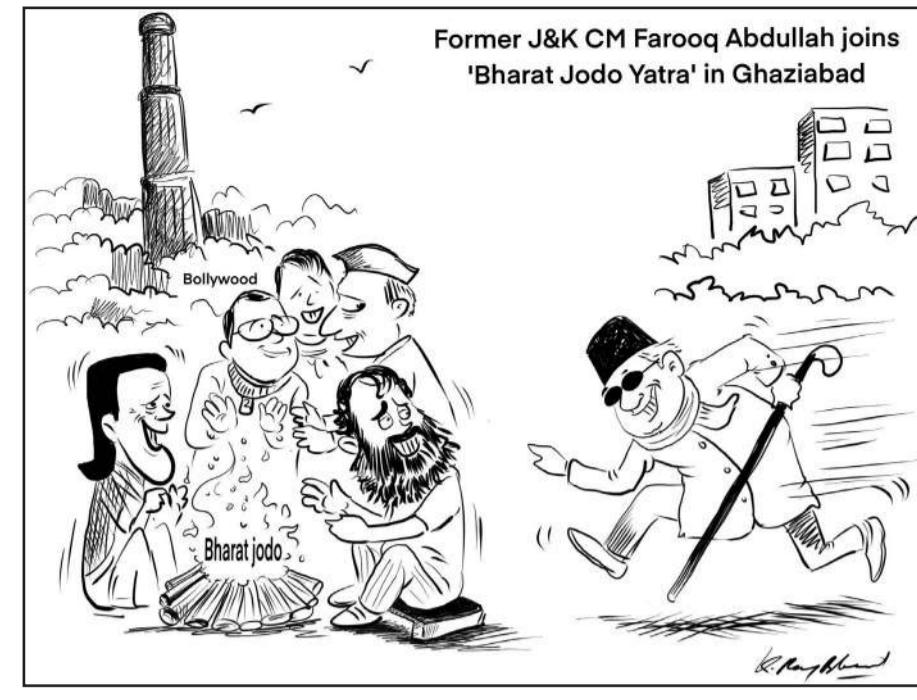
Padma Shri Balwant Thakur, Eminent Theatre personality; Abdul Ghani Kohli, former Minister; Avny Lavasa, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, renowned artists, and prominent citizens were present on the occasion at Abhinav Theatre.

connect the youth with the cultural heritage. A workshop on Art Critique is also being organized as part of the 3-day long festival of music, dance & drama, she informed.

Bharat Singh Manhas, Secretary, J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages and Aneesh P. Rajan, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi also spoke on the endeavours of the Sangeet Natak Akademi and JKAAACL in providing platform to young artists and promoting unity in diversity.

Amrit Yuva Kalotsav is being organized by Sangeet Natak Akademi in collaboration with the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages, and Girdi Lal Dogra Memorial Govt. Degree College, Hiranagar.

Dr Sandhya Purecha, Chairperson, Sangeet Natak Akademi, while speaking on the occasion highlighted the efforts of the Akademi to



Former J&K CM Farooq Abdullah joins 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in Ghaziabad

Director Information Akshay Labroo chairs 1st Meeting of Newly constituted J&K Media Accreditation Committee Discusses modalities with JKMAC members for granting Accreditation to News Media



Director Information Akshay Labroo chairing first meeting of Jammu and Kashmir Media Accreditation Committee in Jammu on Friday.

BRO announces closure of Zojila from today



BRO officials during closing ceremony of Zojila on Friday.

the pass for minimum time and reopen it as soon as possible. The pass is

Dr Jitendra launches 'One Week One Lab' campaign highlighting India's global excellence

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH:

Zojila, which connects Union Territory of Ladakh with the rest of the country, will remain closed for the winter season from January 7, 2023 in view of inclement weather conditions.

Border Road Organisation (BRO) officials on Friday informed about the official closure of the pass and added that it will be reopened again once the weather improves.

Srinagar-Kargil-Leh Road remaining open till January 6, 2023 has set a record as the road in the past would often get closed in the month of November or December on account of heavy snowfall.

"We are trying to close



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh speaking after launching the "One Week One Lab" campaign of CSIR at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on Friday.

the "One Week One Lab" Campaign of CSIR, each of its 37 constituent laboratories, spread Nationwide, will show-

A Look through the Mist



each CSIR lab shall be organizing week long events including industry & start-ups meet, students connect, society connect, display of technologies, etc.

Dr Singh kicked off the campaign by inaugurating the Workshop & Exhibition on "Innovation and Sustainable Construction Materials & Technologies" organized by CSIR-Central Building Research Institute (CSIR-CBRI), Roorkee with an aim of moving towards Net Zero Emission and Zero Waste.

On the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh also released the Logo for CSIR's One Week One Lab Campaign.

Dr Singh attended by Deputy Director Information (PR), Deepak Dubey, who is also the Member Secretary of JKMAC, Zulfikar Majeed (Deecan Herald), Fayaz Ahmad (ANI), Neeraj Rohmetra (Daily Excelsior), Arshid Rasool (Daily Gadyal), Naveen Sharma (Dainik Jagran), Anil Bhat (PTI), Zahoor Hashmi (Daily Aftab), Satish Vimal (All India Radio), Pradip

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Information Akshay Labroo on Friday chaired the first meeting of the recently constituted Jammu and Kashmir Media Accreditation Committee (JKMAC) to discuss and finalize the modalities for grant of Accreditation to News Media.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Director Information (PR), Deepak Dubey, who is also the Member Secretary of JKMAC, Zulfikar Majeed (Deecan Herald), Fayaz Ahmad (ANI), Neeraj Rohmetra (Daily Excelsior), Arshid Rasool (Daily Gadyal), Naveen Sharma (Dainik Jagran), Anil Bhat (PTI), Zahoor Hashmi (Daily Aftab), Satish Vimal (All India Radio), Pradip

Datta (Times Now) and Ayaz Hafiz (Rising Kashmir) as members in person and through virtual mode.

At the outset, Deputy Director (PR) gave a detailed presentation over the composition and mandate of JKMAC and briefed the Committee about the salient features of the Guidelines governing JKMAC, including eligibility criteria for working journalists, freelancers and veteran journalists.

The eligibility conditions for granting accreditation on behalf of organization/agencies, news organizations (satellite channels), digital news publishers etc. were also discussed threadbare.

The meeting was also informed about the quotas fixed for various categories of newspaper/media establishments, electronic and digital media.

Threadbare discussion were also held over the composition of the Sub-Committee of JKMAC. It was unanimously decided that the format of application for the Accreditation will be circulated through Print Media and the Social Media Handles of DIPR in the coming week.

There will be a window of 30 days for inviting applications from eligible media persons. After the receipt of applications, the DIPR will complete the process in the shortest possible time. Addressing the committee members, Director Information, Akshay Labroo, who is also chairman of JKMAC reiterated that the accreditation process for journalists will be completed soon.

He added that the long pending demand from the Media fraternity will help in the smooth functioning of Media and Press in Jammu and Kashmir.

People of India appear divided in two categories, General & Reserved; is it fair?

DAYA SAGAR

Let us work with open mind, do not debate but discuss demands and objections for & against reservations (in Legislature, in Education institutions and in Government jobs) so as to address the genuineness of the issues worth satisfying the 'leaderships' of either side so that atleast now onwards some good happens to the beneficiaries who were kept in focus by the framers of Constitution of India while drafting articles like Art-330, Art-332, Art-341, Art-342, Art-46 and like. India surely has a very unique and people centric Constitution. In case one intimately goes through the contents of the Constitution of India with particular reference to the Directive Principles one would find that while framing the Constitution of India it was not the voice of only those sections who directly worked for independence of India but it was more for the cause of the Indian masses who did not directly become part of independence struggle, who were much away from the administrative arena , who had no meaningful access to the educational institutions , the children , the woman , social / regional minorities , backward people , those still with indigenous traditions& practices and who had remained devoid of administrative/social/ political participation.

The constitution laid down for grant of fundamental rights at equal footing to all citizens but at the same time also incorporated some provisos of exceptions. India is a socialist democratic republic hence in view of the spirits laid in the Constitution of India (COI) where in a way even it could be said that 'human rights' are enshrined as Fundamental Rights for all Indian Citizens in Part-III of the COI (Art-12 to Art- 35) granting equality at all forums (particularly Art-13 : Laws inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights; Art-14- Right to equality/ Equality before law; Art-15 - Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth; Art-16 Equality of opportunity In matters of public employment: Art-19 - Right to Freedom:- Right to freedom of speech, to acquire, hold and dispose off property etc; Art-23 : Right to freedom of

religion; Art-29 -No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them; ; Art-31 - Compulsory acquisition of property / Right to Property ; Art-32-right to constitutional remedies;). Still some provisions & some articles were simultaneously incorporated where in some exceptions have been permitted not worth violation of the fundamental rights of other citizens like (Art16.4- (4) Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State.; Part-IV Directive Principles of State Policy : Art- 37 - The provisions contained in this Part shall not be enforceable by any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws.; Art-45 The State shall endeavour to provide, within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution, for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of fourteen years.

Art-46 :- Promotion of educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections. -- The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. PART XVI Special Provisions relating to Certain Classes Art-330 : Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (see Art-341 for description of SC) and Scheduled Tribes(see art-342 for description of ST) in the House of the People(Lok Sabha), Art-332 : Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assemblies of the States ; Art-334 :- Reservation of seats and special represen-

tation to cease after ten years; Art-335 : The claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State).

Government (s)/State were made duty bound through to make policies and provisions so as to increase the economic and social status of those below the datum even if there is need for the time being to extend some props to those who had in the past remained in critically weak social & educational environment worth even for their taking minimum initiatives .Some exceptional provisions for giving some special treatments to some Indian citizens over other citizens like providing 10 yr reservations to Socially & educationally backward classes/communities in the legislature where under people included were those who are referred as Schedule caste & Schedule Tribes were provided in 'first' (edition) constitution itself.

It is worth noting here that Constitution of India specifically talked of Social and Educational Backwardness and not of economic backwardness (although some researcher could also would contest that it is the continued economic backwardness / low economic status that also is more responsible for pushing the individuals to back benches of any community / society and better would have been to name social/ & economically backward).

In 1950 reserved category comprised of only SC & ST and the Constitutional (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 SRO 385 CO 19 of 10-08-1950 did not include the persons who professed religion other than Hinduism in schedule Castes except that every member of Ramdasi, Kabirpanthi, Mazbhi or Sikligar caste resident or Punjab or the Patiala; and the East Punjab States Union in relation to that state was deemed to be considered a member of Scheduled caste.

No doubt as per descriptions in the constitution there was no direct reference of

religion in relation to SC but the Presidential constitutional order of 1950 did make in a way the SC to look like religion specific. So, keeping in view Constitutional 1950 (SC) Order 1950 SRO 385 C.O 19 of 10-08-1950 could be said that originally sections of Indian citizens for reservations in socially & educationally backward classes were identified primarily in view the much trumpeted 'caste' based social discrimination existing only in Indians practicing Hindu religion (as had been done by British also while identifying the 'depressed classes' in India) but later on castes from among the Sikhs(Act No 63 of 1956)&Buddhist (Act 15 of 1990 of 03-06-1990) were also included in SC since it was accepted by their community that they too carried 'caste' based social discriminatory traditions amongst them (they too had their origin in 'Hindu').

Whereas for Schedule Tribe (ST), The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 C.O 23 of 1950, was also based on social & educational backwardness but was caste & religion wise totally neutral (ofcourse in literary terms materially/ economically also neutral).

In 2022 we have many more added to reserved categories as Other Backward Classes who too have been provided Reservations (but only in services & educational institutions and not in legislature).

The elders who drafted COI aimed at making Indian society free from social & educational backwardness, independent of any region or religion based divisions ; making people live in a free and fair environment worth capacitated to atleast earn minimums for one's honourable survival through self and hoped that after a decade or so there will be no need for any special props to any one for minimum capacity building but that did not happen. And it could be said that instead in 2022 the people of India have been divided into two categories, General Category and Reserved where demanding reservation on the basis region / set/ area / clan appears to have become a living feature.

(The author is Sr Journalist, social activist and analyst J&K affairs dayasagar45@yahoo.com)

| Tender Type | Tendering Section | | Bidding System |
|---|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Open | Works | | Single Bid System |
| Date of Uploading Tenders | Bid Starting Date | | Bid Closing Date/Time |
| 04.01.2023 | 16.01.2023 | | 30.01.2023 / 15:00 Hrs. |
| S.No. Tender No. Details of Tender | | | |
| 1. | 381-2022-23-PLMX-DRM-FZR | Provision of R.C.C retaining wall at the cutting Km 92/7 to 93/1 between KPLR to KGRA in section of SSEW-NGRT & Improvement to retaining wall in approaches of bridge No. 380 and 381 at Km 84/6-7 on PTK-JDNX section under ADEN/PLMX. | |
| | Advertised Value (Rs.) | Earliest Money | Validity of offer |
| | 5,69,33,317.38/- | 4,34,700/- | 60 Days 10 Months |
| Similar Nature of work: "Precast rcc/psc Work". | | | |
| 2. | 382-2022-23-JRC-DRM-FZR | Provision of 6 mm wide covered FOB at Jalandhar City station on SNL-ASR section under ADEN/JRC. | |
| | Advertised Value (Rs.) | Earliest Money | Validity of offer |
| | 81,60,058.80/- | 1,63,200/- | 60 Days 06 Months |
| Similar Nature of work: "Any work related to assembling erection and launching/re-girding of girders, through girders, plate girders FOB". | | | |
| 3. | 383-2022-23-JRC-DRM-FZR | Manning of Level Crossings in the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-JRC-DRM-FZR i.c.w Manning of 62 nos.Umanned Level Crossings against 60 L-Xings over Firozpur JN. | |
| | Advertised Value (Rs.) | Earliest Money | Validity of offer |
| | 2,87,06,192.63/- | 2,93,500/- | 60 Days 08 Months |
| Similar Nature of work: "Any civil work other than track work". | | | |
| 4. | 384-2022-23-PTK-DRM-FZR | Misc. Work in connection with Manual Deep screening & Cess repair of 23.23 Km track in the section of SSEP/Way/PTK under ADEN-IP-TK. | |
| | Advert | | |