

Govt runs over dozen self employment schemes in J&K: LG

Poor, underprivileged have first right on Govt resources

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that besides central government schemes, the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Administration is running more than a dozen self-employment schemes with an objective to provide resources and requisite training to youth to start their own business.



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha speaking at Block Diwas programme in Bhalwal, Jammu.

"This could be a game changer both in urban and rural areas," the Lt Governor said while participating in Block Diwas, a public outreach programme of J&K UT Administration, at Bhalwal. Congratulating people for overwhelming response on Block Diwas, the Lt Governor said the Jan-Bhagidari campaign to strengthen participatory governance is empowering citizens, generating awareness about responsibilities and ensuring accountability of officers in administration. He called upon every sec-

tion of the society to take initiative with dedication and determination to make their panchayat clean, liveable, achieve 100% literacy rate, maintain green spaces and 100% saturation of all government schemes. "The sense of commitment and duty among the citizens towards the society and their respective panchayats will improve quality of life and pave the way to prosperity," the Lt Governor said. He said, the massive and historic participation of people in Viksit Bharat Sankalp

Yatra and 100 percent saturation of all schemes will remove developmental imbalances and give a tremendous boost to local economy. The Lt Governor reiterated the resolve of the UT Administration towards equitable and inclusive development and to ensure empowerment of all. Poor and underprivileged have the first right on government resources. Efforts are being made towards promotion of Dogri and other regional languages, connecting remaining panchayats

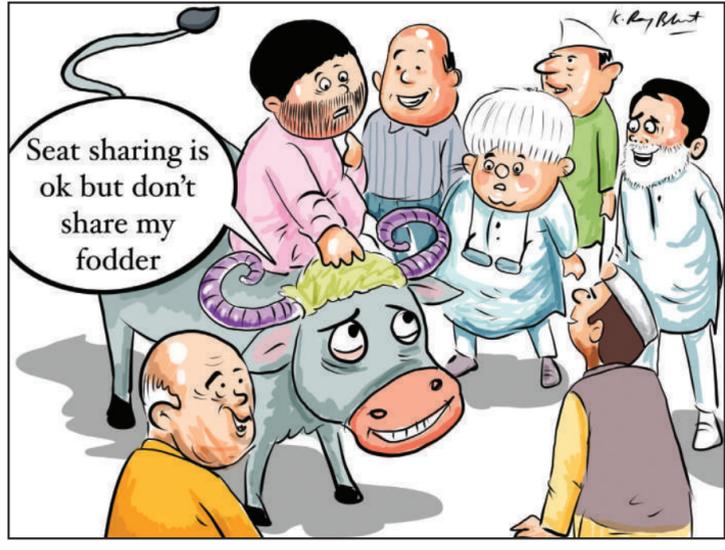
with road, boost industries, religious tourism and tapping the potential of Agriculture & Allied sector, he said. At Block Diwas programme, the Lt Governor urged the people to assist Civil Administration and Police to intensify crackdown on drug supply chain to make their Panchayat Nasha-Mukt. Responding to the issues put forth by former PRI members on the occasion, the Lt Governor assured them that their suggestions and

genuine demands would be considered in the planning of District Capex Budget.

He also directed Deputy Commissioner Jammu to take a comprehensive review of the development of playfields in panchayats of the District and ensure that by the end of the month of April, every panchayat of Jammu District, where land is available, has a playfield.

The Lt Governor inspected the stalls put up various departments and enquired about the grievances received by the citizens. He handed over sanction letters to beneficiaries under different government schemes.

Bharat Bhushan, Chairman, District Development Council Jammu; Anand Jain, ADGP, Jammu; Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Sachin Kumar Vaishya, Deputy Commissioner Jammu, senior officers, former PRI members, and people in large number were present.



Vice Chancellor JNU calls on Dr Jitendra, discusses StartUp collaborations

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Prof Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit called on Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh and discussed StartUp collaborations as well as academic projects that the University is pursuing with the support of Department of Biotechnology in particular and the Ministry of Science & Technology in general.



Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Prof Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit calling on Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh at North Block, New Delhi on Wednesday.

The Vice Chancellor was accompanied by Prof Satish Chandra Garkoti (Rector), Prof Supriya Chakraborty, Dean School of Life Sciences and other senior faculty from JNU who took up with the Minister and his team, probable potential areas of research in Plant Genomics, Life Sciences etc.

The delegation discussed in detail the ongoing societal development projects of the JNU supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under the 'Boost to University Interdisciplinary Life science Departments for Education and Research' (DBT-BUILDER) programme.

Stressing upon an integrated approach among the academia, StartUps and Industry, Dr Jitendra said

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has created an ecosystem for India to emerge as the world's knowledge-based economy and over the last few years, it has grown by leaps and bound when it comes to innovation and technology.

Underlining the 'Whole of Science' approach, Dr Jitendra said, the Department of Science & Technology has instituted joint monthly meetings of all scientific departments of the Govt of India to focus on infrastructure development and spur jobs creation.

There is huge potential in JNU's School of Life Sciences to encourage students to launching Startups in Aroma Mission and Agriculture Startups with support from DBT's BIRAC

PPP model, he said. "The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (NRF) and the new National Education Policy (NEP-2020) supplement the StartUp ecosystem with the promise to open new career and entrepreneurship opportunities for students and youth in India," he said.

Prof. Pandit, who is the first woman Vice-Chancellor of the prestigious University and also the first alumni VC of JNU, also sought the Minister's attention to granting JNU the status of Institution of Eminence. JNU has recently adopted its motto 'Tamo Maa Jyotirgamaya', focusing on new avenues of learning and employment generation for the youth, she said.

Omar criticizes EC, regrets SC has to issue directions for J&K Assembly elections



MASROOR AHMAD
SRINAGAR: National Conference Vice President and Former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday criticised the Election Commission of India, saying it was very sad that Supreme Court had to intervene and issue directions for Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

Hitting out at the Centre, Omar said it is unfortunate that instead of making efforts for holding assembly polls in J&K, the Supreme Court had to intervene and pass directions in this regard. "It is sad that Supreme Court had to intervene and pass directions for Assembly elections, instead Election Commission was duty bound for announcing schedule and holding polls in the region," Omar Abdullah said. He said government should have taken up the matter of delimitation process prior to the end of tenure for ULB,

Panchayat and Assembly.

"This should have been resolved and sorted out before five-six months when it was evident that the term for ULB, Panchayat and other bodies will come to an end after five or six months," he said.

To a query, Omar Abdullah replied that there have been no discussions yet on fielding candidates for the upcoming Lok Sabha polls. "The party leadership will sit and deliberate upon to field a best candidate for Parliamentary elections from J&K," he added.

Regarding Ratle Power Project electricity transfer, he said, National Conference strongly condemns the 40 year agreement of Ratle electricity transfer to Rajasthan, describing it as resource plunder. He vowed to pursue all avenues, including legal recourse, if necessary to reclaim our electricity.

Pay bills on time or face disconnection: MD KPDCL

SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Managing Director, Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL), Mussarat Islam on Wednesday urged consumers to clear their outstanding balance on account of electricity dues, failing which KPDCL shall be left with no option but to further accelerate its disconnection drives as warranted under Section 56 of the Electricity Act.

He further stated that smart meter consumers with arrears are being automatically disconnected if they do not pay their pending power bills.

Expressing serious concern over huge default figures in domestic, commercial and industrial categories, the MD stated that revenue realized on account of clearance of pending bills shall enable

KPDCL to have enough resource availability for power purchase which will be critical for providing reliable supply.

The MD also said that huge default figures are taking a toll on the financial health of the Corporation as it would impact the fund flow under Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS), which is aimed at transforming the LT Distribution Network in Kashmir Division.

Seeking cooperation of all consumers in clearing dues, the MD said that keeping in view the compulsion for realization of arrears, KPDCL has passed directions to further accelerate disconnection drives of defaulter consumers who are reluctant to pay their energy dues on time.

Com Secy reviews working of J&K Housing Board

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, who is also Chairperson of J&K Housing Board, on Wednesday reviewed overall working of the Board. Among others the meeting was attended by Narinder Khajuria, Special Secretary H&UDD, Seema Bhasin, Director Finance H&UDD, Yoginder Katohi Joint Director Planning, Deputy Secretary, H&UDD and Deputy Director Planning in person and other officers of Housing and Urban Development Department through online mode. A detailed PPT was presented on various projects and schemes of the Housing Board by Dr. Shabir Hussain Keen, Managing Director, J&K Housing Board. Commissioner Secretary reviewed online services being provided by the Board, new housing colonies/projects under development, deposit works of other departments, Human Resource Management issues, status of PMAY(Urban) Mission and other issues. She further directed the concerned to conduct social audit and accounts audit of PMAY Scheme besides converging the same with SBM and Science and Technology Deptt. for providing additional assistance to the beneficiaries. Later, the Commissioner Secretary inspected Head Office of J&K Housing Board and directed for immediate solarisation of the building. On the occasion, the Consultancy hired for various colonies displayed PPT on master plan of their respective colonies like Chatterhama, Birpur etc. It is pertinent to mention that this was first such review meeting of Mandeep Kaur after assuming charge as Commissioner Secretary, H&UDD.

The workshop saw the presence of key political figures, including Ravinder Raina, BJP J&K President, and Ashok Koul, BJP State General Secretary (Org.), Harsh Chaturvedi, J&K Prabhari from Central Team for Nammo App Viksit Bharat Ambassador; State Social Media Prabhari & Former Minister Priya Sethi, State IT Prabhari Naresh Singh, State IT Head & State Incharge for Viksit Bharat Ambassador Adv. Ishant Gupta, State Social Media Head Ankit Gupta and State IT Co-Incharges & also

Be a Viksit Bharat Ambassador on NaMo App; get a chance to meet PM Modi: Raina

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Viksit Bharat Ambassador - A 100 Days Challenge on NaMo App, State Workshop took place here today at the party headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, here.

The workshop saw the presence of key political figures, including Ravinder Raina, BJP J&K President, and Ashok Koul, BJP State General Secretary (Org.), Harsh Chaturvedi, J&K Prabhari from Central Team for Nammo App Viksit Bharat Ambassador; State Social Media Prabhari & Former Minister Priya Sethi, State IT Prabhari Naresh Singh, State IT Head & State Incharge for Viksit Bharat Ambassador Adv. Ishant Gupta, State Social Media Head Ankit Gupta and State IT Co-Incharges & also



BJP J&K President, Ravinder Raina speaking in a workshop at Party Headquarter, Jammu on Wednesday.

State Co-Incharges for Viksit Bharat Ambassador Adv. Karan Sharma & Adv. Sheikh Salman. The gathering comprised State and District Office Bearers of IT & Social Media, Morcha Presidents, and their representatives.

Ravinder Raina emphasized the crucial role of IT and Social Media in the upcoming elections, urging karyakartas to leverage technology to disseminate

the achievements of the Modi Government. He stressed the importance of active participation in the Viksit Bharat Ambassador Programme, encouraging each karyakarta to create a minimum of 10 Viksit Bharat Ambassadors, aligning with PM Modi's appeal.

Ashok Koul called upon karyakartas to strengthen the party cadre, identify active members, and harness technol-

ogy and social platforms for grassroots outreach. Harsh Chaturvedi presented a detailed overview of the Viksit Bharat Ambassador campaign, highlighting its inclusive nature, where any citizen inspired by PM Modi's work can participate. He said that the campaign of Viksit Bharat Ambassador consists of various activities like selfie for digital payment,

add Ambassador etc and much more, each Activity gives points to the Ambassador and top scorer may "Get a chance to Meet PM Modi". Priya Sethi spoke and emphasized on the role of IT and Social Media in the upcoming elections, acknowledging their pivotal contribution in J&K. Ishant Gupta urged IT karyakartas and district in-charges of Viksit

Bharat Ambassador Programme to escalate the campaign, emphasizing its significance for the youth. Ankit Gupta shed light on the role of social media in today's political landscape, presenting a report on the ongoing Shankhnaad Social Media campaign. The proceedings were conducted by Adv. Karan Sharma, and the workshop commenced with Vande Matram and concluded with the National Anthem. Adv. Sheikh Salman extended a vote of thanks, emphasizing the importance of the campaign. State IT Co-Incharges Gaurav Balgotra, Ajay Anand, Yudhveer Singh and State Co-Incharge Social Media Manjeet Singh, Nitish Mahajan, Sahil Bashir and others were also present on this occasion.

Secy H&ME visits GMC Jammu, assesses medical care facilities

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary Health and Medical Education (HME), Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah on Wednesday visited Government Medical College here, during which he took comprehensive round of all the wards of hospital to assess the medical care facilities available for patients.



Secretary H&ME, Dr. S.A.R Shah interacting with doctors.

The Secretary, on the sidelines of the visit, also chaired a meeting with the administration of GMC and Associated Hospitals to review the progress of works on major projects of GMC. During the visit, the Secretary assessed the current state of healthcare infrastructure and services at GMC Jammu, focusing on patient care, infrastructure, medical equipment and overall operational efficiency of the hospital.

ities meet the highest standards and we are able to provide effective healthcare services to the community. He emphasized upon the doctors to commit themselves towards the enhancing the quality of medical services in the hospital. He called upon the medical professionals to conduct through rounds in the hospital for efficient management of patients, acknowledging their role in providing vital medical services to the people of region.

Secretary took detailed round of hospital including state of art BSL 3 Lab and COBAS 6800 Lab, patient wards, emergency wards, MRI lab, radiation oncology lab and other related infrastructure and took first hand appraisal of each facility systematically. The Secretary, during the visit, also inspected the Jan Ashudi Kendra at the GMC and took stock of the availability of medicines there. He asked the Principal GMC to establish more Jan Ashudi Kendra's in the hospital so

that the people can take maximum benefit out of it.

Later, the Secretary also visited Girls Hostel of GMC Jammu and took stock of facilities there for the students. He inspected the dining area, study room and other facilities of the hostel. He passed on the spot directions for rectification of various things in the hostel premises for the facilitation of girl students.

The Secretary, on the occasion, also interacted with the students and sought first hand feedback from them about the services being provided at the hostel.

Earlier, Dr. Abid chaired a high level meeting with the management of the GMC and Associated Hospitals to review the progress of ongoing works on major projects of GMC.

The meeting was attended by Principal GMC, Chief Engineer, PWD, Jammu, HoDs of different departments of GMC, Medical

Superintendents of GMC and its Associated Hospitals, Executive Engineers of all wings and other concerned officers. Addressing the officers during the meeting, Dr. Abid called upon the officers to work with zeal and zest so that the GMC Jammu emerges as best performing health institution across J&K. He called upon the Administration of GMC and Associated Hospitals to maintain an absolute cohesion and team work among all agencies as well as medical professionals so that the desired and improved medical care facilities are provided to public at large.

Dr. Abid further said that we are here for public welfare and we need to work with that yardstick. He remarked that the barometer of success of any hospital is how we meet the expectations of public and society at large.

The Secretary called upon the doctors to maintain

punctuality and be conscious working hours to maintain faith of public regarding health care services.

He also asked the Principal GMC to focus on innovative and new researches at the institute. The Secretary further asked the officers to delve a mechanism for better patient management so that patients get sense of relief and welfare in the hospital.

He also called upon the engineering agencies to take due diligence while carrying different works in hospitals.

The Secretary, during the meeting, directed for immediate operationalisation of Bone and Joint Hospital Jammu as well as Col. R.N Chopra Nursing Home.

The Secretary, on the occasion, expressed satisfaction with the commitment and dedication of the healthcare professionals at GMC Jammu and acknowledged their role in providing vital medical services to the people of Jammu region.

KIND ATTENTION: RAIL PASSENGER!

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For the convenience of passengers, Railways have decided to run the following Unreserved Special Train as per the schedule given below:-

09617/09618 Rewari-Rohtak-Rewari Unreserved Special Train (Daily)					
Train No. 09617	STATIONS		Train No. 09618		
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.	
---	23:55	REWARI	04:15	---	
00:03	00:04	GOKALGARH	03:48	03:49	
00:15	00:16	PALHAWAS	03:36	03:37	
00:28	00:29	MACHHRAULI	03:23	03:24	
00:40	00:42	JHAJJAR	03:09	03:11	
00:57	00:58	DIGHAL	02:55	02:56	
01:10	01:11	ASTHAL BOHAR	02:41	02:42	
01:30	---	ROHTAK	---	02:35	

Days of Run : 09617 Ex. Rewari upto to 31.03.2024 (Daily) and 09618 Ex. Rohtak from 11.01.2024 to 01.04.2024 (Daily)

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