

Attends Uttar Pradesh Foundation Day festivities at Lok Bhavan

Self awareness essential to face rapidly changing world: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Lok Bhavan on Saturday hosted the grand celebrations of Uttar Pradesh Foundation Day at Jammu.

Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha extended his heartfelt greetings and best wishes to the people of Uttar Pradesh.

He paid homage to the great luminaries, freedom fighters, and revolutionaries from the state and recalled their pivotal role in building a modern India.

"Literary figures have identified the ancient Uttar Pradesh region as India's heartland, the cradle of major scriptures—the Vedas, Upanishads, Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Puranas.

"To me, Uttar Pradesh represents a wellspring that has nurtured the country's cultural consciousness," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant



LG Manoj Sinha at the celebrations of Uttar Pradesh Foundation Day at Jammu.

Governor stated that words fall short in capturing Uttar Pradesh's richness; it must be felt and lived to be fully appreciated.

"This is where the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers meet—a sacred junction with millennia of history. It serves as a spiritual center offering timeless wisdom to humanity, and stands as a place of devotion that stirs global consciousness through its cultural and

literary heritage," the Lieutenant Governor said. Reflecting on the spiritual-cultural contributions of the region, the Lieutenant Governor said that Uttar Pradesh represents India's vital core, binding the nation together across all directions—North to South, East to West.

"The spiritual luminaries of this dynamic region, through their deep contemplation, gifted us an invaluable teaching:

that the ultimate quest transcends all others—the quest to understand oneself.

The most profound journey we can undertake is the inward one. This wisdom offers essential guidance for navigating our contemporary, rapidly changing world," he further said.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the Uttar Pradesh's recent progress, noting that its development tra-

jectory has been exemplary. He expressed his wishes for the state to continue to flourish and thrive, achieving even greater economic milestones and prosperity in the coming years.

The cultural evening was attended by Anoop Pradhan, Member of Parliament from Hathras; senior government officials, students, and the residents of Uttar Pradesh living in the Union Territory.



Rozgar Mela empowers youth, drives India's progress towards Viksit Bharat: LG Kavinder

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, on Saturday distributed appointment letters to newly recruited youth during the Appointment Letter Distribution Ceremony held under the 18th phase of the Rozgar Mela at the 16th Battalion of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Leh. The event marked a significant step towards youth empowerment and employment generation in the Union Territory.

The ceremony was attended by Director General of Police Mukesh Singh, Administrative Secretary Bhanu Prabha, senior ITBP officials, and other dignitaries. Addressing the gathering, the Lieutenant Governor described the occasion as a proud and inspiring moment, highlighting the Rozgar Mela as a landmark initiative under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi aimed at empowering youth and strengthening their role in nation-building.

Kavinder Gupta informed that through video conferencing, the Prime Minister distributed appointment letters



LG Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta after distributing appointment letters to newly recruited youth.

to more than 61,000 youth across the country, describing the initiative as more than a recruitment drive and a step towards fulfilling the aspirations of young Indians. He further stated that the 18th Rozgar Mela was organized simultaneously at 45 locations nationwide, with selected candidates joining various central ministries and departments including Home Affairs, Health and Family Welfare, Financial Services, and Higher Education.

Emphasizing the role of youth in public service, the Lieutenant Governor said that the newly appointed candidates represent the nation's energy, dedication, and confidence. He urged them to discharge their duties with honesty, integrity, and a strong

sense of responsibility while adopting a "Citizen First" approach. Referring to the vision of Viksit Bharat, he noted that youth have played a pivotal role in India's development over the past 11 years and that more than 11 lakh appointment letters have been issued through the Rozgar Mela so far.

Highlighting broader employment initiatives, Kavinder Gupta said the government's efforts extend beyond government jobs. He mentioned that the PM Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana aims to provide employment to 3.5 crore youth, while the Skill India Mission and National Career Service Platform are equipping young people with skills and access to job opportunities.

The Lieutenant Governor underscored the significance of organizing such a national programme in a remote and strategic region like Ladakh, reflecting the government's commitment to inclusive development. He also lauded the role of the ITBP in supporting the Rozgar Mela and noted that several candidates were inducted into the force, strengthening national security while providing meaningful career opportunities.

Appointment letters were handed over to candidates from CRPF, ITBP, and BSF. New recruits Anayat Ali and Tsering Dolker shared their experiences, while DIG Rishab Kumar welcomed the guests and Commandant Chandra Mishra delivered the vote of thanks.

Transport Dept launches drive against high-intensity headlights

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Transport Department, Jammu & Kashmir, has launched a Union Territory-wide enforcement drive against motor vehicles fitted with unauthorized high-intensity white LED headlights and other non-standard lighting systems in view of growing concerns over road safety.

The Transport Commissioner has directed all enforcement agencies, including Regional Transport Officers (RTOs),

Regional Transport Officers (ARTOs), Motor Vehicle Inspectors (MVIs) and field enforcement staff, to initiate strict action against vehicles using high-intensity lights that cause glare and impair visibility for other road users.

Officials stated that the blinding effect of such non-standard lighting systems has emerged as a serious road safety hazard, particularly during night-time driving and low-visibility conditions. These lights have been found to con-

tribute to road traffic accidents, including fatal incidents, by significantly reducing visibility and reaction time for oncoming drivers and pedestrians.

The enforcement drive will be conducted across urban areas, highways, rural roads and accident-prone zones throughout the Union Territory. Vehicles found fitted with unauthorized or modified lighting systems will be penalized in accordance with the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and relevant rules and such lights shall be

removed on the spot wherever legally permissible.

The Transport Department has also appealed to vehicle owners and drivers to refrain from using non-standard lighting systems and to ensure that their vehicles strictly adhere to approved specifications in the interest of public safety and the safety of fellow road users.

This initiative aims to enhance night-time road safety, reduce road accidents and ensure safer driving conditions for all citizens.

ZPHQ Jammu observes National Voters' Day



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Zonal Police Headquarters (ZPHQ) Jammu on Saturday observed National Voters' Day (NVD) by administering the NVD Pledge to officers and staff, under the directions of IGP Jammu.

The pledge ceremony was led by the Staff Officer to IGP Jammu, Shamsheer Hussain, who addressed the gathering and administered the pledge. All officers and staff present collectively reaffirmed their commitment to the democratic values

enshrined in the Constitution of India and to upholding the principles of democracy.

Highlighting the significance of this year's theme, "My India, My Vote," the SO to IGP Jammu emphasised the importance of informed, ethical and responsible voting in strengthening democratic institutions. He urged Officers and Officials of ZPHQ Jammu to actively support the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) initiatives of the Election Department by encouraging wider public participation in the electoral process and promoting inclusive voter awareness.

Paswan distributes appointment letters to newly recruited youth at Jammu



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of the nationwide Rozgar Mela programme for distribution of appointment letters to newly recruited youth, a Rozgar Mela was organised at Frontier Headquarters of BSF in Paloura Jammu today. This was the eighteenth tranche of Rozgar Mela that took place simultaneously at 40 other locations across the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the newly appointed candidates through virtual mode. The event at Jammu was presided over by the Union Minister for Food Processing Industries, Chirag Paswan who distributed the appointment letter to newly recruits from different regions of Jammu.

Addressing the gathering, Paswan highlighted the Government's assurance to

move ahead with honesty, dedication, and a sense of national service in realising the Prime Minister's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047. The minister added that Rozgar Mela highlights the Government's mission to create meaningful employment avenues and strengthen institutional recruitment mechanisms. Paswan further stated that bringing marginalised and underrepresented sections of society into the mainstream is essential for building a truly developed nation. He added that structured recruitment drives like the Rozgar Mela not only provide employment but also ensure dignity, stability, and long-term career opportunities for the youth. The event witnessed participation of officials from various departments, representatives of recruiting agencies, and newly appointed candidates. Family members of the candidates appreciated the Government's efforts towards employment generation through a transparent recruitment process. ADG BSF, Western Command, Satish Khandare; IG BSF Jammu, Shashank Anand and other dignitaries were also present.

youth empowerment, employment generation and inclusive development, stating that the Rozgar Mela reflects the Prime Minister's vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas."

Acknowledging the role of armed forces, he emphasised that the soldiers guarding the nation on the frontlines are making immense sacrifices to ensure peace, security, and happiness for citizens, and through their dedication, they have earned India a respected and dignified position on the global stage. The Union Minister emphasized that initiatives like the Rozgar Mela stand as a strong example of the Government of India's guarantee towards transparent, merit-based and corruption-free recruitment. He urged the newly appointed candidates to

Jammu shines in tricolour as Tawi River Front gets facade lighting



Dr Devansh Yadav, CEO of Jammu Smart City Limited inaugurating lighting at Tawi River Front.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a vibrant display of patriotic spirit ahead of Republic Day, the Tawi River Front was illuminated with Tricolour facade lighting on Saturday evening.

The initiative was undertaken by Jammu Municipal Corporation as part of the city's Republic Day celebrations. Also, decorative pole lights were also illuminated

on left bank of river front as part of Smart City project.

The ceremonial inauguration of the lighting was performed by Dr Devansh Yadav, Chief Executive Officer of Jammu Smart City Limited, at around 6 PM, as the city prepares to mark the nation's 77th Republic Day.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Yadav said the façade

lighting was a proud visual tribute to the Republic and reflected Jammu's evolving urban identity.

He emphasized that aesthetic upgrades were being integrated with functional urban planning to enhance public spaces across the city.

Dr Yadav, who also serves as Commissioner of the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), led the

inauguration, transforming the riverfront into a glowing tribute to the Indian tricolor.

The illumination added a festive ambience to the area and drew the attention of visitors and local residents alike.

The lighting initiative forms part of a series of Republic Day-related civic activities being carried out by the Jammu Municipal

Corporation, including cleanliness and anti-defacement drives, aimed at ensuring public spaces reflect the dignity of the national festival.

Senior officials present at the event included Subah Mehta, Additional CEO, JSCL, Rajesh Abrol, Senior General Manager (Civil), JSCL and AEE Akhil Samyal, among others.

JU, Election Dept host NVD Run to energize democratic participation

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The spirit of democratic participation took center stage at the University of Jammu today during the National Voters' Day Run.

The event, a vibrant celebration of civic duty, transformed the university's Sports Complex into a hub of energy with students, civil society members and morning walkers coming together in a shared commitment to electoral awareness.

Organized under the joint guidance of Sanjeev Verma, Chief Electoral Officer, J&K and Professor Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu (JU), the run was formally inaugurated by Dr. Nirupa Rai, Special Secretary J&K Election



Dr. Nirupa Rai, Special Secretary J&K Election Department with other dignitaries and participants of National Voters' Day Run.

Department and Dr. Daud Iqbal Baba, Director of the Directorate of Sports & Physical Education at the University of Jammu. They highlighted the event's powerful theme, "My India, My Vote," stressing the imperative of every citizen making an

informed and ethical choice at the ballot box.

Nearly, 200 runners participated in the event. The top three finishers in both the men's and women's categories were awarded for their performance, while every participant received a Certificate of

Appreciation in recognition of their contribution to the voter awareness cause.

The seamless execution of the run was the result of meticulous coordination by a team of key officials from the Election Department and the University of Jammu.

The organizing team included Muzaffar Malik, Additional Secretary; Gurbinder Singh, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer; Salam Din Chowhan, Deputy Director, Information; Rohit Kashyap, Assistant Chief Electoral Officer; Dr. Vimal Kishore; Vikas Karlopa; Dr. Inderjeet Singh; Dr. Mahak; Harinder Pal Singh; Rishiv Sharma; Richa Mandla; Dr. Ramesh Kumar; and Dr. Nitan Sharma.

Their collective efforts ensured a smooth and high-energy event that successfully resonated with all the attendees, powerfully reinforcing the core message of civic responsibility and the fundamental role of voting in shaping the nation's future.