

LG inaugurates 'Adopt-A-Park' programme of JMC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday inaugurated the 'Adopt-A-Park' programme of Jammu Municipal Corporation, which will provide opportunity to local communities, welfare associations and other organizations to contribute in upkeep and clean up of neighborhood parks.

As many as 17 public parks have already been adopted by aware and responsible citizens at different places of Jammu city, under the initiative.

While speaking at the event organized at Trikuta Nagar, the Lt Governor called upon Individuals, Businesses and other organizations to adopt a park and make a difference in their neighborhood. He said that people's participation, community support is required to establish beautiful and well-maintained parks, clean and free of litter.

The Lt Governor asserted that it is our collective responsibility to build a resilient ecosystem to address the challenges of climate change. Conservation and protection of trees and plants is embedded in our ancient culture and traditions.

"We must follow our ancient cultural system which propagates environmental protection and talks about our coexistence in complete harmony with the nature", he added.



Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha during inauguration of 'Adopt-A-Park' programme.

mental protection and talks about our coexistence in complete harmony with the nature", he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor congratulated Dr Mitali Gupta and Jammu Municipal Corporation for starting a new revolution with the unique and important initiative. He said that Adopt-A-Park is an opportunity to bring consciousness about environment conservation to every household.

The Lt Governor also noted that the J&K government is running several campaigns in collaboration with schools, non-government institutions,

beautiful, pollution-free and eco-friendly", he added.

The Lt Governor said that there has never been a more urgent need to revive ecology than today. He observed that the Prime Minister has made many efforts to give a safe environment to the coming generations and has urged the people to make collective efforts for conservation of nature and its resources.

The Lt Governor also noted that the J&K government is running several campaigns in collaboration with schools, non-government institutions,

village panchayats and urban plantation committees to combat the challenges of global warming and climate change.

"UT administration has set a target of planting 1 crore 30 lakh saplings this year and this goal can be accomplished only with large scale participation of the responsible citizens" the Lt Governor observed.

Later, the Lt Governor honored the teams who adopted parks under the "Adopt-A-Park" initiative. He appreciated the efforts of various citizen groups, Resident Welfare Associations for their active participation in this campaign.

A documentary video on various herbal plants to be planted in the parks being adopted under the campaign was also showcased.

Purnima Sharma, Deputy Mayor JMC in her welcome address highlighted the benefits of transforming parks into herbal gardens with facilities like book stalls and kiosks of refreshments for citizens. Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary to the Government, H&UDD; Dr Raghav Langer, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Avny Lavasa, Commissioner JMC; JMC Corporators, members of Civil Society and citizens were present on the occasion.

Rohit Sharma elected President Young Lawyers Association

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JAMMU: Advocate Rohit Sharma was elected as President Young Lawyers Bar Association Jammu. Adv Gagandeep Singh (Lucky) was elected new Vice President while Adv Yaseer Farooq Khan was declared General Secretary. Further, Karanjeet Singh was declared Joint Secretary and Naresh Kumar as new Treasurer, as both were elected unopposed.

According to Returning Officer Nitin Bakshi, for the post of President, Rohit Sharma secured 227 votes while Adv Arjun Manhas secured 157 votes and Adv Ajay Kumar secured 99 votes.

The Vice President candidate Gagandeep Singh (Lucky) secured 314 votes to win the elections thereby defeating Adv Pawan Bandal who secured 168 votes. For the post of General Secretary, Adv Yaseer Farooq Khan secured 313 votes while his contesting candidates Jyotsna Ved and Satwant Singh secured 94 and 77 votes respectively.

country which has got three Medical Colleges from Central grant. Similarly, the first two Highway Villages of the country are also coming up in Udhampur and Kathua.

To the critics who allege that no development in roads has happened, Dr Jitendra reminded that only last year the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, adjudged district Udhampur as Number One in accomplishing PMGSY road projects. Asia's longest Road Tunnel at Chenani-Nashri, named after Dr Syama Prasad Mukherjee, is also located in the outskirts of Udhampur, he added.

In the last few years, Dr Singh said, a series of Degree Colleges and Sports Stadiums have been started with Central grants, in and around Udhampur. Many far-flung areas which have never seen motor vehicles are now connected with roads, he said.

Pertinent to mention that the launching of the Devika Project was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Jammu in February 2019.

Dr Jitendra pointed out that Udhampur Parliamentary constituency is the only one in the

of the project will also be completed soon.

Accusing the early governments of having deliberately neglected this region because of vote bank consideration, Dr Jitendra said, in the last seven to eight years, several such demands have sought to be addressed which were pending for the last half a century. He cited the example of demand for a Radio Station in Udhampur which was first raised during the Indo-Pak war of 1965 but the Radio Station was set up only four years back by the Modi government.

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Dr Jitendra for starting GMC Udhampur classes next year, attends 'Devika Utsav'



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh participating in 'Aarti' at Devika Ghat, Udhampur on Saturday.

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UDHAMPUR: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Saturday visited the construction site of Government Medical College (GMC), Udhampur which is being built at an estimated cost of Rs 255 crores at Bailli Udhampur.

Dr. Jitendra emphasized upon the concerned departments dealing with the construction of GMC to start the work without any delay so that the classes could commence from the next academic year onwards.

Dr. Jitendra also attended the grand festive event "Devika Utsav" today which was held at the banks of river Devika Ghat.

NC confirms participation in Delimitation Commission meet

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference (NC) leaders will attend the Delimitation Commission's associate members meeting in New Delhi next week, party MP Hasnain Masoodi said on Saturday.

He, however, said, there was no shift in the party's stand that the exercise offends the spirit of the Constitution.

Seeing the overall scenario, the party has decided that its MPs will attend the meeting, Masoodi, the MP from south Kashmir's Anantnag, told PTI.

He said since the commissions cannot travel to the length and breadth of the Union Territory, they cannot hear what people have to say.

So, we will take the people's viewpoint to the commission, he

said, adding all three MPs from the party -- NC president Farooq Abdullah, Akbar Lone and himself -- will arrive in Delhi.

The NC MP said the party had written to the commission seeking to seek its agenda, but there was no response.

We want to know what their agenda is. We had asked them to submit the agenda of the meeting as well as the relevant supporting material. But, they did not. So, we have to go there to see what their agenda is..., he said.

Stressing that the party had not changed its stand on the matter, he said, ...This is not something new. The party (had earlier) met the commission on its Srinagar visit, submitted memorandum saying it is not a permissible route in the

Constitution. We stand by that. There is no shift in our stand that this exercise offends the spirit of the Constitution he said.

He said the right thing for the government would have been to restore the August 4, 2019, position - a day before the Centre revoked the erstwhile state's special status - and then proceed with the delimitation.

The NC had boycotted the first associate meeting of the commission in February saying the exercise was an outcome of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act-2019, which the party had challenged in the Supreme Court.

It said participation in the proceedings of the commission

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Have no faith in Delimitation Commission: Mehbooba

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JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said on Saturday that she had no faith in the delimitation commission which was "working on the BJP's agenda".

She also accused the BJP of using National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) to demoralise her party because of its moves to expose the saffron party's "false narratives" but said "the PDP is not going to be cowed down by such steps".

As far as the delimitation commission is concerned, it is BJP's commission. Their attempt is to pitch the majority against the minority and further disempower the people. They want to increase the (assembly) seats in such a way to benefit the BJP,"

Mehbooba told reporters after addressing a youth convention in Rajouri district.

She said the PDP has no faith in the delimitation commission.

Asked for her comment on the decision of the National Conference to participate in the delimitation commission's associate members meeting in New Delhi next week, the former chief minister said, "It is their decision and what else can I say about that."

On the Jammu and Kashmir government's changes in the land use laws enabling conversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes, Mehbooba claimed that it is a wrong decision and part of a "conspiracy of the hidden agenda of the BJP".

"They don't have anything else against us. They cannot fight us politically and hence they are using ED and NIA to demoralise us. However, the PDP is not going to be cowed down by such moves and we are not going to stop," she said.

and buy land here to engineer a demographic change," she alleged.

About NIA's reported summon to PDP district Development Council (DDC) member and vice chairman DDC Ganderbal Bilal Ahmad to New Delhi for questioning in connection with a case on December 23, Mehbooba said since her party is raising its voice against their narrative and debunks their claims of restoration of normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir, they are "using ED and NIA to silence the party".

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