

# Dr Jitendra inaugurates 'Good Governance Week', lauds change in work culture

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: In his address after inaugurating the "Good Governance Week 2023" at Dr Ambedkar International Centre here today, Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh lauded change in work culture following a series of Governance reforms brought under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the last over nine years.

Best Practices in Good Governance introduced in recent years also reflect change within us and in our attitude, said the Minister.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, these Good Governance reforms have a long-term socioeconomic impact as well.

With PM Modi's policy of 'Maximum Governance, Minimum Government', Dr Jitendra said, the Government has today brought transparency and citizen participation towards achieving 'Ease of



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh speaking after inaugurating the "Good Governance Week 2023" at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

Living" for the common man.

"The colonial era practice of attestation of documents by Gazetted Officers was abolished soon after PM Modi first took office as Prime Minister in 2014. In January 2016, Interviews were abolished for lower Grade posts in Government, with merit the sole criteria for selection," he said.

"We have about more than 10,000 pensioners above the age of 90, and almost 3,000 above 100 years of age, drawing pension as much as their salary. And there the fingerprints become a little unreliable, so we hit

upon the idea of face recognition," he said. Referring to the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, Dr Jitendra said, the Modi government amended it after 30 years in 2018 with an aim to make the bribe giver equally culpable.

"On the one hand, as the Prime Minister said, 'Zero Tolerance towards corruption' and on the other hand, a performing officer deserves to be given full protection and an enabling working environment," he said.

During the Inaugural Session of the Good Governance Week, Dr Jitendra launched CPGRAMS Mobile app and e-office Advanced Analytics Dashboard. He also released DARGP publications, - Journey of 25 Regional Conferences from 2014-2023, Annual Report of CPGRAMS 2023 and a Coffee Table Book on Special Campaign 3.0.



## ANTF apprehends two inter-state drug peddlers

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: To wipe put the menace of drug abuse from society under the program Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF), a specialized unit of Jammu and Kashmir Police, apprehended two inter-state drug peddlers and recovered about 136 bottles of Novitas Cough Syrup and 100 tablets of Etizolam from their possession.



ANTF team seizing bottles of Novitas Cough Syrup and tablets of Etizolam from drug peddlers.

On a specific input, ANTF Jammu team apprehended Naresh Kumar Verma, son of Gian Chand Verma, resident of Hind Nagar, Delhi and Balwinder Chug, son of Gurbaksh Chug, resident of Janta Colony, New Delhi.

The team recovered about 136 Bottles of Novitas Cough Syrup and 100 Tablets of Etizolam from their possession in commercial quantity Near Railway Station Trikuta Nagar Jammu.

As per ANTF official, both accused persons were sitting in a Wagon R Car bearing registration No. DL2CAM-1558 and trap was laid by Insp. Ankush Chib along with team of ANTF Jammu under the guidance of Shamsheer Singh, DySP, ANTF Jammu and overall supervision of SSP ANTF J&K, Raj Kumar.

In this regard, case FIR No. 15/23 under Sections 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act was registered at P/S ANTF Jammu and investigation set into motion, official said.

ANTF Jammu has appealed the general public particularly the youth to stay away from drugs and to share any kind of information regard drug related activities with ANTF so that strict legal actions are taken against such drug dealers.

The identity of the informant as well as whistleblower shall be kept confidential, official said.

## Roads in Srinagar city make life vulnerable for local residents

**SHAKEELA ANDRABI**  
SRINAGAR: People are paying a heavy toll as the conditions of roads in Srinagar city are very bad. Despite crossing deadlines for repairs, vital roads in Srinagar are awaiting repairs, including Nowpora, Khanyar, Bohri Kadal, Nawab Bazar, Nowhatta, Qamarwari, Noor Bagh, Safakadal, and Khawaja Bazar to Nowhatta, are dotted with potholes.



As a result, not only traffic jams are taking place but people are also facing problems due to damage to vehicles.

Frustration among commuters is evident, especially regarding the authorities' failure to address the dismal condition of the Khanyar-Nowpora Road and Nowhatta Khawja

are engaged in a blame game, passing buck on repairs of roads.

Executive Engineer, City Roads Division, SMC told the STATE TIMES that the repair work, including internal roads in Downtown and other areas, is scheduled for April next year.

"Mostly, internal roads need macadamisation once the work will be completed under Smart City. Subsequently all roads will be repaired. We have made a plan as well," he said.

Commuters are also displeased with the authorities' neglect of Downtown's major link routes. Local businesses are also feeling the impact, reporting a decline in customers due to the inconvenience caused by the deteriorating infrastructure.

Meanwhile, Commissioner

SMC, Athar Aamir Khantook took a serious note of displeasure of commuters and business establishment owners over slow pace of work. He undertook a visit to the Downtown areas of Srinagar and reviewed the progress of the ongoing smart city projects there.

Accompanied by Chief Engineer SSCL, Executive Engineers, AEEs SSCL and senior officials from SSCL, SMC and Allied Departments, the CEO SSCL personally assessed the progress registered at various project sites during the extensive tour.

He said the purpose of the visit is to review the current status of the Smart City projects in Downtown and ensure their timely completion to avoid inconvenience to commuters.

## ASSOCHAM delegation meets Dulloo, discusses Trade & Industry issues



Manik Batra, Chairman of ASSOCHAM J&K Council presenting memento to CS Atal Dulloo.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The delegation Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) led by Manik Batra, Chairman of ASSOCHAM J&K Council and Director of Batra Group on Tuesday met the Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo and discussed Trade & Industry issues.

The delegation, comprising Bhupesh Gupta, Co-Chairman of ASSOCHAM J&K Council and Managing Partner of Hotel Radisson Blu Jammu, and Amit Khajuria, Assistant Director of ASSOCHAM J&K, Ladakh, expressed their confidence in Dulloo's leadership and commitment to the development of the Union

Territory.

During the meeting, a range of critical issues related to industries and trade in the region were discussed.

The delegation expressed its support for the holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir, affirming ASSOCHAM's commitment to collaborating closely with the government to address key challenges and explore opportunities for growth.

Some of the prominent topics discussed included, Change of Land Use (CLU), Warehousing in Jammu, New Tourist Circuits in Jammu Region etc.

Manik Batra, assured Dulloo of ASSOCHAM's unwavering support and collaboration in realizing the shared vision of holistic development for Jammu and Kashmir.

## Booth Jan Samvad Maha Abhiyan, Abrogation of Art 370 equitably empowered all in J&K: Rana

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana today said the abrogation of Article 370 has fully facilitated the implementation of all the central schemes and legislations for all segments of Jammu and Kashmir, thereby equitably empowering all sections of society irrespective of gender, caste, creed, religion or region.



Senior BJP leader Devender Rana addressing gathering.

"Having remained deprived of various schemes and legislations for nearly seven decades, the Union Territory is now enjoying full benefits and all the rights available to compatriots in rest of the country", Rana said while addressing the BJP functionaries and Karyakartas during Booth Jan Samvad Maha Abhiyan at Showa in Block Amb-Gharota in Nagrota Assembly Constituency in presence of Omi Khajuria, BJP District President, Jammu

North, Ashok Kerni, Mandal President, Amb-Gharota. The key note speaker of the event was the youth leader Vikas Sharma.

Rana said, "The constitutional integration of Jammu and Kashmir with rest of the country Kashmir post repeal of the so-called special status, upheld by the Supreme Court of India, has not only removed all the obstacles in extending the benefits of all the schemes to the citizens but also ended the era of

political uncertainty being perpetrated by vested interests as per their whims and political conveniences".

He adding that this fact has now instilled a sense of confidence among the people to be part of the country's growth story.

He said that the vision of the Prime Minister to empower the youth, the women, the poor, the farmers and the marginalized is a game changer to make India a developed nation by 2047 and given his guarantee the country is destined

to be the third economic power of the world during Yashaswi Narendra Modi's third term in office. The countrymen are confident about this to happen, keeping in view the track record of the Modi government during the past nearly ten years, he added.

Rana hoped that the BJP Karyakartas will play a proactive role in generating awareness among the people about the schemes initiated for their welfare and development of their areas. Public participation is the essence of democratic ethos and this should be the motivation for the Karyakartas to motivate all the eligible beneficiaries to avail of the benefits of central schemes.

He said the people must know the achievements registered in various sectors across the country during the past ten years. As far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, the past four years have wit-

nessed huge transformation taking place on the political and developmental landscape, he asserted.

"This odyssey has to be carried forward as per the cherished agenda of Prime Minister's Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas", Rana said, exuding confidence that Jammu and Kashmir will remain under focus for implementation of all the central schemes aimed at ameliorating the lot of people and improving their life standard.

Among others who were present on the occasion included Ajay Sharma, Pardeep Choudhary, Sanjeev Singh Sarpanch, Narinder Singh, Vipin Sharma, Mumtaz, Ex-Sarpanch Showa, Mohd Yousuf, Mool Raj, Rashpal Chand, Amit Sharma, Champa Devi, Rekha Langeh, Ashok Kumar, Raj Kumar and Amit Singh.

## Workshop on 'Spring Shed Management' held

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in collaboration with Piramal foundation and CHIRAG non government organization on Tuesday organized a two day workshop on "Spring Shed Management" at Udyog Bhawan here.



More than 100 participants drawn from various districts of the UT took part in the workshop.

Mission Director, JJM, Dr G N Itoo, while addressing the inaugural session, emphasized the importance of springs for water resource management. He urged upon the hydrogeologists of all the districts to perform their duty with utmost zeal and dedication for larger interest of the society.

Chief Engineer PHE, Hamesh Manchanda, while speaking on the occasion, emphasized collective efforts towards protection and preservation of water resources besides tackling growing issue of drying up of spring water.

On the occasion, Piramal Foundation delivered a presentation on national policy of Niti Ayog towards mitigating water crisis in Indian Himalayas Region and importance of spring rejuvenation for water security to

achieve sustainable development.

During the workshop, various subject specific aspects were discussed like mapping of spring sheds, spring inventory, discharge monitoring, use of geological equipment, hydro geological data collection and related issues. The event witnessed two technical sessions and one field trip to the project site for the participants.

The Resource Persons sensitized the participants about different issues such as geological factors related to spring besides strategies for its recharge, water quality management, spring shed development, Hydrogeology of Mountain Springs and other issues.

During the field visit to

project site, demonstration was given for record of GPS coordinates of spring site and measurement of spring water discharge rate.

Nodal Officer and Chief Engineer Irrigation and Flood Control, Jammu, Manoj Gupta, Technical Officer (Kashmir), JJM, Fayaz Ahmed, Technical Advisor, JJM, Gurcharan Singh, Dr Badrish Singh Mehra, Executive Director CHIRAG, Engineer Abhishek Likam, Head Spring-Shed Management of CHIRAG, Senior Manager, Ayush Kumar from Piramal Foundation, Aaruni Pratap Singh from Piramal Foundation, Bedant Kumar from Piramal Foundation and other were present on the occasion.

## BIG FM joins hands with Jammu Smart City for 'BIG Street' initiative Organises vehicle-free fun-filled Sunday for Jammuites

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Cities are embracing the charm of car-free days and Sunday open-street programs, where communities unite for a serene break from the usual urban hustle and bustle.



Div Com Jammu, Ramesh Kumar and JMC Commissioner, Rahul Yadav and others at an event.

With an aim to create the same experience for the city of Jammu, BIG FM, one of the leading radio networks in the country, recently partnered with Jammu Smart City for its latest initiative, 'BIG Street'.

The initiative saw one of Jammu's busiest streets, Apsara Road, go vehicle-free until afternoon. Apsara Road opened its doors for the public to engage in an array of activities, including sports, fitness and recreation. In addition to that, the visitors also indulged in shopping, food stalls, free haircuts and free health check-ups.

With BIG Street on-ground initiative, BIG FM aims to engage and inter-

act with audiences who have shared interests and enjoy connecting with each other. Hosted by RJ Julhie, 'BIG Street' in Jammu commenced with a relaxing yoga session conducted by the Art of Living. This was followed by group Zumba by "Artists In Motion", where the crowd joined in for a fun-filled dance workout. People had a great time watching the Dogri street play 'Teethh' by Rangyug and a special performance by the students of the Sri Ram Universal School. There were also

various engaging activities like tug-of-war, cycling, skating, a 100m race, and many more for everyone to enjoy.

The atmosphere turned musical with the band performance of Saptak Classical Fusion Band who made people groove to their enthralling performance.

Divisional Commissioner, Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Jammu Municipal Corporation Commissioner, Rahul Yadav also joined the citizens on this eventful Sunday morning.

Also present in the event

were our respected event partners Rahul Yadav, CEO, Jammu Smart City; Ankush Gupta, Prop-Sonia Honey; Anil Gandotra, Partner-Vishvakarma Enterprises; Gurwinder, Director-Head of Admissions, CT University - Ludhiana; Neeraj Gupta, Prop-Dr Acharaya's Ayurveda; Dr. Adit Gupta, Director-MIER College of Education; Anshuman Sharma, DGM, Non-Medical-SMVD Narayana Superspeciality Hospital, Katra and Vivek Sharma-

Bureau Chief- State Times.

Reflecting on the initiative, Sunil Kumaran, COO[Chief Operating Officer], BIG FM, said, "We are thrilled to bring an initiative like 'BIG Street' along with Jammu Smart City that opened the streets to people, shared resources, and transformed communities. The initiative was crafted to galvanise the citizens to participate in a shared vision of an active and vehicle-free lifestyle. Such initiatives not only create a sense of belonging for residents, but also act as powerful tools to facilitate discussions around safer mobility and quality public spaces."

Taking the excitement a notch higher, the winners were awarded with exciting prizes for various activities and all the participants received a participation certificate for coming together to create an immersive experience for the people of Jammu.