

"Awaam Ki Awaaz" completes 1 year

Online appointments in all hospitals, digitisation of health services to be taken up in mission mode: LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday expressed his gratitude to all the citizens for their valuable contributions in participatory development process to fulfil the aspirations of every section of society.

"Awaam Ki Awaaz" completes one year. This radio programme for public participation is committed to strengthen Jan Bhagidari at grass root level and establish accountable, transparent, responsive, effective, efficient, equitable and inclusive governance, said the Lt Governor. The administration has taken concrete steps on suggestions received from the listeners to meet the needs of community and making the system accountable to public. I also thank Jammu and Kashmir All India Radio and Doordarshan for their continuous support, added the Lt Governor.

During this month's episode, the Lt Governor made special mention of Sandhya Dhar from Jammu, Nasira Akhtar of Kulgam and Dr Nasheen Ashraf of Srinagar who have emerged as the new age icons for the women in Jammu and Kashmir. Their achievements give a vision to the women who aspire to inspire, the Lt Governor said.

Dr. Jitendra unveils Maharaja Gulab Singh's statue at Lakhanpur Says next step of Govt to unveil same statue in PoK



LG Manoj Sinha interacting with people during 'Awaam Ki Awaaz' programme.

Referring to the suggestions of Shradha Sharma from RS Pure Jammu and Anantnag's Zakir Hussain Bhat on empowering women entrepreneurs in agriculture sector, and ensuring participation of women in all sectors, the Lt Governor underlined the need to implement dedicated measures for women empowerment.

When women are financially prosperous, their direct and indirect benefits will reach the family, society, nation and the entire humanity. In the last two years, Jammu and Kashmir administration has launched several campaigns to provide more livelihood opportunities to women folks. In order to increase the participation of women entrepreneurs in agriculture and village industries, about 5 lakh women have been added under the Umed programme. Various programs like Krishi Sakhi and Pashu Sakhi have been initiated so that more

and more women come forward in agriculture, horticulture, and dairy sector, the Lt Governor added. Welcoming the suggestions received from Sajjad Noorabadi from Kargil highlighting the need for awareness campaign about welfare schemes of the government, the Lt Governor said that the main objective of the Block Diwas program organized every Wednesday is to take the administration to the doorsteps of people. It is our best effort that in addition to the immediate redressal of the problems of the common citizens, the people shall be informed about the various government schemes, he added.

While mentioning about the insight received from Dr Shilpi Sharma and Dr Ankur Bhat from Jammu regarding detailed roadmap for the Digitization of Healthcare, the Lt Governor underscored various reforms introduced by the

government to provide advanced healthcare to the people. He also mentioned about a pilot project in SKIMS for online appointment, which will be soon extended to other hospitals as well. On suggestions of Gazi Ahmad Pandit from Pulwama and Rahul Kumar from Samba pertaining to the welfare of senior citizens, the Lt Governor said that a National Action Plan was approved in April 2020 under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to provide opportunity to Senior Citizens to live life with dignity.

After August 5, 2019, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has also implemented the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act in Jammu and Kashmir which, despite having been passed by the Parliament, was not been implemented in Jammu and Kashmir for almost 12 years. Er. Abdul

states.

On the demand of the people of Lakhanpur, Dr. Singh said that Lakhanpur will be established as a big tourist destination being the gateway of Jammu and Kashmir with the development of Highway Villages having all the basic amenities available to attract the potential tourists.

Dr. Singh also stressed that the population of this country consists of 70 percent youth who are in need of unbiased representatives, transparent and progressive government which has been provided to them under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Dr. Singh maintained that the results of Uttar Pradesh elections have sent a clear message to all that the people of this country believes in Suvidha, Samman and Suraksha provided to people under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He suggested conducting an analysis of area-wise disease burden in Ladakh, and the need for plans and measures to address these issues.

He stressed on the need to check with experts the kind of health infrastructure needed in Ladakh as per the Government

Rashid Bhat from Ganderbal wrote a letter regarding creation of an Environment, Cultural and Archaeological Research Centre (ECARC) in J&K that will engage with youth.

The Lt Governor also highlighted the transformation taking place on the ground as a result of good administrative practices.

The ambitious plan to develop Budgam's Kanihama village, famous for its Kani shawls, into a Craft Tourism Village is now in its final stages. Also, the scheme to provide affordable accommodation at Doodhpathri that was pending for many years have been completed. The Lt Governor also praised district administration Bandipora for innovative digital intervention to track developments in Panchayats. The district has taken the lead in starting Panchayat Development Index, which ranks each panchayat on the basis of their performance.

The farmers of Qamarwari, Srinagar have witnessed manifold increase in their income after creation of market linkages. The district administration is also setting up a Farmer Produce Organization in Tengpora Block to promote vegetable farming, said the Lt Governor.

Kashmir



CRPF

Terrorism

Maharaja Gulab Singh Statue at Lakhanpur, a fitting tribute to founder of J&K State: Vikramaditya

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former MLC Vikramaditya Singh on Sunday said that the installation of statue of Maharaja Gulab Singh at the gateway of Union Territory-Lakhanpur is a fitting tribute to the founder of the erstwhile State of J&K which also comprised of Ladakh, which is a separate UT today.

In a statement issued to media, the former MLC said that the decision of installing the statue of legendary

Maharaja Gulab Singh deserves applauds as this was the demand of all the collective leadership and public of the erstwhile state of J&K to give the most appropriate tribute to the great king who used his valour and sharp acumen to expand his kingdom far and wide.

Vikramaditya Singh said that the people sitting at helm have aptly recognized the contribution of founder of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir Maharaja Gulab Singh, which is incredibly significant.

He was the only ruler from the princely family who expanded the boundaries of India outside its domain. He extended the frontiers of India to China, Tibet, close to Russia and Afghanistan. Though a little late, but the move is highly praiseworthy and is endorsed by people of all hues and shades. He empathized that it was matter of pride not only for J&K but all Indians across the country.

LG Mathur chairs general body meeting of NHM's State Health Society Discusses issues to improve overall health services in Ladakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh chaired the Governing Body Meeting (GBM) of State Health Society of National Health Mission (NHM), UT Ladakh. Advisor Umang Narula, Principal Secretary, Dr Pawan Kotwal; Mission Director, NHM Ladakh, Dr Iftakhar Ahmed Chowdhry and Director Health Services, Ladakh, Dr Motup Dorje attended the meeting.

Thanking the entire medical fraternity for their selfless service during the COVID-19 pandemic period, LG Mathur highlighted issues to improve the overall health services in Ladakh.

LG Mathur suggested that locally produced sanitary pads may be distributed among girls and women in Ladakh through the Industries Department, and health advisory on diseases such as TB and diabetes be issued using Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials such as billboards and social media handles.

He stressed on the need to provide electricity, running water, heating and ramps in health centres and the upgradation of the SNM Hospital in Leh. He suggested conducting mobile health camps in remote areas such as Changthang, providing facilities such as ambulance and police vehicles along with satellite phones on the national highways for the swift handling of trauma cases, bringing Jan Aushadhi Kendras upfront in Leh and Kargil and expanding these Kendras to cover all the Community Health Centres (CHCs) in Leh and Kargil.

LG Mathur also highlighted the need to take necessary steps to address the health issues mentioned in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-5. He suggested that a mechanism may be developed to monitor these health issues on an annual basis to improve the overall health of the people of Ladakh. He directed the Health Department to achieve the target of eradicating tuberculosis (TB) from Ladakh by the end of 2022.

LG Mathur suggested that the need to provide ultrasound facilities at CHCs and Primary Health Centres (PHCs) for the benefit of pregnant women, providing health insurance to all individuals, conducting mohalla clinics for tourists and migrant labourers, upgradation and a full-fledged hospital for Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel, procuring new equipment such as high-quality dental chairs and eye-testing equipment, and improving diagnostics in all health centres. Principal Secretary Dr Kotwal and Director Health Services Dr Motup said that they would try to resolve these issues at the earliest.

Speaking on the occasion, Advisor Narula suggested making plans to address the issues and having fixed targets for the target areas. He also suggested providing incentives to ASHA workers and NHM staff through various central government schemes.

Earlier, Mission Director NHM Ladakh, Dr Iftakhar, gave a detailed presentation on the agenda of the meeting, viz. approval of Programme Implementation Plans (PIPs) for the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24, incentives for ASHA workers from funds under Emergency COVID-19 Response Package (ECRP)-1, incentives for NGM staff, etc.

Faulty high mast lights in Top Sherkharia Park irking residents as authorities remain phlegmatic

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Residents of Top Sherkharia falling under Ward-39 are facing a bad situation as high mast lights installed in recently inaugurated public park have blown out with concerned authorities not showing any interest in repairing the same. The people who are privy to concerned officials are claiming that despite annual maintenance contracts, the concerned officials failed to ensure replacement of faulty lights thus putting public especially the old and infirm into deep trouble due to darkness in the park during evenings and night hours. It seems that accountability is nowhere in sight as it is difficult to

understand that such poor quality lights have been installed which could not remain functional for even a season. The park was recently upgraded and the high mast light installed for the welfare of people so that they can use the park for walking purposes.

As per inputs, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has allotted a tender to a firm to install high mast lights at public parks and several prominent crossings and squares in the city. Besides, the firm was also hired to have two years AMC of high mast lights but it seems that there is some kind of clandestine understanding between concerned agency and the firm, not to repair faulty lights despite

exchange of stipulated amount for the purpose. Suresh Sharma, a senior citizen of the area, said that during evening time several senior citizens come to park and spend time but after sunset, darkness rules the entire area thus leaving very little scope for locals to spend time in the park. Talking to STATE TIMES, Councilor Rajinder Singh Jamwal said that instead of creating more facilities authorities should first maintain existing infrastructure so that the resources can be utilized in a rational manner.

He alleged that the concerned park has been upgraded using substandard material and that is the reason behind the facility fast transforming into disuseless for people who used to come for late evening walks and children who usually play badminton and other games but soon after sunset, darkness rules the entire area thus leaving very little scope for locals to spend time in the park. The contractor who carried out works in the park is also indifferent and gone into hibernation", he is said adding that there is a deep rooted conspiracy in whole gamut otherwise it is not possible that even after having two years AMC, the concerned firm dares not to repair faulty edifice.

He said that due to the lackadaisical attitude of the officer sitting at the helm of affairs the firm is adamant and not doing what it is bound to do.

"The contractor who carried out works in the park is also indifferent and gone into hibernation", he is said adding that there is a deep rooted conspiracy in whole gamut otherwise it is not

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