

India's Digital Revolution earns global recognition: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, delivered a compelling address at the "ET Telecom 5G Congress," underscoring India's leadership in digital public infrastructure and technology innovation. He highlighted the transformative strides made over the past decade under the Digital India initiative, which has positioned the country as a global leader in technology-driven governance.

Dr. Singh lauded India's pioneering efforts in building a robust digital public infrastructure, citing the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) scheme as a revolutionary step that ensured seamless financial inclusion during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The DBT scheme became the litmus



test of digital transformation, empowering millions with efficiency and transparency," he remarked.

The Minister also highlighted the Swamitva scheme, which leverages digital mapping for land ownership.

With 70% of villages already mapped, the initiative has reduced citizens' reliance on traditional revenue systems, embodying the essence of citizen-centric governance.

India's emergence as a global technological powerhouse was a focal point of the address. Dr. Singh pointed to the country's remarkable ascent in the Global Innovation Index, rising from 81st to 39th position, and its rank as the sixth-largest nation in patent filings, with 56% of patents coming from resident Indians. "This shift reflects India's growing innovation ecosystem and its ability to retain talent that previously sought recognition abroad," he stated.

Dr. Singh also emphasized government initiatives fostering innovation, including a viability fund for space

startups, the National Research Foundation, and the opening of the nuclear sector to private players. He highlighted recent landmark policies, such as the allocation of ₹10,000 crore for space startups within 100 days of Modi 3.0 and the launch of BioE3, a biotechnology policy aimed at sustainability and growth.

Championing gender equity in STEM, Dr. Singh celebrated women's leadership in critical missions, including India's Aditya-L1 solar mission.

Concluding, he praised India's thriving startup ecosystem and global recognition of Indian professionals, stating, "India is no longer a participant but a leader in the global digital revolution." Dr. Singh's remarks solidify India's role as a trailblazer in technology-driven, inclusive growth.



Over Rs 1833 lakh released for G&B Hostels, Rs 294 lakh for Pahari Hostels

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JAMMU: Minister for FCS&CA, Satish Sharma, on Monday said that funds worth Rs 1833.40 lakh have been released for Gujjar and Bakarwal Hostels across Jammu and Kashmir during the current financial year under DIET head.

The Minister was replying to a question, on behalf of the Minister for Tribal Affairs, raised by Iftikhar Ahmad in the Legislative Assembly.

Regarding the Gujjar and Bakarwal Hostels, the Minister informed the House that, during the current financial year 2024-25, funds to the tune of Rs. 1833.40 lakh including Rs. 1801.90 lakh under Major Head and Rs. 31.50 lakh under sub-head were released in favour of the 28 G&B Hostels, having an intake capacity of 3000 students.

The Minister, while speaking about the Pahari Hostel, said that Rs. 294.00 lakh have been released under the DIET head for the

financial year 2024-25 and the grant has been disbursed for intake capacity of 700 inmates in respect of 09 Boys/Girls Pahari Hostels. The Pahari Board has desired to enhance the diet/food charges due to expensive essential commodities and other daily needed items in the market, he added.

He said that Rs 541.18 lakh were released under Article 275 (1) of the constitution of India for welfare of Scheduled Tribes in Rajouri Constituency during 2024-25. Out of which, Rs 328.63 have been spent, so far, on various projects including construction of Eklavya Model Residential School in Gurdhanbala, construction of roads, pathways, harvesting tank among other projects.

The Minister added that there are 76 ongoing projects worth Rs 270.75 lakh under UT CAPEX in the Rajouri Constituency being executed under the Tribal Plan.

Govt contemplates to open 1600 new Fair Price Shops

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JAMMU: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma, on Monday said that the Department is contemplating opening of 1600 new Fair Price Shops across J&K, as part of Jammu and Kashmir Targeted Public Distribution.

The Minister was replying to a question raised by Ajaz Ahmad Jan in the Legislative Assembly.

The Minister today informed the House that the government intends to rope in the elected members to firm up new Fair Price Shops in J&K. He added that the uncovered underserved panchayat areas shall be prioritized for opening of these new Fair Price Shops.

He apprised that food grains are being provided to different categories in accordance with the entitlement prescribed under NFSA. Additionally, a top up upto 10 Kg is also being provided to an eligible household in PHH category under J&K Government run scheme of PMFSS, he added.

The Minister said that there is also a proposal in the Annual Financial Statement of 2025-26 to provide additional free food grains in the context of AAY households only.

He said that the Department does not maintain any updation lists of the beneficiaries, however, complete details of the beneficiaries under all the groups are available on RCMS portal, which is in public domain and can be accessed at rems.jk.gov.in.

NHPC allocates Rs 28.67 Cr for CSR in J&K during current fiscal

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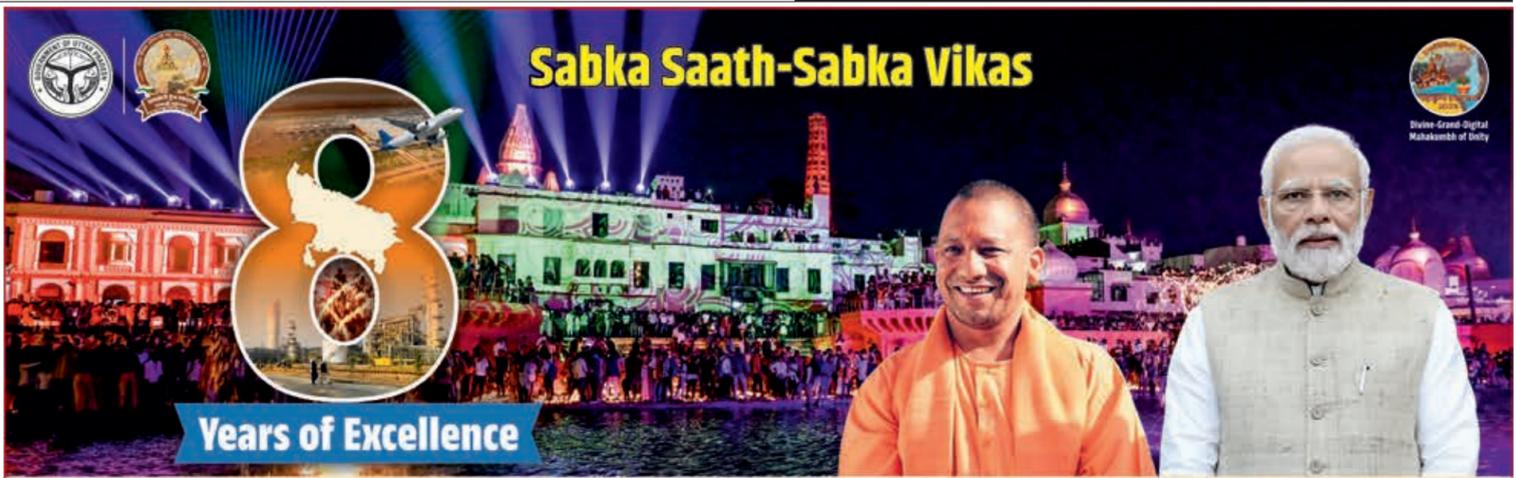
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said that NHPC has allocated a total of Rs. 28.674 crore for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities in J&K for the financial year 2024-25, out of a total Rs. 167.93 crore earmarked for pan-India CSR initiatives.

The Chief Minister made this statement while responding to a question raised by Member Waheed Ur Rehman Para. He informed the House that NHPC's CSR activities cover key sectors such as health and sanitation, education and skill development, rural development, sports, and disaster manage-

ment. In response to a supplementary question, the Chief Minister emphasized the need for consulting the MLA when planning and implementing CSR projects.

"We will convey this recommendation to NHPC and request them to involve the MLA in identifying priority areas for CSR initiatives," he said.

He further added that CSR funds should be utilized in consultation with local communities, ensuring that the maximum benefits reach the people. "As far as I know, the company consults with local stakeholders before making decisions on CSR projects to ensure the most effective use of these funds," he stated.



- First in attracting domestic & international tourists
- Pucca houses for 56 Lakh+ families
- First in implementing PM Kisan Samman Nidhi
- 1.86 Crore LPG connections under PM Ujjwala Yojana
- First in providing PM SVANidhi loans to street vendors
- Construction of 2.75 Crore toilets

Uttar Pradesh No. **1**

- Free ration to 15 Crore individuals
- PM Matru Vandana assistance to 60 Lakh mothers
- Free electricity connections to 1.58 Crore households
- Free medical treatment up to ₹5 Lakh for 9 Crore people
- 9.57 Crore individuals with Jan Dhan bank accounts
- Gharuani certificates to 1 Crore families

Nurturing Farmers, Cultivating Prosperity

- Inaugural Cabinet's First Decision: ₹36,359 Crore crop loan waiver, 94 Lakh farmers benefitted
- Foodgrain Production: Increased from 557.46 Lakh MT in 2016-17 to 668.39 Lakh MT (20% rise) in 2023-24
- Irrigation Capacity: Increased from 82.58 Lakh hectares in 2017 to 131 Lakh hectares, 976 projects completed
- Record Sugarcane Payment: ₹2.80 Lakh Crore paid since 2017, which is ₹66,000 Crore more than the total payments made in the last 22 years
- Sugar Mills: 3 new sugar mills, 6 mills revamped and expansion of 38 sugar mills
- Grain Procurement: Middlemen removed, ₹43,424 Crore disbursed for wheat procurement and ₹88,746 Crore for paddy procurement
- Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana : ₹80,000 Crore+ transferred to 2.86 Crore farmers
- 73,924 solar pumps installed under PM KUSUM Yojana

Uttar Pradesh on the Fast Track to Development

- 6 expressways operational, 11 under construction, Uttar Pradesh will account for 55% of the country's expressway network upon completion of Ganga Expressway
- Expressway length increased by 491 kilometers till 2017 to 1,225 kilometers by 2024
- 32,000 kilometers+ new roads constructed, 25,000 kilometers of roads widened/strengthened
- Number of Airports increased from four till 2017 to 21 Airports till 2024, including 5 international airports
- India's largest Jewar Airport nearly complete, set to become the nation's biggest air cargo hub
- Inland waterway operational from Haldia to Varanasi, expansion work ongoing from Prayagraj-Ayodhya

Zero Tolerance towards Crime

- Prior to 2017: Mafia and criminals unchecked, Post 2017: Rule of law, fear-free environment
- As per NCRB data, 84.41% reduction in dacoity, 77.43% reduction in robbery, 41.01% reduction in murder, 66.40% reduction in rioting, 54.72% reduction in abductions for ransom, 17.08% reduction in dowry deaths and 26.15% rape cases reduced
- 79,984 criminals booked under the Gangster Act, action taken against 930 offenders charged under NSA
- Seizure of nearly ₹3,000 crores worth property from mafia's illegal occupations, facilitating housing for the poor
- 222 notorious criminals killed in encounters, and 28,000+ wanted criminals sent to jail
- Police Commissionerate system implemented in 7 metropolitan cities, 18 Anti-Terrorism Squad units established
- 6 Special Security Force units formed, 3 Women PAC battalions set up
- Cyber police stations established in all districts, 11 Lakh+ CCTV cameras installed
- Response time of 112 Police Control reduced from 25.42 minutes in 2017 to just 7.24 minutes in 2024

Powering Progress

- Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana: Free electricity connections to 1.58 crore homes
- 24-hour power supply to district headquarters, 22-hour at tehsil level and 20-hour power supply in villages
- 100% waiver on power bills of farmers with private tubewells
- 4000 MW capacity plant under the Green Energy Corridor in Bundelkhand
- Establishment of 53 compressed biogas/bio coal/bio diesel and bio ethanol plants

Ensuring Basic Amenities, Enhancing Lives

- Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana: Free ration to 15 Crore individuals
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana : 56 Lakh+ houses constructed
- PM SVANidhi Yojana : ₹3000 Crore+ loan to 1,80,000+ street vendors
- Har Ghar Jal Yojana : Access to potable tap water provided to 2.36 Crore+ families
- MGNREGA : Leads in providing 100 days of employment by generating 200 Crore mandays

Nurturing Young Minds

- Construction of Atal Residential Schools in 18 divisional headquarters
- CM Model Composite Schools in 57 districts
- State Universities operational in Aligarh, Azamgarh, Saharanpur, Mirzapur, Balrampur, and Moradabad
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad National Law University in Prayagraj
- Sainik School, Forestry College, and NCC Training Academy in Gorakhpur
- Veterinary Science Colleges in Gorakhpur and Chandauli

Creating Employment, Inspiring Youth

- Per capita income increased from ₹46,000 in 2017 to ₹1,24,000 in 2024
- Unemployment rate: 18% youth unemployed in 2016, now reduced to 3% in 2024
- Fair and transparent recruitment process: 8.5 Lakh+ government jobs, 3.75 Lakh+ contract jobs
- 2 Crore+ jobs in private sector and MSMEs, 2.54 Lakh+ jobs through ODOP scheme
- Employment to 2.27 Lakh+ youth under Mukhyamantri Yuva Swarozgar Yojana
- Aim to train 10 Lakh new entrepreneurs under Mukhyamantri Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan

Driving Progress through Inclusive Growth

- 3,213 Annapurna Bhawans constructed, while work underway on 1,630 bhawans
- ₹708.49 Crore scholarships to 32,49,854 Scheduled Caste (Pre-Matric) students
- ₹9,662.25 Crore scholarships to 89,31,203 Scheduled Caste (Post-Matric) students
- ₹1,28,627.48 Crore scholarships to 62,79,519 Backward Class (Pre-Matric) students
- ₹7,62,524.03 Crore scholarships to 1,31,05,263 Backward Class (Post-Metric) students
- ₹221.95 Crore scholarships to 8,58,750 General Category (Pre-Matric) students
- ₹5,499.86 Crore scholarships to 48,13,347 General Category (Post-Matric) students

Building a Healthier Future

- Ayushman Bharat : Free treatment up to ₹5 lakh for 9 crore people
- 80 medical colleges operational, MBBS seats increased by 11,300
- AIIMS in Gorakhpur and Raebareilly, and Atal Medical University in Lucknow
- Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath AYUSH University in Gorakhpur
- 22,681 Arogya Mandirs

