

!! Continuations from Page 1 !!

Sustained attention being...

in Jammu and Kashmir so that the tribal community can get the right price for the valuable products sourced from the forests.

He further announced the creation of 1500 Van Dhan Self Help Groups in the UT to make women of the tribal community financially independent. An amount of Rs 15 crores has also been made available, it was informed.

On ensuring access to quality and affordable education for the children of tribal community, the Lt Governor said that the UT administration has reviewed the scholarships of the students at various levels and hiked the same across the board in line with the contemporary realities.

For students associated with the seasonal schools, children up to middle school were still being given an annual scholarship of Rs 450 to 675. A committee was formed to examine this, and now this scholarship is being increased to Rs 2400 annually, which will directly benefit about 34,000 students. Similarly, the review of scholarship in higher education had not been done from 2012 onwards, and technical courses and post-graduate students also got only 30 thousand rupees annual scholarship. This is also being increased to Rs 60 to 80 thousand annually, which will benefit 12,000 youths of the tribal community.

Recalling his pledge to set up 100 smart schools in tribal areas in November last year, the Lt Governor said that in March this year, the task of converting all 100 schools into smart schools has been completed, which include six such schools in Pulwama that now possess same state-of-the-art facilities as available in the schools of big cities. The Tribal Affairs Department in association with the District Administration is also developing a Cluster Tribal Model Village in Pulwama at a cost of Rs 10 crore, he added.

The Lt Governor appreciated the efforts of Tribal Affairs Department for completing the construction of this Transit Residential School in Goripora at a cost of Rs.6.68 crores in record time. He said that another such residential school is being built in Shopian and apart from education facilities, both these residential schools will also have medical facility, sports facility, library, food and other facilities. In order to provide equal rights to girls in the field of education, the government has also established 100-bedded hostels for the girls of tribal community at a cost of Rs.3.06 crores, he added.

The Lt Governor observed that the UT administration will give new energy and momentum to the process of social development in Jammu and Kashmir by connecting the neglected Tribal Community with the mainstream.

Expressing gratitude to Prime Minister, the Lt Governor said that it was only because of his efforts that nine seats of the UT assembly have been reserved for the tribal community, which in true sense reflects a step taken towards empowering them politically.

The rights of weaker sections enshrined in constitution were denied for 70 long years; benefits of development were not allowed to reach the last man in the queue. By removing divisive, discriminatory policies, we have made all sections of the community effective partners in the process of development, the Lt Governor added.

Ch Mohammad Yaseen, Youth Tribal representative speaking on the occasion expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor for inaugurating the facility for tribal population.

Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary Tribal Affairs, and Pandurang K. Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, highlighted the initiatives of Government for holistic development of tribal community of the UT.

Earlier, Baseer-ul-Haq Chaudhary, Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, briefed the Lt Governor on the site plan and features of the Model Tribal Residential School.

The Tribal Developmental projects worth Rs 11.47 crores inaugurated today included- Model Tribal Transit Residential School at Goripora Pulwama; 100 Bedded ST Girls Hostel at Ichgoze; Power Sub Stations at Bajwani Tral, Bathdalow Khrew, Lalapora, Pahali check Tral and Wahabsah Pampore; Providing of Drinking water facilities to Tribal Population by way of Installing hand Pumps in Khan Mohalla Saidapora, Awantipora, Sangerwani, Draklarn Gujjar Basti, Bathdalow Khrew; and Establishment of six Smart Schools.

Meanwhile, Tribal developmental projects worth Rs 31.62 crores for which the foundation stone was laid included- Construction/up-gradation of road from main road Sangerwani to Inderwali; construction of Dispensary building at Wasomarg Khaigam; Construction of Upper Primary School building at Panzoo (Aspirational Block Aripal); Rural information Centre at Gulshanpora Tral; Construction of PHC Building at Sangerwani; Widening/ upgradation of Machama Zarihan road at Tral; Upgradation/strengthening of Achgoze Abhama Bagander road at Sangerwani; Construction/upgradation of Kanidajam Wasomarg road at Ichgoze; Upgradation/ Strengthening of Panzoo Shaldraman Khalil road at Tral; Construction Of road from Khrew to Badadalow at Pampore; Water Supply Scheme Abhama; Water Supply Scheme Achgoza Bamnoo; Water Supply Scheme Draklarn Abhama; Water Supply Scheme Wasomarg; Water Supply Scheme Sangerwani, Water Supply Scheme Aglar Kandi, Construction of ST Hostel at Tral and Construction of ST Hostel at Pulwama.

DDC Chairpersons, PRI representatives, leaders, and large number of members of tribal communities, public of Pulwama besides senior officers of police and civil administration were present on the occasion.

Killer of Martyr...

has been registered and investigation has been initiated. People were requested to cooperate with Police till the area at encounter site is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any, a police spokesperson said.

After drone shot...

tanks and vehicle parts made of iron for sticky or magnetic materials.

Further, they asked the residents to report any suspicious activity in the area.

According to the officials, Sunday's drone that was shot down was the third of its kind sent from Pakistan with a payload of arms and ammunition in the Jammu sector since June 2020.

Country getting out...

and regional discrimination, in which it was trapped before 2014," Modi said in an apparent reference to previous Congress dispensations.

This is also an example for you children that even the most difficult days too pass, he said.

Referring to welfare policies like Swachh Bharat Mission, Jan Dhan Yojna or Har Ghar Jal Abhiyan, Modi said the government is moving with the spirit of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas.

The last eight years have been devoted to the welfare and service of the poor, he said.

As a member of the family, we have tried to reduce difficulties and improve the ease of living for the poor of the country," the prime minister said.

Modi noted that by increasing the use of technology, the government has ensured that the poor get their rights.

Now the poorest of the poor are confident that they will get the benefit of the government's schemes, he said.

"To increase this trust, our government is now running a campaign of 100 per cent empowerment," Modi said.

The prime minister said the heights that India has achieved in the last eight years, no one could have imagined earlier.

"Today, India's pride has increased around the world and our power in the global forums has increased," he said.

He expressed happiness that youth power is leading this journey of India.

Just dedicate your life to your dreams, they are bound to be realised, the prime minister said.

PM to interact with beneficiaries of Govt schemes today

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with beneficiaries of about sixteen schemes and programmes spanning nine Ministries and Departments as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations tomorrow.

The national level event named "Garib Kalyan Sammelan" will be held at Shimla where the Prime Minister will interact with the beneficiaries through video conferencing. He will also release the 11th instalment of the Kisan Samman

Nidhi amounting to more than 21 thousand crore rupees.

Simultaneously events will also be organized at state capitals, district headquarters and KVKS Centres.

Under this series of events, the scheme beneficiaries will interact with Chief Ministers, Central and State Ministers, Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly and other elected public representatives.

The interaction will

explore the possibility of convergence and saturation

of these schemes and give an opportunity to assess the citizens' aspiration for India as it completes 100 years of independence in the year 2047.

The Sammelan will be one of the largest ever single-event nationwide interaction spanning all districts, where Prime Minister will interact with beneficiaries about the impact that these schemes and programmes have had on their lives.

Jammu Kashmir UT is

Modi first assumed the office of the prime minister on May 26, 2014, while he was sworn-in for a second term on May 30, 2019.

Pak-based terror.

Azhar, is ideologically closer to the Taliban. Qari Ramazan is the newly appointed head of JeM in Afghanistan.

It added that Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) is described in the previous Monitoring Team reports as having provided finance and training expertise to Taliban operations.

Within Afghanistan, according to one Member State, it is led by Mawlawi Yousuf, the report said, adding that in October 2021, according to one Member State, another LeT leader, Mawlawi Assadullah, met with Taliban Deputy Interior Minister Noor Jalil.

The same Member State reported that in January 2022, a Taliban delegation visited a training camp used by LeT in the Haska Mena district of Nangarhar.

"The group was said to maintain three camps in Kunar and Nangarhar. Previous LeT members have included Aslam Farooqi and Ejaz Ahmad Ahangar (a.k.a. Abu Usman al-Kashmiri), both of whom joined ISIL-K, the report said.

Another Member State said that there was no evidence of the presence of JeM and LeT in the region as a consequence of effective security operations targeting them, according to the report.

The 13th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team of the Taliban Sanctions Committee is the first report since the August 15 takeover of Kabul by the Taliban.

It notes that the period between then and April 2022 has seen the Taliban consolidate control over Afghanistan, appointing 41 United Nations-sanctioned individuals to the Cabinet and other senior-level positions in their de facto administration. They have favoured loyalty and seniority over competence, and their decision-making has been opaque and inconsistent.

The report further said that the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) constitutes the largest component of foreign terrorist fighters in Afghanistan, with their number estimated to be several thousand.

Other groups include the Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM), Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Jamaat Ansarullah and the LeT, with each numbering in the few hundreds.

It said the TTP, led by Mufti Noor Wali Mehsud, has arguably benefitted most of all the foreign extremist groups in Afghanistan from the Taliban takeover. It has conducted numerous attacks and operations in Pakistan.

The TTP also continues to exist as a stand-alone force, rather than feeling pressure to merge its fighters into Afghan Taliban units, as is the prospect for most foreign terrorist fighters. The group is estimated to consist of 3,000 to 4,000 armed fighters located along the east and southeast Afghanistan-Pakistan border areas, the report said.

According to one Member State, control of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Refugees and Repatriations gives the Haqqani Network further points of contact with the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, it said.

Sirajuddin Haqqani has reportedly been relied upon more than anyone else in the de facto administration to act as an intermediary between TTP and Pakistan. Haqqani mediations have not led to a sustainable ceasefire, but are a further indication of Sirajuddin's central role within the Taliban as a mediator and figure of authority among rank-and-file of TTP and other mainly Pashtun groups in eastern Afghanistan, the report said.

The Haqqani Network is still regarded as having the closest links to al-Qaeda. The group continues to be the trusted partner for local facilitation of safe havens and support for the al-Qaeda core, including by maintaining ties with so-called legacy al-Qaeda: those who long ago established relations with the late Jalaluddin Haqqani and to whom the Haqqanis feel indebted for supporting them and the Taliban, the report said.

The report noted that following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan in August last year, the Haqqani Network moved quickly to secure control of certain key portfolios and ministries: interior, intelligence, passports and migration. Prominent de facto ministerial positions secured by the Haqqani Network include those occupied by de facto Interior Minister Sirajuddin Haqqani and de facto Minister for Refugees Khalil Ahmed Haqqani, it said.

Responsibilities associated with these roles appear carefully chosen, as the ministries encompass the issuing of identity cards, passports and the monitoring of persons entering and exiting the country.

The Haqqani Network has also become the best militarily equipped faction and controls a number of armed formations, including the elite Badri 313 Battalion.

The Haqqani Network now largely controls security in Afghanistan, including the security of the capital, Kabul, the report said.

The 11th report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team had said that among those groups posing a security threat, Afghan officials highlighted Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan, Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba, groups on which the Monitoring Team has written in the previous reports.

It had been said that the presence of these groups is centred in the eastern provinces of Kunar, Nangarhar and Nuristan, where they operate under the umbrella of the Afghan Taliban.

The 11th report had added that according to Afghan interlocutors, Jaish-e-Mohammed and Lashkar-e-Taiba facilitated the trafficking of terrorist fighters into Afghanistan, who act as advisers, trainers and specialists in improvised explosive devices.

Both groups were responsible for carrying out targeted assassinations against government officials and others. Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed were stated to have approximately 800 and 200 armed fighters, respectively, co-located with Taliban forces in Mohmand Darah, Dur Baba and Sherzad districts of Nangarhar Province, the report said.

Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan also maintains a presence in Lal Pura District, near the border area of Mohmand Darah, Pakistan. In Kunar Province, Lashkar-e-Taiba retains a further 220 fighters and Jaish-e-Mohammed has a further 30, all of whom are dispersed within Taliban forces, it added.

ED arrests Delhi...

prevent him from going to Himachal. He will be released soon as he has been arrested in a fake case," Sisodia added.

Jain, 57, is the minister for health, industries, power, home, urban development and water in the Arvind Kejriwal-led government.

The Himachal Pradesh assembly polls are slated for later this year and the AAP is looking to make inroads into the state after its stupendous victory in Punjab earlier this year.

The ED had said last month that assets worth Rs 4.81 crore of Jain's family and companies "beneficially owned and controlled" by him were provisionally attached as part of a money laundering probe against him.

In a statement issued then, the ED had said it issued a provisional order under the PMLA to "attach immovable properties worth Rs 4.81 crore belonging to Akinchan Developers Pvt. Ltd., Indo Metal Impex Pvt. Ltd., Parayis Infosolutions Pvt. Ltd., Manglayatan Projects Pvt. Ltd., J.J. Ideal Estate Pvt. Ltd., Swati Jain, wife of Vaibhav Jain, Sushila Jain, wife of Ajit Prasad Jain, and Indu Jain, wife of Sunil Jain."

The probe found that "during the period 2015-16, when Satyendar Kumar Jain was a public servant, the companies beneficially owned and controlled by him received accommodation entries to the tune of Rs 4.81 crore from shell (paper) companies against cash transferred to Kolkatta-based entry operators through the hawala route." "These amounts were utilised for direct purchase of land or for repayment of loan taken for the purchase of agricultural land in and around Delhi," the ED said.

The named persons in the attachment order are associates and family members of Jain, officials said.

The money laundering case against the AAP minister stems from an August 2017 FIR filed by the CBI against him and others on charges of alleged possession of disproportionate assets.

The income tax department too had probed these transactions and had issued an order attaching "benami assets" allegedly linked to Jain.

Delhi Chief Minister and AAP National Convenor Arvind Kejriwal said in February that he had learnt from sources that the ED was going to arrest Jain just before the Punjab assembly elections and accused the Centre of targeting the AAP after realising the BJP "would lose" the polls.

J&K schools ahead...

to 57 while as for EVS, it was 59 as against 57.

The management participation ratio with respect to schools run by the state government, private recognized and central government was at 46, 47 and 7 per cent respectively.

However, there was no significant improvement over the NAS 2017 results, with the exception of Mathematics, which showed a modest improvement. The performance of boys and girls did not differ significantly, despite the fact that girls scored marginally higher at all levels-basic, competent, and advanced.

Pulwama topped the results with 73.4% followed by Srinagar at 71.6 and Anantnag at 70.1 as against the national average of 59%. Jammu stood at 66.4.

The quality of the teaching staff and sports facilities were praised by the head teachers who also emphasized the need to increase audio-visual and library facilities. The Covid-19 epidemic did cause issues, with 40% of pupils reporting difficulties studying at home.

The percentage ratio of boys to girls in class 5 was 50.9 and 49.1, respectively, while the urban-rural participation ratio was 76 and 24. In schools run by the state government, private recognized institutions, and the central government, the management participation ratio was 43%, 49%, and 7%, respectively.

Language had a performance percentage of 61, which was higher than the national average of 55. Similarly, the percentage for Mathematics was 48, compared to 44, and for EVS, it was 54, compared to 48.

In comparison to the NAS 2017 results, there was a significant improvement in Mathematics and EVS, though Language scored 13 points lower.

Even while girls scored somewhat higher at all levels-basic, proficient, and advanced-the performance of boys and girls did not differ significantly.

Anantnag came out on top with 64.8 percent, followed by Pulwama with 62.7 percent and Srinagar with 62.6 percent, compared to a national average of 49 percent. Jammu had a score of 59.0.

In class 8, the percentage ratio of boys to girls was 49.3 and 50.7, respectively, while the percentage ratio of urban to rural participation was 77 and 23.

In schools run by the state government, the management participation ratio was 52%, 43%, and 5%, respectively.

Language had a performance percentage of 59, which was higher than the national average of 53. Similarly, the percentage for Mathematics was 39 versus 36, for EVS, 45 versus 39, and for Social Science, 43 versus 39.

In comparison to the national average of 41.9 percent, Srinagar led the rankings with 55.7 percent, followed by Anantnag at 53.2 and Jammu at 52.7.

Head teachers were pleased with the teaching staff and sports facilities, but they emphasized the need to increase audio-visual and library resources. The Covid epidemic did cause issues, with 98 percent of pupils reporting some type of difficulty when studying at home.