

Raj Bhawan hosts Grand 'Goa Statehood Day' celebrations

Bond between Goa, J&K reflects spirit of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat: LG



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and others witnessing cultural programme at Raj Bhawan on Tuesday.



■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
SRINAGAR: Jammu Kashmir Raj Bhawan on Tuesday organized a grand cultural event to commemorate the celebration of Goa Statehood day.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha conveyed his greetings to the people of Goa on the occasion of Statehood Day.

He paid tributes to the brave patriots, who made the supreme sacrifice for the freedom of Goa.

"Jammu Kashmir and Goa enjoy a very ancient, special relationship and there has been an unbreakable, priceless bond between the sandy beaches of Goa and the hills and valley of Jammu

Kashmir since the 4th Century," said the Lt Governor.

This unique bond is also the reflection of the spirit of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat. The foundation day of the state of Goa is also the day to connect the new generation with the ancient values blessed by the land of Vitasta, J&K

and Mandovi River; Goa, he added.

"People of Goa have shown exemplary entrepreneurship, providing enviable strength and self-confidence to its economic growth, be it tourism or fisheries. It is a confluence of glorious heritage of art, dance, drama, music and different modern culture," observed the

Lt Governor. The Lt Governor also remembered the contribution of great personalities like Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia; young revolutionary and the first martyr of Goa freedom movement Bala Raya Mapari of Azad Gomantak Dal, and the socialist leader Madhu Limaye, in the freedom struggle of Goa. The captivating performances by the artists showcased the bouquet of culture and traditions of Goa and Jammu Kashmir. On this day in 1987, Goa got full statehood and became the 25th state of the Republic of India. The event was attended by the people from Goa living in J&K UT. They were also the special invitees on the occasion. Senior officials of Civil administration, Police and Security forces were also present.



Sahil Khan kills 16 yrs old Sakshi

ADGP Jammu visits GMC Jammu, enquires about health of injured persons

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh on Tuesday paid a visit to Government Medical College (GMC), Jammu and enquired about the health and welfare of the injured who sustained injuries in a road accident at Jhajjar Kotli this morning and were undergoing treatment there.

During visit to GMC Jammu, the ADGP Jammu was accompanied by DIG Jammu and SSP Jammu. They met with injured persons and assured all possible help from the Police Department and best possible means of treatment in GMC Jammu.

The doctors were requested to take care of injured persons.

ADGP Jammu met some of the injured individually and enquired about their well-being. ADGP Jammu wished for their speedy recovery.



ADGP Jammu Zone Mukesh Singh enquiring health of injured at GMC Jammu.

IIM-J inks pact with MIMC Leh for training, research

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu on Tuesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre (MIMC), Leh, Ladakh for promotion and understanding of high performance in research training, capacity building and organizing various programmes including conferences, seminars, symposia, and lecture series. The MoU was signed between Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director IIM Jammu, and Venerable Bhikkhu Sanghasena, Founder President and Spiritual Director, Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre in the presence of Prof. S.K. Mehta, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ladakh, Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics and Cmrdr Kesavan Baskaran (Rtd.), CAO, IIM Jammu.

The MoU between Mahabodhi and IIM Jammu is intended to establish a partnership for training and research in the areas of value-based spiritual and ethical education, world peace, overall well-being, meditation and mindfulness, yoga, spirituality, compassion in action, and inclusive and sustainable development. Venerable Bhikkhu Sanghasena, Founder President and Spiritual Director, MIMC stated that the collaboration will lead to a significant exchange of synergies between both Institutes in areas ranging from joint research projects in the areas of spirituality, yoga,



Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director IIM Jammu and Venerable Bhikkhu Sanghasena, Founder President after signing MoU.

mindfulness, and similar other pursuits on the corporate citizenry and society at large. Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu termed the collaboration with MIMC and Anandam, Centre of Happiness, IIM Jammu as a new chapter in the history of education and spirituality. The collaboration between both Institutes will foster training and research cooperation and collaboration in areas ranging from value-based spiritual and ethical education, World Peace, Yoga, and Spirituality leading to inclusive and sustainable development for the community of Leh, Ladakh, the nation, and the globe. Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean of Academics, IIM Jammu reiterated that the collaboration between both Institutes will open new avenues in key areas of ethical education, spirituality, and world peace. The collaboration will pave the path for meaningful outcomes in the interest of the stakeholders and contribute immensely towards the progress and development of mankind. This Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Mahabodhi

International Meditation Centre (MIMC) and Anandam-Centre of Happiness, IIM Jammu is done with a joint motive of organizing yoga/meditation boot camps/retreats for its learners at Leh, organizing workshops/seminars/conferences, executive education, sharing of common facilities, undertaking research projects on the impact of spirituality on corporate sector; Organizing offline/online lecture of instructors from Mahabodhi for IIM Jammu and Faculty/Student Exchange to be pursued in a collaborative spirit and any other area mutually decided by the two institutions from time to time. Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre is devoted to the benefit of humanity spread over about 200 acres of green campus with hostel accommodations and other training infrastructure. Anandam: The Center for Happiness aims at facilitating this transformation through systematic interventions, practices, and research at the Indian Institute of Management - Jammu.

Srinagar Smart city projects will be completed by end of next year

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Smart City has recorded highest-ever completion of projects amongst all the smart cities across the country with the CEO Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), Athar Aamir Khan saying that 55 projects have been completed so far while work on 70 projects are going on.

CEO, SSCL said that a total of 125 projects are to be executed under the smart city project. He said that 55 among them have been completed while the work on 70 others are going on, adding that 50 among them will be completed before December

this year.

Khan further said that the rest of 20 projects will be completed by June 2024."So far, Srinagar has witnessed the fastest execution of the smart city projects and the highest number of projects has been completed compared to other cities across the country," he said.

The CEO smart city project said that the Raj Bagh Jhelum River front is now almost complete and has become a good and first choice for morning walk lovers as well as passers-by. Along with this, people are coming from different parts of the Kashmir to see the

beauty of banks of Jhelum and the beauty of the roadside.

Regarding drainage and drainage projects of Srinagar, he said that under the Srinagar Smart City Project our main focus is on proper drainage system.

This time we have created separate channels for rainwater and sewage, so that rainwater will go directly to rivers while as sewage will go to treatment plants.

"After the conclusion of the G-20 event in Srinagar, the execution of works will gain even more pace," he said.

Under the much-hyped smart city project, several

projects like J&K's first wire-free and exclusively pedestrian market-Polo View and Jhelum Riverfront have been completed recently.

Both the projects were inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha ahead of the G-20 event. The delegates of the G-20 event also visited the refurbished Polo View market where they spent over half an hour during their visit.

It is important to mention that Smart City Mission

Bhalla meets AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, discusses socio-political developments in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla on Tuesday called on AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge in New Delhi.

Bhalla apprised Kharge about the political situation in J&K and ongoing organizational activities of the party.

He also discussed the feedback from the workers and people about the functioning of present government and the role being played by the Congress to represent and highlight the issues of people of J&K.

Bhalla also discussed various measures for further strengthening the party in J&K.

Bhalla briefed the leadership about the fallout of disconnect between the present dispensation and people in absence of the popular Govt leading to restlessness amongst the people, besides briefing them about various other burning issues.

A I C C

President Mallikarjun Kharge asked Bhalla to effectively fight the anti-

people and anti-youth policies of the BJP and defeat their divisive agenda in Jammu and Kashmir, to strengthen the party and gear up their activities keeping an eye on the forthcoming Assembly elections.

He asked him to concentrate on public issues and be amongst the people to highlight their problems.

He appreciated JKPCC Working President and cadres for their struggle and commitment to fight against the communal and divisive forces in Jammu and Kashmir.

Kharge asked Bhalla to activate the cadres at various levels in order to highlight issues of people and expose the failures and falsehood of BJP and the failures of the Centre Govt in J&K to come up to the expectations of the people on various vital commitments.



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla calling on AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge in New Delhi.

Dr Jitendra interacts with first 20 All India IAS toppers



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, flanked by Ishita Kishore, Garima Lohia and Uma Harathi, the first three All India IAS toppers, who called on him at DoPT headquarters, North Block on Tuesday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singhon Tuesday interacted with and felicitated the first 20 All India Toppers of IAS/ Civil Services Exam 2022, who called on him at the DoPT headquarters at North Block here.

Among the first 20 IAS/Civil Services toppers invited by Dr Jitendra Singh said, first four toppers and 60 percent out of top 20 happen to be women and this is a great reflection of demographic change happening in the last 9 nine years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Government, where India is moving from women participation to women leadership.

He recalled that last year also the top three toppers were women and hoped that

hat-trick will be made in 2023 Civil Services Examination.

Dr Jitendra also underlined that this year out of top 20, there are only 8 engineers and one medico, while the rest are from humanities.

He welcomed this change describing it democratisation of services through optimum use of technology.

In his welcome address to the top-20 rankers and their family members, Dr Jitendra described the 2022 batch of Civil Servants as the "Batch of Change Leaders", as they will be in key positions of Governance, when India will celebrate 100 years of Independence after 25 years as one of the frontline countries of the world.

Dr Jitendra also informed

the officers that there is a huge and positive change in curricula in LBSNAA in tune with modern times, and apart from Mission Karmayogi and Mission Prarambh, young probationers will have a 3-month stint of mentorship at the Central government before getting the respective State or Union Territory to join the allocated cadre.

On the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh also released the IAS Civil list 2023. The publication of e-book IAS Civil list 2023 has enabled the Department of Personnel & Training to do away with the traditional way of printing of voluminous IAS Civil list. This e-book IAS Civil List 2023, contains photographs as well the following information of the IAS officers of all the State Cadres.

No doubt more needs be done but surely after 2019 an era with meaningful difference has arrived for UT of J&K

■ DAYA SAGAR

The UT of J&K is still under President Rule even after nearly 5 years of when it was imposed in 2018. Union Government had very earnestly set first priorities on programmes & policies for return of peace and stability in the areas of the UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh. No doubt elements/ subjects to be addressed and settled were and are more demanding w.r.t to the areas in Kashmir Division of UT. The Lieutenant Governor has been all these years been working for setting first task in the needs of 'one' standing in the last row and for that to also ensure that basic elements of govt. machinery (public servants) too are given rational & unbiased treatment as regards service matters. Some people may still opine that the needs of common man have not been fully addressed but at the same it has to be accepted that some good has also been done for which there could be no better a quote than action of the LG administration to completely flush away (by issuing S.O.

425 on 06-09-2022) the bad policies/ rules like SRO -202 of 30-06-2015 and it shadows resting in SO 192 of 17-06-2020 which was a very cruel tools shaped by "elected government" to exploit the needy youth appointed against regular substantive post (even that of Assistant Surgeons/ Medical Officers in Health Department).

The seats in the Legislative Assembly of UT of J&K (LA of J&K) for the areas that have formed the part of UT out of the State of J&K had been increased from 83 to 90, number/ location of seats for SC were to be reviewed and above all for the first time provisions for reservations for Schedule Tribe in LA of UT had also been made. Ofcourse to address the inadequacies of proper representations to the differently placed people and areas of erstwhile state of J&K that were now included in UT of J&K there was now need for appointment of a Delimitation Commission (which earlier had been pushed to beyond 2031 AD) for deciding the limits and nature of single mem-

ber constituencies of LA before elections could be held and for that also to provide a representative of nearness in time/ distance to people of UT of J&K the Delimitation Commission was appointed in 2020 and the 'open' injustice done to under privileged areas/ people over last 7 decades has been surely reduced to some extent (if not totally) with issue of delimitation order of 2022. No doubt someone may express concern about no announcement for election having been made yet but that may also soon happen.

Ofcourse like Delimitation of Legislative Assembly segments done after 31-10-2019 people of some distance and backward areas of J&K had very eagerly started hoping that soon the unfair reorganizations of district administrative units as done in 1979 (SRO 306 of 6/6/1979) increasing districts in Kashmir valley from 3 to 6 and not increasing districts outside Valley beyond then existing 6) and 2007 (



A Look through the Mist

SRO 185 of 22 May 2007 increasing districts in K Valley from 6 to 10 as against only 7 recommended by Wazir Commission in 1984 and in Jammu Division also from 6 to 10 only where the Wazir Commission had recommended atleast 9 districts in 1984). In Kashmir Valley new district of Shopian was carved out just with one tehsil and only 312 sq km (612.19 sq km ?) area & Ganderbal with 259 sq km area where as Rajouri District in 2007 already with 7 tehsils spread over 2630 sq Km was not even split into two districts. Not only that somewhere in 2014 instead of making corrections one tehsil of Shopian was further in a way split into 7 tehsils where as in Rajouri district tehsils were increased only from 7 to 13. No doubt so far the imbalances have not been done away but may surely be "under consideration".

The issues related to the families displaced in 1947 from the areas of J&K State occupied by Pakistan have all

these years been not only subjected to neglectful treatment to the extent of not providing them adequate financial support inproportion to the properties / assets left behind by individual families & other rehabilitation supports like reservations in services/ education etc but not even a regular registration/ number count of these families had been initiated in earlier years. IT has been only after 2019 that atleast the process for registration of families who might not be included in "31619" count and may also be living in other Indian states has been initiated. No doubt questions have been raised on Government of India deciding to wind up the carpet of demands/ claims of POJK DP (1947) families in the Rs.5.5 Lakh / family one time financial assistance sanctioned in 2016 but the initiative still deserved appreciations and since the process of resubmission of the due demands to government is still continuing so surely it can be hoped that government in coming times would surely shed the 2016 poli-

cy of one time settlement including taking some leads from the 183rd Parliament Committee report presented in Parliament in December 2014 as regards f POJKDPS1947 so that every family s gets support 'atleast' proportionate to the suffered material losses.

Ofcourse people who might have in earlier years suffered from / may still be suffering from some inadequacies / alleged discriminations in policies as regards development / delivery of services and issues related to employment / social security may still be not satisfied but they must keep their hopes live keeping in view the bad times of political inadequacies & myths and disturbed state of affairs that prevailed in the earlier years in J&K in a way needed even socio- political common medication in addition to rooting out the foreign aided separatist fixtures'.

To be continued  
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