

'National Rozgar Mela' institutionalised Govt's recruitment process: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also Minister Incharge DoPT, today said, "National Rozgar Mela", a unique concept visualised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has institutionalised the government's recruitment process.

Briefing the media about the 9 years' achievements of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the hallmark of most of the administrative and governance reforms is that these are youth-centric and Rozgar Mela stands apart as a major and bold initiative to provide government jobs to youth in a transparent manner, in addition to creating millions of job opportunities outside the



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, flanked by Union DoPT Secretary Radha Chauhan, briefing media about the 9 years' achievements of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions at National Media Centre, New Delhi on Friday.

government through various schemes and initiatives like StartUp policy.

The Union Minister informed that through Rozgar Mela, the Central Government and cooperating State Governments to distribute 10 Lakh appointment letters in mission mode.

Dr Jitendra Singh quoted Prime Minister Modi in the last Rozgar Mela in May, 2023 as saying, "In the last 9 years the government has prioritised the recruitment

process by making it faster, transparent and unbiased". He also recalled the difficulties faced in the recruitment process, the Prime Minister pointed out that the Staff Selection Board took roughly 15-18 months to onboard the new recruits whereas today it takes only 6-8 months.

Referring to other youth-centric recruitment reforms, Dr Jitendra Singh said, interviews abolished for Group B Non Gazetted and lower posts, leading to more trans-

parency, Computer based examinations introduced in place of paper-based exams, Regional languages introduced in SSC exams for various Posts leading to increased participation of youth for govt jobs. Dwelling on the Administrative Reforms of 9 Years, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "Mission Karmayogi" will prove to be a Game - Changing reform visualised and launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for capacity building with a para-

dig shift - "rule-based" approach to "role-based" learning. He also informed that Mission Karmayogi Prarambh, an online module of courses launched to impart initial training to new recruits, apart from iGOT Karmayogi APP launched to provide any-where, any-time learning.

The Minister informed that Capacity Building Commission (CBC) was established for building a credible and uniform approach to capacity building. National standards for Civil Service Training Institutions have been launched by CBC. He said, Centers of Excellence are being set up in every Central Training Institutions. CBC is helping all Ministries/ Departments/Organisations (MDOs) in developing an annual capacity building Plan. A National Training Conclave is being inaugurated on 11th June 2023.

Govt hikes Kharif crop MSPs, Rs 143 increase for paddy

J&K farmers appreciate PM Modi, LG Sinha for MSPs hike: Ch Sukhnandan



Former J&K Minister and senior BJP leader Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar addressing gathering of villagers in Gajansoo Marh.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Educating the farmers that the 2023-24 (Minimum +Support Prices) MSPs for 17 kharif crops and variants have been approved, Former J&K Minister and senior BJP leader Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar told that the Centre government has set the MSP for paddy sown in the kharif or monsoon season at Rs 2,183 per quintal, a hike of Rs 143 per quintal in comparison to last year.

Addressing gathering of villagers in Gajansoo Marh, Former Minister Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar said the sowing of the crops, mainly paddy, has started in most states while the Centre said that its aim was to ensure reasonably fair remuneration for the farmers and to encourage crop diversification.

"This is the highest increase", said Sukhnandan adding that the farmers will benefit from the increase in the MSP at a time when the retail inflation is declining.

In agriculture, we have been fixing MSP from time to time based on the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and

Prices (CACP). The increase in MSP of the kharif crops for this year is highest compared to the previous years," the senior BJP leader said.

Apart from paddy, new MSPs have been set for major pulses. The MSP for moong is Rs 8,558 per quintal, an increase of Rs 803 from last year, one of the highest increases among kharif crops. The MSP for tur or arhar has been set at Rs 7,000 per quintal, which is estimated to be 58 per cent above the cost of production. This is in keeping with the Centre's promise to set MSPs which are at least one and a half times the all-India weighted average cost of production, Sukhnandan said appreciating the hike in MSP.

"The expected margin to farmers over their cost of production are estimated to be highest in case of bajra (82 per cent) followed by tur (58 per cent), soybean (52 per cent) and urad (51 per cent). For the rest of the crops, the margin to farmers over their cost of production is estimated to be at least 50 per cent," said former minister Sukhnandan Kumar, adding LG Sinha has always advocated the cause of J&K farmers and he has been assured that

all possible support will be given to J&K farmers.

Farmers all over the country are rejoicing the hike and so in J&K, said Sukhnandan Kumar, adding the Congress and the other opposition parties have no option to survive and still spreading false information to the farmers residing in the rural areas.

For maize, the increase is Rs128 per quintal and the new rate will be Rs 2,090.

For ragi, this year's MSP will be Rs 3,846 per quintal, which is an increase of Rs 268. Among oilseeds, the MSP for sesamum is Rs 8,635 per quintal, Rs 6,377 for groundnut, and Rs 4,600 for soybean. In the case of niger seed, the new MSP is Rs 7,734 per quintal, and for sunflower seed, it is Rs 6,760. For cotton (long staple) and cotton (medium staple), the MSPs are at Rs 7,020 per quintal and Rs 6,620 per quintal respectively, stated Sukhnandan Kumar adding the farmers must verify these figures are spread it the each village of the J&K UT.

Among others who were present in the gathering include Ex-Sarpanch Om Prakash, Girdhari Lal, Kaka, Tarseem, Mohan Lal and Mool Raj.

K K Gandhi with his Peace Dove visits Chitkara University

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: K K Gandhi reached Chitkara University with his Peace Dove "Franz Xaver Gruber" which travelled from Austria to India. He was received by Dr. Madhu Chitkara, Pro-Chancellor, Chitkara University. On this occasion Prof. (Dr.) Ranjan Kumar Malik, Dean, Chitkara Design School and Dr. Sudarshan Pal Singh, Director, Office of the Planning & Architecture, Chitkara University, Punjab were also present and received KK Gandhi. Dr. Madhu Chitkara felt this precious moment related to peace, prosperity. She said that a grand peace message to all society should be spread in a creative way. The



K K Gandhi being received by Dr. Madhu Chitkara, Pro-Chancellor, Chitkara University.

work Gruber-Taube (GruberDove) is assigned to the composer Franz Xaver Gruber (1787- 1863), who created the music of the world-famous Christmas song Silent Night, Holy Night. The dove

has her permanent home at the Silent Night Museum Hallein, in Salzburg, Austria. Indian artist Gandhi was artist in residence" in Hallein, Salzburg, Austria, the eminent painter for one month. K.K. Gandhi

was chosen as a messenger of peace. As he travels back to Jammu, India, he will be carrying the peace dove with him. The bronze sculpture was designed by the artist and sculptor Richard Hillinger, who came up with a concept of assigning individual doves to well-known people. This particular bird is named #GruberTaube and acts as a messenger of peace, while visiting different people or institutions. Its mission is to travel the world during ten months of the year and to return to the Silent Night Museum Hallein during the pre-Christmas season.

The dove stands for peace, justice, freedom, humanity, democracy and human rights.

May these values be held high in the spirit of mutual appreciation and respect. In the picture: Mag. Florian Knopp, manager of the Silent Night Museum Hallein presenting the peace dove #GruberTaube to K.K. Gandhi. Dr. Madhu Chitkara gave her blessings on behalf of Chitkara University's Family, Punjab, India to this worthy cause and wished all the good luck to all the deserving art fraternity associated with this artistic novel mission. She appreciated the bronze sculpture of Dove and the aesthetic thinking behind this art peace. Lastly, Dr. Ranjan Malik gave the vote of thanks to Pro-Chancellor Dr. Madhu Chitkara and to artist K K Gandhi.

PM's 'Gati Shakti' gives impetus to infrastructure development: Rana



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana during visit to Noida International Airport.

STATE TIMES NEWS
Noida (UP): Saying that the Prime Minister's Gati Shakti Policy has brought about a discernible turnaround in the infrastructure sector, Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana exuded confidence that accomplishment of set targets will shape India's economic trajectory in the years to come.

"The success of this policy has given immense impetus to the growth and scripted new milestones in development of the country", Rana said during his visit to Noida International Airport at Jewar in Gautam Budh Nagar Parliamentary Constituency as part of

'Vikas Tirath' along with Dr Mahesh Sharma, the local Member of Lok Sabha

He added that the policy has lent more power and speed to projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform. This is the success story of New India where infrastructure is for all without any discrimination, reflecting true social justice and secularism as envisioned by the Prime Minister.

Devender Rana is currently on a month-long visit to the five Lok Sabha Parliamentary Constituencies - Gautam Budh Nagar, Bulandshahar, Bagpat, Gaziabad and Meerut as

part of the Maha Jan Abhiyan launched by the party across the country.

Nicolas, CDO Zurich Airport International AG and Dinesh Jamwal, Delivery Head, Zurich Airport International AG who are developing this state of art International Airport briefed the team about the status of the ongoing work.

Rana referred to the unprecedented development taking place across the country, especially in the wake of investments for modern infrastructure during the past nine years of the Narendra Modi government, saying this will change the face of India in the decades to come.

Due to relentless efforts of the Prime Minister every nook and corner of the country is becoming part of its growth story and the people are taking pride in being seen as the citizens of New India across the world.

This momentum has to be carried forward by standing like rock behind the Yashasvi Pradhan Mantri, he added.

Famous for its fresh water decades ago, Brari Nambal lagoon is in very poor condition

SHAKEELA ANDRABI
SRINAGAR: The unabated encroachment on the lagoon and the inordinate delay in the conservation of the water body is severely affecting its fragile ecosystem. Once known for crystal clear waters, today the Brari Nambal are heaps of garbage and weeds. In absence of conservation measures, the lagoon is now on the verge of extinction with unabated pollution and extensive encroachments. The Baba Demb area of Srinagar has for years remained in news for illegal dumping and filling of BrariNambal lagoon and the construction of illegal structures.

According to experts, the lagoon is dying silently as encroachments and illegal constructions in the area continue to go unabated. The State Times Correspondent carried out multiple visits to the area to assess the current situation

and found that scores of kiosks had come up where both locals and non-locals were putting up and indulging in commercial activities. It was found that the dumping of material in the lagoon was going on under the nose of the authorities.

With the civil society and the stakeholders raising concern over the dying water bodies and wetlands in Kashmir region.

Last year the then Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, P K Pole assured that the government was adopting a "multipronged strategy" to revive the Brari Nambal lagoon to its pristine glory and government has kept around Rs 40 crore budget to uplift this dying water body. For that purpose administration is

having consultative meetings with the stakeholders and a roadmap is being devised to start working on the plan".

According to experts, to revive any vital water body, people's participation and their active role is important, Brari Nambal lagoon has been left unattended and people also have shown an adverse role. So, the time has come when a strategy is to be developed to get this important water body back to its pristine glory, but till date no concrete majors are being carried out for safety of this old and famous lagoon.

BrariNambal is considered to be ecologically important as it helps regulate the hydrology of Dal Lake by releasing its surplus waters into River

Jhelum via a conduit at Fateh Kadal. Before the 1970s, Brari Nambal had two outlets, one on the west side and the other on the north from Nallah Maar. During the 1970s, Nallah Mar was earth-filled and converted into a road, severely affecting the water body's hydrology through loss of flushing capacity.

Locals said that despite many anti encroachment drives, illegal dwellings were coming up in the area affecting the ecological balance as well. There have been many drives against the encroachment but still one can see the area dotted with these structures used for various purposes.

Earlier, the Enforcement Wing of the Lake Conservation and Management Authority

(LCMA) launched a spontaneous demolition drive in Baba Demb. During the drive, many tin sheds and wooden structures were demolished. However, the ground visits carried out by Correspondent revealed that the area is still dotted with countless tin sheds and wooden structures. Due to the immense ecological importance of BrariNambal, its restoration is a litmus test for the government.

According to officials of LCMA that they were continuously carrying out anti-encroachment drives to ensure that no structure was set up in the area. "We don't have jurisdiction over the full area of Brari Nambal. However, we are looking into the area under our jurisdiction.

DC Jammu visits Yatri Niwas; reviews arrangements for Amarnath Yatra

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa on Friday visited Yatri Niwas at Bhagvati Nagar to inspect the arrangements for the comfortable stay for Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra 2023 pilgrims.

She also convened a meeting with senior officers from concerned departments to review the arrangements.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner reviewed the establishment of registration counters for tatkal registration of the pilgrims.

The Deputy Commissioner also discussed the requirement of other facilities like accommodation, barricading,



DC Jammu Avny Lavasa during visit to Yatri Niwas, Jammu.

security arrangements, wi-fi and other facilities, power and water supply etc near the Registration Counters.

The cleanliness, sanitation, hygiene and medical facilities at these counters were also discussed in the meeting.

The Deputy Commissioner also allotted separate duties to senior

officers of different departments to ensure that all necessary arrangements are made for smooth conduct of Yatra well before the commencement of Yatra.

SSP Jammu, Chandan Kohli, ADC ADM Sandeep Seointra along with other senior officers from concerned departments were present in the meeting.

Power shutdown

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Bishnah, Kotli, Sarore, Deoli, Kheri, Pandorian, Rehah, Lalyana, Salehar, Rathana, Khour, Makhanpur, Lalyana, Seora, Sarore, Salehar, Khour, Biaspur, Makwal, Rathana, Jinder Melu and adjoining shall remain affected on June 13 from 6 am to 10 am. Similarly, the power supply to Vijaypur Town, Kolpur, Bandral, Rangoor, Ramgarh Nanga, Dadyal, SM Pura, Abtal and its adjoining area shall remain affected on June 13 from 6 am to 11 am.

Meanwhile, Superintendent Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle, Kathua has informed that the power supply to Jogpur, 17 Miles, Swankha More, Najwal and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 10 from 6 am to 10 am. Similarly, the power supply to all industries under IIDC feeder 2nd, Hatli Village and adjoining areas shall remain affected on June 11 from 6 am to 10 am.

IIM Jammu signs MOU with LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue-LEAD to Startup Ecosystem Development

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue-LEAD to set out a framework for the participants to cooperate in investment promotion in J & K.

The MoU was signed at a Mega event for start-ups in Jammu on 09th June 2023. The organizations will jointly conduct studies, research, and organize various capacity-building activities across the districts of Jammu and Kashmir with an aim to identify investment opportunities and measure the potential of growth in various sectors of the industry.

The MOU was signed in the presence of Prof. B.S Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu by Cmr Kesavan Baskaran (R), Chief Administrative Officer, IIM Jammu, and by Sunil Shah, Director, LJK Economic Growth and



Officials of IIM Jammu with LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue -LEAD after signing MoU.

Development Dialogue-LEAD.

Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu said that the signing of the MoU will open new avenues to showcase business opportunities in J&K to potential investors, creation of start-up ecosystem, and drive strategic sector-specific investments from private sector stakeholders across India and the world. The IIM Jammu along with the LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue-LEAD, will try to leverage this partnership by working in the

continued interest of the people of Jammu, and Kashmir and thereby paving the path for sustainable development for the nation and the globe.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Sunil Shah, Director, LJK Economic Growth and Development Dialogue-LEAD expressed his happiness for the signing of the MoU with IIM Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. He mentioned further that the collaboration with IIM Jammu will help us to develop our competence in many key areas ranging

from research, Institutional knowledge, development of entrepreneurship, and Institutional development. This partnership will lead to a significant exchange of synergies between both Institutes.

Prof Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu said that this MOU will bring expertise from both organizations and will study the gap analysis for all Districts of Jammu and Kashmir. The collaboration between both Institutes will lead to meaningful outcomes in the interest of the stakeholders and pave the path for sustainable growth and development.

As part of the MoU, a review shall be undertaken to view schemes & policies of the government with respect to industrial growth and investment promotion in J&K and students will truly benefit from such activities as this will help them to understand these dynamics. The MoU signing ended on a positive note.