

Dr Jitendra convenes constituency meeting to finalise programmes commemorating Modi Govt's 11 years

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is a Member of Parliament from Udhampur-Kathua-Doda Lok Sabha constituency, today convened a comprehensive constituency-level meeting via video conferencing to finalise month-long programmes commemorating 11 years of the Modi Government.

The meeting was attended by MLAs, BJP District Presidents, DDC Chairmen and Vice Chairmen, in addition to other office bearers.

Fresh from launching the "Viksit Bharat Krishi Sankalp Abhiyaan" at R.S. Pura in Jammu alongside the Union Agriculture Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh called upon officials to ensure the campaign reaches every district and mandal. Emphasizing 100% saturation of flagship schemes like Ayushman Bharat, he urged officials to leave no beneficiary unregistered. "Every citizen must experience the impact of the Modi Government's transformational schemes," he stated. Highlighting recent strides in science-driven agriculture, Dr. Jitendra Singh showcased a series of transformative initiatives reshaping the agri-economy of the region. The Biotech Industrial Park in Kathua has been made operational and integrated with Biotech Kisan Clusters, serving as a hub for



innovation and farmer-scientist collaboration. The Purple Revolution, marked by the successful cultivation of lavender in Bhaderwah in collaboration with IIM Jammu, has now spread to neighboring states like Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, enabling young agri-entrepreneurs to earn lakhs through sales in high-end perfume markets.

Dr. Jitendra Singh is also set to launch the two day Lavender festival on 1st June at Bhaderwah. Under the Floriculture Mission in J&K, over 385 hectares have been brought under cultivation, directly benefiting more than 3,000 farmers, with breakthroughs such as genetically engineered roses that can bloom in desired colors and across seasons. Additionally, the successful expansion of

tulip cultivation from Palampur to Ayodhya, even during off-season periods, stands as a testament to the power of scientific innovation in enhancing India's floricultural footprint.

Dr. Jitendra also highlighted a breakthrough project by the Department of Atomic Energy and DBT to enhance shelf life and productivity of crops-enabling Kashmiri apples to now grow in Jammu alongside mangoes.

In a major policy announcement, Dr. Jitendra revealed the upcoming cannabis cultivation initiative in collaboration with IIM Jammu and private partners to manufacture medicinal and cancer drugs. He also noted the empowerment of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to generate employment and income. Moreover, he highlighted the

development of an AI-based agricultural decision-making system for J&K, aimed at transforming traditional farming practices.

As part of the Gram Krishi Seva Yojana, four Agromet Observatories have been commissioned in Ladakh, Srinagar, Jammu, with four new district-level Agromet units in Kupwara, Baramulla, Kathua, and Reasi, backed by SKUAST.

Touching upon the nation's historic and cultural identity, Dr. Jitendra Singh emphasized the importance of remembering and honoring key national milestones and movements. He recalled the Emergency of 1975 as a "Black Day", underscoring the need to observe its 50th anniversary on June 26 as a reminder of the value of democracy and civil liberties.

In anticipation of World Environment Day on June 5, he directed renewed enthusiasm for the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign, encouraging citizens to participate with greater dedication and vigor. Dr. Jitendra Singh also advocated for grand celebrations on International Yoga Day (June 21), particularly at major tourist destinations, to highlight India's global leadership in wellness and mindfulness. Furthermore, he appreciated the Tiranga Yatra, linking it with the success of Operation Sindoor, and called for its con-

tinued celebration as a symbol of national pride and collective self-esteem. As Member of Parliament, Dr. Jitendra Singh laid out a comprehensive schedule for the month-long celebrations marking 11 years of the Modi Government. The planned activities include public exhibitions, media interactions, professional meets, and coordinated grassroots-level efforts aimed at ensuring widespread public engagement and awareness. These initiatives are designed to showcase the government's achievements and encourage active citizen participation in the vision of a Viksit Bharat.



Justice Sindhhu inaugurates 2nd National Lok Adalat at District Court Jammu

28 benches settle 81,759 cases

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In Compliance to the directions of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, 2nd National Lok Adalat was held on Saturday here at District Court Jammu under the Chairmanship of Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Pr. District & Sessions Judge, Jammu) Y. P. Bourney and under overall supervision of Secretary DLSA Smriti Sharma.



Justice Sindhhu Sharma, Judge HC of J&K and Ladakh handing over cheque to a claimant.

Justice Sindhhu Sharma, Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Administrative Judge for District Jammu inaugurated the 2nd National Lok Adalat 2025 at District Court Complex Janipur Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Sindhhu Sharma emphasized the importance of National Lok Adalat in amicable settlement of long pending disputes. "Alternative dispute resolution is a vital tool in the Justice delivery system which ensures speedy and one time settlement of disputes" she said and added that the general masses can

take the benefit of Lok Adalats as the award passed by the Lok Adalat Benches attains finality.

Later, Justice Sindhhu Sharma also distributed MACT Cheques among the claimants.

A total of 28 benches were constituted in different Courts of the district to deal with the matters of Civil nature, Bank Recovery, Criminal Compoundable, MACT, Matrimonial, NI Act u/s 138, Revenue Cases, BSNL Cases, Electricity Bills, Other Civil Cases and Others Traffic Challans cases. In all, 84559 cases

were taken up, out of which 81759 were settled, recovering an amount of Rs. 10,46,96,873/-.

Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, Jammu also settled cases which included Rajiv Kumar vs United India Insurance Co in which an amount of Rs. 18,85,869/- was awarded in favour of the claimant after settlement. The amount was paid as compensation by the respondent. In another case titled Bimla Rani Vs Oriented Insurance Co. an amount of Rs. 22,09,181/- was awarded in favour of the claimant after settlement.

Three cases were settled by the Ld. Addl. Sessions Judge Anti Corruption Jammu (Addl. MACT Jammu). In a case titled Swarna Devi vs Reliance, an amount of Rs. 15,20,000/- was awarded in favour of the claimant after settlement. The amount was paid as compensation by the respondent.

Indus Water Treaty exploited by Pakistan; water and terrorism cannot flow together: Khatana

STATE TIMES NEWS
COPENHAGEN: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), Er. Gulam Ali Khatana, on Saturday stated that the Islamic Republic of Pakistan has consistently misused the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) to deny the people of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir their rightful access to hydropower development and economic progress. Speaking in Copenhagen, MP Khatana emphasized that Pakistan's use of terrorism, supported by its Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and military establishment, is a deliberate and long-standing strategy aimed at bleeding India



Er. Gulam Ali Khatana speaking at a podium during a press conference in Copenhagen.

and manipulating international sentiment. "India, under the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has categorically refused to bow to Pakistan's age-old policy of deploying non-state actors to carry out acts of violence while avoiding

accountability," said Khatana. "Bharat has demonstrated a clear and unshakable resolve to combat terrorism by all means and at all levels." Highlighting recent security operations, he added, "Operation Sindoor is a testimony to the precision, reach, and effectiveness of Indian forces in targeting terror infrastructure operating across the border in Pakistan." MP Khatana firmly asserted that terrorism and cooperation under the Indus Water Treaty cannot coexist. "India has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism, and it is time the international community recognizes that water and terrorism cannot flow together."

BJP condemns criminal behaviour by AAP MLA Mehraj Malik, calls for strict action

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Taking serious note of defamatory and condemnable statements made by Aadmi Party MLA from Doda Assembly Constituency, Mehraj Malik, wherein he used unparliamentary and uncouth language against doctors-particularly a female doctor serving at Doda Hospital - Chief Spokesperson of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Jammu and Kashmir, Sunil Sethi said that the conduct and behaviour of the said MLA is unbefitting of the high representative position he holds. His actions show a lack of respect and regard for the noble medical profession, which is dedicated to curing suffering humanity. The language used by the said MLA, now widely circulated in the media, is shameful-even by the standards of the most uncivilized elements of society. He was expected to exercise discretion and responsibility before uttering words that have caused significant emotional distress not only to the concerned doctor but to society at large, especially the female population.



Sunil Sethi, Chief Spokesperson of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Sunil Sethi called upon the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Sh. Abdul Rahim Rather,

to take cognizance of the situation and initiate appropriate action against the MLA, as he is the custodian of the conduct of legislators both within and outside the House.

The Chief Spokesperson further noted that this is not the first time the said MLA has targeted the medical community for cheap publicity, without understanding the difficult and strenuous duties performed by doctors. He welcomed the complaint lodged by the doctor against Mehraj Malik and urged the police to conduct a thorough investigation, including into his past behaviour.

Sunil Sethi assured the medical fraternity that full protection will be provided to them against such criminal behaviour, regardless of the position of the person involved. He particularly assured female doctors that millions of BJP workers stand firmly with them against any misadventures by such unruly elements who have no respect for the law or societal norms. He further extended full help and assistance to the medicals in prosecuting this criminal incident or in dealing with any similar incidents in the future.

Dr Darakhshan chairs Eid preparedness Meet Religious festivals are important events related to a faith but bridging whole humanity: Andrabi

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Saturday chaired Eid preparedness meet at Waqf Central Office at Haj House in Bahut Plaza Jammu in which representatives of different government departments participated.

Prominent Imams and Khateeb and Waqf Board Officers and Administrators of Jammu division also participated in the meeting.

After a threadbare discussion, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Additional Commissioner Div Com Office, Yudvir Padha Deputy Director Food & Supplies Department, Ashok Chibber Executive Engineer Power Department, Himanshu Gandotra Assistant Director Fire & Emergency Services,



Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi chairing a meeting.

Additional Superintendent of Police Arvind Singh, SP Security Jammu Mohammed Usman and others

joined the Eid preparedness deliberations. Speaking on the occasion, Dr

Andrabi said that coordinated efforts by the Board and other concerned departments will ensure fool proof facilities for the Eid festivities. Imams and Khateeb gave their feedback about the required facilities at all Eid prayer congregation sites.

Waqf Chairperson thanked the administration for supporting the Board in putting in place all required facilities for the Eid-Al-Adha festival. Speaking to the media, Dr Andrabi said that Waqf Board has taken all steps for the festival.

"Religious festivals are important events related to a faith but bridging whole humanity", said Dr Andrabi.

She said that all livestock for Qurbani will be made available to the people and arrangements for the hassle free prayers are being updated.

Prime Minister Modi again becomes 1st to place on board idea of 'one state, one global tourist destination' Will Omar take the call keeping areas outside Valley in focus?

DAYA SAGAR
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged Indian states to develop at least one global standard tourist destination each to attract international visitors and boost the local economy. Prime Minister opined so on 24th May while chairing the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog in Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi and opined that the G20 Summit helped India get recognised as a global tourist destination and so in a way suggested that the states should hold the opportunity to develop at least one tourist destination of global expectation in the respective State/ UT. The 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog was attended by 24 Chief Ministers and seven Lt. Governors. This year's theme was Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047 and in reference Prime Minister emphasised that India needs to increase the speed of transformation.

In brief it could be said that what the Prime Minister of India has said becomes very important for the local government of States/ UTs, particularly

like UT of J&K since Narendra Modi Chaired the meeting of Niti Aayog as Chairman by virtue of his being Prime Minister of India and he well knew that no state would be take to the burden of the costs of all Inputs for such venture independently & the States/ UTs, would also come to centre for assistance. It has to be accepted that the Government of India has always been coming to support any well designed project with financial assistance provided the proposals are well supported with healthy profile and well said projections.

The Government of Jammu & Kashmir has enough scope & also requirement for working in the direction of "one state, one global tourist destination" and that worth showing to the world that once intentions are there unimaginable high potential tourist destinations could be placed on the world map. In J&K there are many areas which have enough scope for development as tourist destinations of world class expectations. J&K's Kashmir Valley has been attracting the tourist from all over and is observed as the unsurpassable Tourism potential 'heaven' but still there is enough scope out-

side even Kashmir valley to place on the world map a "tourist" heaven extending over the unexplored areas of J&K which have so far remained unattended before 1947 and even after 1947. No doubt all politicians when out of power and the new governments that come have been talking of there being high summer/winter/pilgrim/adventure/health resort/ sports tourism potential in the Chenab Valley/Pir Panchal/other sub regions outside Kashmir Valley but have been paid no attention by "past" governments and 'new' government will work for that, but the projects have not seen the light.

Recently media has reported that it was on 28th May that while chairing a high-level meeting in Gulmarg to assess the functioning of various departments J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said that holding back-to-back meetings at tourist resorts Gulmarg and Pahalgam is an effort to instill public confidence and encourage people to visit Kashmir and it has been at the same reported in media that Gaurav Gupta,



A Look through the Mist Part-I

Spokesperson of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, has strongly criticized the Omar Abdullah-led government for its selective approach in reviving the Union Territory's tourism sector following the tragic terror attack in Pahalgam. While the Chief Minister's decision to convene Special Cabinet meetings in Pahalgam and Gulmarg to restore confidence among tourists is welcome, the complete disregard for the Jammu region-equally impacted in terms of tourism and business-reflects a narrow and one-sided policy adding "Jammu is not merely a transit point; it is a vital pillar of the UT's cultural and spiritual tourism. From Katra to Patnitop, from historical temples to bustling markets-Jammu offers immense value to the tourism map of the region. The government must recognize this and act". In another press statement the NC Jammu Provincial President Rattan Lal Gupta has said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir, especially those living in districts Poonch- Rajouri and border areas of

Jammu and Kashmir, have borne the brunt of the recent escalation in cross-border firing tragically losing nearly 23 innocent civilian lives and demanding a well-structured comprehensive financial package from the Centre which would not only provide much-needed support to the affected families but also aid in rebuilding livelihoods, strengthening infrastructure, and revitalizing the local economy. Ofeourse there is utmost need for rehabilitation of the people/ areas having suffered from the recent cross border/ LOC firings from Pakistan side but these area have always remained under adverse socio-economic environments thereby lacking in even routine development for which also these sub regions are to be compensated. These areas have lot of tourism potential worth exploitation and making them global standard destinations. The J&K Govt must catch on the call given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24 May 2025 to develop at least one tourist destination of global expectation.... "one state, one global tourist destination". The sub regions lying outside Kashmir Valley have enough area that

could be as Unit developed into a Global expectation Tourist Destination which would ofcourse need thousands of crores of INR as input from the government side for which world standard consultants could be retained to draw out the plans & drafts for the areas that have huge fair environment with also some difficult terrain in way likes of much different of which have been turned into super class destinations even by emirates like Dubai. PM Modi has also talked of rise in local economy through such ventures and that is very much relevant in the case of the such areas of Jammu Region, imagine in case one lakh crore INR is invested in the areas that we have how much will go locals for their service / material inputs?.... Omar Abdullah must take onthe call given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who is also chairman of Niti Aayog for "one state, one global tourist destination" and set for drawing out a project profile for approval of assistance from Government of India which will be surely supported by the Prime Minister.

To be continued
(The writer is Senior Journalist and analyst J&K affairs)