

# Last 11 years saw democratisation of Civil Services, youth aspiration: Dr Jitendra

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: In an exclusive interview to Doordarshan News, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the last 11 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi saw democratisation of Civil Services with democratisation of youth aspiration.

While at one time, the IAS and Civil Services were confined only to a handful of States like Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Kerala etc, today, Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out, we get toppers from the States which earlier hardly figured in the civil services list.... toppers from Punjab, Haryana and J&K. He cited the case of Parsanjit Kour, the young girl from Poonch, a border district in J&K, who made it to All India Rank 11 in the Civil Services Exam of 2022 in very first attempt or the boy from Punjab, Anmol Sher Singh Bedi who was All India Rank 2 in the Civil Services Exam of 2016.

This, the Minister said, has restored faith in the objectivity and equal opportunity offered by the system and, thus also led to democratisation of youth aspiration.

"This is the true essence of democracy-where every mother, regardless of her socio-economic standing, has the confidence to believe that her child can reach the top", said Dr Jitendra Singh.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the 11 years have been nothing short of transformational for India. "What generations longed for over decades has been made possible in just over a decade," he stated, adding



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh in an exclusive conversation with Doordarshan News at New Delhi.

that PM Modi has wiped the tears of the past and replaced them with eyes full of hope and future aspirations.

Each passing year, the Minister said, has marked a new milestone-be it in infrastructure, governance, technology, or youth empowerment-creating unprecedented opportunities for every Indian.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy; Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh stated that under PM Modi's leadership, citizens' self-esteem has been restored. Referring to the PM's historic 2016 call of "Start-Up India, Stand-Up India", he emphasized how it broadened the employment horizon beyond traditional government jobs. "It was only then people realized that job doesn't only mean "Sarkari Naukri", but also innovation, enterprise, and startups," the Minister noted.

India's biotech sector, he highlighted, is a perfect example-growing from just 50 Start-Ups

in 2014 to over 10,075 in 2024, with a leap in valuation from \$10 billion to nearly \$170 billion. He credited this to strong public-private partnerships, and forward-thinking policies like Bio-E3 and the National Quantum Mission.

Dr. Jitendra Singh celebrated the integration of Northeast and Jammu & Kashmir into India's mainstream development. "For decades, these regions waited for railways-but under PM Modi, trains now run in valleys that were once isolated," he said. The Minister recounted the first-time commissioning of Jammu station in 1972 and the long gap in progress until PM Modi fulfilled this dream over half a century later, even flagging off Vande Bharat trains.

Citing emotional examples, Dr Jitendra Singh mentioned the young crew staff girls from Manipur lost in the tragic Ahmedabad air crash as symbols of how far the region has come-from isolation to being part of the international aviation and hospitality industry.

Dr. Jitendra Singh reaffirmed India's leadership in the fields of space and biotechnology,

highlighting the nation's growing global stature in science and innovation. He announced that India's astronaut, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, will serve as the Mission Pilot on the Axiom-4 mission, where he will conduct cutting-edge space biology experiments using indigenously developed biotech kits by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). Dr. Singh further shared that India is steadily progressing towards establishing its own 'Bharat Antariksh Station' by 2035, marking a significant milestone in the country's space ambitions. He emphasized that the world is now actively collaborating with India and recognizing its scientific capabilities, a testament to the country's rise as a trusted global science partner.

Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted several landmark governance reforms that have transformed citizen-centric service delivery over the past decade. He noted that CPGRAMS, India's public grievance redressal mechanism, has evolved into a global model, handling over 26 lakh grievances in 2024 compared to just 2 lakh in 2014, with an impressive 96% disposal rate.

The Minister also spoke about the introduction of the Digital Life Certificate (DLC) for pensioners, which, through facial recognition technology, has

eliminated the need for elderly citizens to physically visit banks for verification-a first-of-its-kind initiative in government. Furthermore, he cited progressive pension reforms, including the provision of family pension for widowed and divorced daughters, and the flexibility for women officers to nominate parents or children as beneficiaries, instead of being limited to their spouses-reflecting a more inclusive and compassionate approach to governance.

Highlighting the clean record of the Modi government, Dr. Jitendra Singh proudly stated "In the last 11 years, not a single charge of corruption has surfaced against any member of the Union Council of ministers. Compare that to the previous regime, where scams were the norm, he said.

The Minister also pointed out a cultural shift in politics, where the government no longer classifies citizens into vote banks, ensuring 100% saturation of schemes, including PM Awas Yojana homes in non-traditional voter areas.

On the current situation in Jammu & Kashmir, Dr. Jitendra Singh assured that normalcy has returned, and tourism is thriving."Visit Pahalgam today, where a tragic incident occurred recently-you'll find it crowded with people," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh also touched on the Lithium reserves in J&K, calling them a potential economic game-changer, and emphasized that the youth of the region are aspirational and determined not to miss the bus.

Concluding his remarks, Dr. Jitendra Singh said "The real driving force behind Viksit Bharat 2047 will be the citizens of India. It is their support, aspiration, and participation that will shape the next 25 years of Bharat's journey."



## JYBT launches 'Vedic Pathshala' to promote Sanatan Dharma among youth

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: In a major step to preserve and promote the rich heritage of Sanatan Dharma among the younger generation, the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust, Jammu, inaugurated a new initiative-a 'Vedic Pathshala' at its Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir Bhawan, located at B.C. Road, Jammu.

The Pathshala was launched under the visionary guidance of Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust. The second session of this initiative was held on Sunday with active participation from 45 students hailing from various districts across the province.

The curriculum included recitations and teachings from sacred Hindu texts such as the Shree Bhagavad Gita, Sunderkand Paath, Shree Hanuman Chalisa, and lessons on Dharma, Karam, and Karam Gyan, helping students gain a holistic understanding of

Sanatan culture and philosophy.

Speaking on the occasion, Pawan Kumar Shastri emphasized the importance of reconnecting the youth with their cultural roots. He announced that the Trust will now conduct weekly Vedic classes every Sunday, offering sessions on Vedic Gyan, Shree Bhagavad Gita Paath, and Sunderkand Paath. "The goal is to make the new generation aware of their spiritual and cultural identity and instill in them the foundational values of Dharma," he said.

Shastri further highlighted that the initiative aims to foster spiritual growth, cultural awareness, and a strong sense of community among participants. "In times when traditions are fading, it is essential that we reintroduce the timeless teachings of Sanatan Dharma to the youth. These teachings have shaped generations and continue to inspire people around the

world," he added.

The event also witnessed the presence of several dignitaries including Dr. Arun Shastri, who officially inaugurated the programme, Dr. Ajay Shastri, and other Sanskrit scholars such as Sukhdev Sharma (W.C.M.), along with staff and volunteers of the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust.

The Pathshala initiative received widespread appreciation from attendees and was lauded as a meaningful step towards preserving ancient Indian wisdom and reviving the spiritual heritage of the region. Participants praised the Trust for its dedication to cultural education and expressed hope that such efforts will continue to grow in scale and impact.

The Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust reaffirmed its commitment to safeguarding the cultural and spiritual traditions of Sanatan Dharma, ensuring that its timeless wisdom continues to enlighten future generations.

## Induction of Urdu in Naib Tehsildar Exam unconstitutional and unacceptable: Arun Prabhat



BJYM J&K President Arun Prabhat talking to reporters.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) held a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, in strong opposition to the Jammu and Kashmir Government's controversial decision to include Urdu as a compulsory subject in the recently notified Naib Tehsildar recruitment 2025. During his address Arun Prabhat lambasted the current National Conference government for intentionally killing the spirit of equal opportunity and meritocracy. This biased decision reveals a mindset which for decades kept J&K's issues burning, using the region selectively to further their narrative.

Over the past 75 years, this would be exploited by many, in

ways more than one. We are all witness to how Urdu derived from Persian has affected the revenue records in Jammu and Kashmir. Majority of people in J&K, some of whom claim to be well-versed with Urdu, fail to be well-versed with the land record, leading to corruption by some black sheep in the government departments. Referring to the discriminatory intentions and biased deeds of the National Conference in the past, he reminded the Naib Tehsildar's recruitment process of 2008, when the selected candidate's list had been deliberately withheld. The selected candidates had been provided justice through judiciary as result of which their seniority was delayed by one and half years. Exhibiting a biased stance

again in 2019's Naib Tehsildar's recruitment, conducted by the Jammu Kashmir Services Selection Board, 126 out of 817 candidates failed due to the Urdu paper 122 of them were from the Jammu region.

He further questioned that if there is no Urdu language eligibility criteria for Tehsildar, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Assistant Commissioner Revenue and Divisional Commissioner who directly deals with the revenue related matters in the UT, then why is it compulsory for the Naib Tehsildar's recruitment. He cautioned the current government of Jammu Kashmir, that if this biased decision has not been taken back, the protests which are being performed since 10th of June, will be intensified and take a form of a mass agitation and this fight for justice will not take pause until the justice is delivered to the youth of Jammu Kashmir. He also condemned the mum stance of the Jammu based cabinet ministers. Others present were Monu Slathia, Kanav Sharma, Rajat Manhas, Lav Deval Sharma, Rohit Mehra, Rajat Sharma, Nitesh Sharma and others.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: SSP, Jammu, Joginder Singh Sambyal on Sunday asserted that better coordination among parents, teachers, Mohalla committees, Panchayats and Police is must to check growing drug menace among youth in the society.

While addressing a function on 'Drug Abuse' organised by Team Jammu here, he said "10 to 15 per cent of youth are drug addicts so remaining population of the society is duty bound to liberate this section from drug addiction. We are aggressively dealing with that 10 to 15 per cent involved in addiction or drug peddling but civil society as whole must come forward to save remaining 85 to 90 per cent youth from men-

### SSP Jammu calls for collective action

## LG, CM's concern over drug menace must be translated into reality: Team Jammu



SSP Jammu, Joginder Singh Sambyal, Chairman, Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal and others at a programme in Jammu on Sunday.

ace of drug abuse".

SSP Jammu further detailed series of programmes underway to make general public aware of ill effects of drug abuse.

The programme was organised as part of 'World Anti Drug Day' to be observed on June 26, however, keeping in view

the suggestions of volunteers, the program was preponed and was organised here on Sunday.

On the occasion, SSP Jammu, Joginder Singh Sambyal was the Chief Guest while Chairman, Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal presided over the function. SDPO Jammu West, Dr. Satish Bhardwaj, SDPO Gandhi Nagar, Sunil Singh Jasrotia, and SHO Bakshi Nagar, Insp. Azad Manhas were also present on the function.

Welcoming LG & CM'

concern over growing drug abuse, Zorawar asserted, "Lieutenant Governor & Chief Minister's concern should not remain mere concern but it must be translated in reality and drug mafia has to be dealt with iron hands to save younger generation. The time has come to launch operation flush out against drug lords operating in J&K especially Jammu Province. Zorawar in his address suggested tips to effectively deal with peer pressure.

"The biggest reason that teens start taking drugs is because their friends utilise peer pressure. No one likes to be left out, and teens as well as adults too find themselves doing things they normally wouldn't do just to fit in," explained Zorawar Singh Jamwal.

The event that was majority attended by Team Jammu volunteers from College, University and Law Schools besides senior citizens, featured a powerful skit by renowned artist Shazi Khan and his team, highlighting the grim realities of drug addiction, while celebrated Dogri poet Thakur Randheer Singh Raipuria moved the audience with his touching verses on substance abuse.

Volunteer of Team Jammu & Law Student Vasu Dev Singh presented welcome address, and Heena Mahajan co-convenor Duggar Bhadrari conducted the stage and anchoring.

## CGPWA organises unique 'Sangeet Milan'

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, Jammu (CGPWA) organised a unique Musical Milan, showcasing the talent of the amateurs veterans and the budding young artists at K L Sehgal Hall to mark the World Music Day. It was an undiluted entertainment to the packed hall.

The veterans who participated in the event were the retired senior civil servants of the age ranging from 65 to 75 years while the young upcoming artists were of the age between 14 to 25 years. The 90-minute scintillating musical event, first of its kind, was, in no way, a competition between the participants of these two age groups but a platform to provide musical synergy in entertainment.

The participants included former DGP, Dr. Ashok Bhan, former Secretary to Govt of India, Ashok Angurana, former Commissioner Secretary K B Jandial, former Director AIR V K Sambyal, former IGP, Nisar Ahmad, former DIG V S Sambyal and former Sr. Auditor of Defence Accounts Ashok Sharma. All are the members of the CGPWA. The



CGPWA members and others at unique Musical Milan in Jammu on Sunday.

young amateurs artists of Bharatiya Sangeet Sansthan who participated in the event included a child artist Vanshika Kaw, Pinka Bali, Kashish, Prabhat Bali, Nirmal Sufi and Jatin Sartaz.

While everyone who walked up to the stage to present item got thunderous applause but the Highmark of the show was the Antakshari on Bollywood songs.

It was wonderfully conducted by the innovative Dr Ashok Bhan. It was played between two groups of the audience classically named Kali Janni Tigers & Douthali Royals.

This 15-minute show finally turned in to a tie with no result as members of both the groups were found equally talented.

Anyway, the entertainment was unparalleled. Dr Bhan concluded it with a famous patriotic song of film Shaheed sung by all-Ah Wattan Ah Watan Humko Teri Kasam Teri Rahon Mein Jaan Tak Bisha Dengey. The event was opened with a Bhajan-Ram Naam Ras Piya Manga by Ashok Sharma followed by a famous song of Kishore Kumar- Woh Shaam Kueh Ajeeb Thi, Yeh Shaam Bhi Ajeeb Hai, Woh Kal Bhi Paas Paas Thi, Woh Aaj Bhi Kareeb Hai presented by Vanshika.

Vijay Singh Sambyal sung the famous song of Mukesh of Anari film- Kisi Ki Muskuraahaton Pe Ho Nisaar; Kisi ka Dard Mil Sake To Le Udhaar, Kisi Ke Waaste Ho

Tere Dil Mein Pyaar, Jeena Isi Ka Naam Hai. He presented another Kishore Kumar's song- Phoolon Ke Rang Se Dil Ki Kalam Se Tujhko Likhi Roz Paati, Kaisa Bataaon Kis Kis Tarah Se Pal Pal Mujhe Tu Sataati.

Pinka Bali sung the famous song of Lata Mangeshkar of film Jungle- Ehsaan Tera Hoga Mujh Par, Dil Chahta Hai Woh Kehne Do, Mujhe Tumse Mohabbat Ho Gayi Hai.

Ashok Angurana who has authored a couple of books of his Dogri poems, presented two of his poems which were received very well-Khubsurti, Karigari, Jadogari kis kari de agar koi dikhe Wala Nei. The second poem was 'Maine Ik

Kachairi Han' - is Kachairi Ch Main Eik Judge Han, Meon Vakil Han Muljim Han.

Kashish mesmerised the audience with melodious voice when she sung, O Le Ke Pehla Pehla Pyaar; Bhar Ke Aankhon Mein Khumaar; Jaadu Nagri Se Aaya Hai Koi Jaadugar. The song originally sung by Shamshad Begum, Asha Bhosle, Mohd Rafi in film CID.

Nisar Ahmad was no less melodious when he sung a hit song of Safar film originally sung by Kishore Kumar-Zindagi Ka Safar Hai Ye Kaisa Safar; Koi Samjha Nahin Koi Jaana Nahin, Zindagi Ka Safar Hai Ye Kaisa Safar; Koi Samjha Nahin Koi Jaana Nahin.

Jandial presented poem on the journey of life with the title Kaisay Kata Safar; Patta He Nehi Challa. The grand finale was the Avdhoot Geeta message 'Chatak aur Chakor Se Seekho Preet Ki Reet Nibhana, Heere Se Tum Dheeraj Seekho Dukh Mein Mat Ghabrana' presented in rhythm by V K Sambyal popularly known as Rangeley Thakur who coordinated the entire show.

## JKHCBAJ office bearers call on Sham Sharma, discuss developmental issues

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The Vice President of the Jammu & Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu (JKHCBAJ), Baldev Singh, and Treasurer Rahul Aggarwal paid a courtesy visit to the MLA of Jammu North Constituency, Sham Lal Sharma. The MLA was welcomed and felicitated by the office bearers.

The meeting saw a constructive discussion on the development of the Jammu High Court Bar Association, issues faced by advocates, and the enhancement of judicial infrastructure. Vice President Baldev Singh briefed the MLA about various ongoing initiatives aimed at the welfare of Bar members and outlined future developmental plans.

Treasurer Rahul Aggarwal emphasized prudent financial management and the optimal use of available resources to further strengthen the Association's capabilities.

MLA Sham Lal Sharma lauded the legal fraternity's active role in upholding the justice delivery system and assured his full support to the JKHCBAJ in all its endeavors. He described the advocates' contribution as vital to democratic processes and legal empowerment.



JKHCBAJ members calling on MLA Sham Lal Sharma.

The meeting concluded with a mutual commitment to continued cooperation for the betterment of the legal community in Jammu.