

Dr Jitendra calls for time bound redressal of Pension related grievances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Wednesday called for a time bound redressal mechanism of Pension related grievances, aligning it with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's broader governance model that places the citizen at the Centre.

Speaking at the 13th All India "Pension Adalat" held in New Delhi, Dr. Jitendra Singh underscored the need for administrative sensitivity and efficiency in ensuring the dignity of India's pensioners.

At the day-long event that brought together pensioners, government officials, and department heads from across the country, the Minister said that the Pension Adalat model is one of the most citizen-friendly reforms undertaken in recent years. "A pensioner, who has dedicated a lifetime of service to the nation, should not have to run from pillar to post for what is rightfully theirs," he said, urging departments to adopt a "whole-of-government" approach in resolving such matters. He emphasized



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the All India "Pension Adalat" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

that redressal should not merely be reactive, but also anticipatory, supported by technology and driven by compassion.

Since their inception in September 2017, 12 Pension Adalats have been held across the country, taking up a total of 25,416 cases-of which 18,157 have been successfully resolved. That translates to a resolution rate of over 71 per cent, a number Dr. Jitendra Singh cited as proof of the initiative's effectiveness.

The Minister shared several success stories from previous Adalats, including the case of Jasoda Devi, who received her rightful dues after 36 years, and Anita Kanik Rani, who was granted family pension arrears of Rs. 20 lakh on the

very day her case was heard. Many of these stories, he noted, are now documented in fliers released by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW).

At the 13th All India Pension Adalat, Dr. Singh also released a compilation of success stories from the 12th Pension Adalat, titled "Brave Soldiers and Veer Naariyan". The booklet highlights inspiring accounts of long-pending pension grievances that were resolved through the Adalat mechanism, with a special focus on defence pensioners and families of armed forces personnel. These real-life stories stand as a testament to the government's commitment to honouring the service

and sacrifice of its retirees, particularly women and veer naaris, by ensuring timely justice and dignity in their post-retirement life.

This year's Adalat focused on family pension issues, many raised by women either as claimants or recipients. Dr. Jitendra Singh congratulated the DoPPW for choosing a theme that acknowledges the pressing concerns of a large and often vulnerable segment of pensioners.

The further encouraged the use of digital means to reach pensioners who may not be able to attend in person. "These Adalats represent not just a platform for grievance redressal, but a promise from the government that no voice will go unheard," he said. The Minister also reiterated that digital initiatives like CPENGRAMS (Centralised Pension Grievance Redress and Monitoring System) must be leveraged for real-time tracking and resolution.

Dr. Jitendra urged departments and officials to treat pensioners not just as beneficiaries but as "respected members of the administrative family." Noting that most grievances stem from avoidable delays or procedural

issues, he called for greater inter-departmental coordination and accountability. The Minister said that the Adalat is not just a redressal forum, but also a barometer of administrative performance. "When citizens feel heard and respected, it builds trust in governance," he remarked.

Pension Adalats, now a regular calendar event, have emerged as a vital interface between the government and retired personnel, including central government employees, defence personnel, and family pensioners. The Minister also appreciated the role of the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare in institutionalising reforms such as simplified PPOs, integrated portals, and grievance dashboards.

Dr. Jitendra concluded by calling for more citizen-centric and compassionate innovations in pension administration, asserting that the government's duty toward its senior citizens must be fulfilled with both urgency and empathy. "The Prime Minister's governance vision will be incomplete unless the country's senior citizens and retirees are made to feel secure and valued," he said.



Dr Andrabi lays foundation stone of various development works Development has become synonymous with J&K Waqf Board: Darakhshan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Wednesday paid obeisance at the shrine of Hazrat Noor-ul-din Nooraani (RA) at Charar-e-Sharief, took stock of the Eid preparations and facilities at the shrine. Dr Andrabi later laid the foundation stone for the Guest House to be constructed in the shrine complex by J&K Waqf Board.

Waqf Chairperson also inaugurated a newly constructed Canopy at Darbar-e-Aaliya. She was accompanied by the Waqf Board members Dr Ghulam Nabi Haleem, Syed Mohammed Hussain Haqqani and the Executive Magistrate of the Board Ishtiaq Mohiuddin.

Later Andrabi visited Pakharpora and after paying obeisance at the shrine of Hazrat Baba Aala Ali Balkhi (RA) she laid foundation stone for the Ladies Sabat Complex & New Male/Female Sanitary Complex here. Initiation for the upgradation of Shrine sanctum BWO panelling and

polishing was also done by Waqf Chairperson.

Dr Andrabi also dedicated the newly constructed 40 Unit Male and Female Ablution Block at the shrine to people here.

During the tour Dr Darakhshan met many public delegations.

She also addressed the media persons at both places and said that the developmental initiatives of Waqf Board are continuously going on and there was a genuine demand of the people about a Guest House at this prominent spiritual destination Charar-e-Sharief and today we laid the foundation stone for the same project.

"After Dargah Hazrathal in Srinagar, this is yet another similar project which will provide the required stay facilities for the people visiting the shrine. Development is synonymous with J&K Waqf Board now", said Dr Darakhshan.

Waqf Chairperson said that the after inaugurating the New Ablution Block at Pakharpora, the Board laid foundation stone for the new Ladies Sabat and New Sanitary Complex in the shrine complex keeping in view the public demand. Local people at both the locations hailed Waqf Board's developmental initiatives.



Chairperson JKWB, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi laying foundation stone.

Preparedness in times of crisis: Jammu unite to chart road ahead

■ VIVEK SHARMA

JAMMU: In the wake of the unprecedented tensions following the near war-like situation between India and Pakistan on May 7, 2025, an important interaction under the theme "Preparedness: Citizens of Jammu" was held on Wednesday at Scottish Hall, Alexander Memorial School, Jammu.

The gathering brought together retired defence officers, senior bureaucrats, academic scholars, journalists and senior civil society members and the power-packed forum to discuss citizen preparedness, response to emergencies, and the importance of public awareness in times of national security crises.

The interaction was hosted and moderated by Johnny William, IPS (Retd.), former Inspector General of Police, a respected voice in matters of internal security and community engagement.

The session commenced with a brief description of incidents in honour of all martyrs and victims of cross-border hostility and the session moved into a deeply engaging discussion.

Lt. Gen. (Retd.) R.K. Sharma spoke on how India taught Pakistan a lesson. Opening the session, Lt. Gen. R.K. Sharma (Retd.) delivered a powerful keynote address, providing a strategic overview of the May 7 incident, and the swift, calibrated military response by India.

"This was not just a show of strength-it was a message of deterrence and unity. Our nation stood tall, our armed forces were vigilant, and our leadership firm. Pakistan miscalculated, and our retaliation conveyed a clear lesson: India will defend its soil and citizens with full might," he said.

He also highlighted the importance of citizen morale, emphasizing that preparedness is not limited to borders but begins in homes, schools, and public institutions.

Former Chief Secretary,



Speakers posing for group photograph after interaction under theme "Preparedness: Citizens of Jammu" organised by former IGP Johnny William at Scottish Hall, Alexander Memorial School, Jammu.

J&K B.R. Sharma, IAS spoke on governance is the backbone in crisis and wars. He brought an administrative perspective, outlining how government departments are aligning efforts to manage public safety, logistics, and information dissemination.

"The government has already initiated public outreach programmes, mock drills, and awareness drives in collaboration with civil defence and disaster management teams," he noted. "We are also working to bridge gaps in rural preparedness and bringing local bodies on board."

He emphasized the role of local governance, schools, and religious leaders in educating the masses without triggering panic.

Former IAS officer Ashok Angurana described communication and compliance are crucial. Bringing in years of bureaucratic experience, Ashok Angurana, IAS (Retd.), stressed the urgency of structured communication systems during crises.

"Compliance with guidelines-especially related to curfews, movement restrictions, and blackouts-cannot be left to individual interpretation. Clear, repeated, and credible messaging is key," he said.

Prof. Sapna Sangra from Department of Sociology

educated the gathering to counter panic. One of the most moving and academically sound interventions came from Prof. Sapna Sangra.

"Panic is more contagious than any virus. In war-like situations, it is preparedness through education that acts as a stabilizer," she remarked.

A well-known sociologist from Jammu University Prof. Sangra proposed the inclusion of basic disaster literacy in school curricula, and community-based training workshops to empower youth, homemakers and senior citizens.

Raj Kumar Aima, Deputy Director, Fire & Emergency Services impressed upon all for installing fire extinguishers and train everyone.

From a crisis-response lens, Raj Kumar Aima, Deputy Director, Fire and Emergency Services, gave a practical examples of fire safety protocols. "Be it a blackout, an air raid, or even a rumour-induced stampede, fire hazards multiply during panic. Every home, office, school, and religious place must have functional extinguishers, and more importantly, trained hands to use them."

ICC Jammu Business Council Chairman Rahul Sahai suggested why blackouts matter and how to follow protocols. In a practical and public-centric talk, Rahul

Sahai addressed a question on many minds: Why are blackouts and drills important?

Enemy drones and aircraft if not depend on lights and heat signatures to locate targets, then why blackouts. Cooperation with government protocols is not a favour; it's a national duty," he explained. He called for awareness sessions in residential colonies and mock blackout rehearsals to ensure readiness without chaos.

Maj. Gen. Goverdhan Singh Jamwal (Retd.) spoke on welfare of families is mission critical. He emphasized the importance of community-level support networks.

Defense Expert Brig Diman, whose book on Pahalgam is in printing phase, also gave impressive speech, describing Indian Army and how we are capable to handle all situations.

Rohini Aima, Principal of Jammu Sanskriti School, discussed how schools can be proactive in emergency preparedness. She spoke from the heart, highlighting the psychological toll of conflict on young minds.

"Children absorb more than we realize. Let's not hush things up but talk to them gently, truthfully, and responsibly. Let's make school counsellors a part of the preparedness chain."

She recommended story-

telling, posters, and roleplays in classrooms as tools for instilling calm and confidence in children.

The event concluded with remarks from the moderator Johnny William, who thanked all participants and the Scottish Hall management for facilitating the dialogue.

"Security is a shared responsibility. While the armed forces protect the borders, we, the citizens, must fortify the inner fabric of resilience, preparedness, and awareness," he said.

He promised to continue such engagements and proposed the formation of a Citizen Emergency Forum to coordinate community efforts in the coming months.

The session served as a reminder that resilience begins at home-informed, alert, and united citizens are our strongest shield against any external threat.

Prominent among others who participated in the function include Editor-in-Chief STATE TIMES Raj Daluja, Advocate Sheikh Shakeel, DIG (retired) Rajinder Gupta, Brig Swaran Singh, Manta Wahi, Sanjay Wahi, Ex-Chief Engineer Lalit Kumar, Karan Singh, Chairman, J&K Transport Union, Sidharth from Jammu Links and galaxy of civil society members.

Chugh asks Punjab CM to stop doing mimicry on Op Sindoor to insult security forces, women

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh has asked Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann to stop doing mimicry as a chief minister to run down the Operation Sindoor.

Chugh said since the Operation involved widows who became victim of Pakistan ISI plot Bhagwant Mann is making mockery of women with his nasty observations.

Chugh said his shameful and vulgar remarks are reflective of an disgraceful, indecent, mind of a deeply polluted mindset.

Chugh said that such words insult the dignity of women and mock the emotional wounds of widows who lost their husbands in the Pahalgam terror attack.

Chugh stated, "Operation Sindoor is a saga of Indian valour - a tribute to the bravery of our armed forces. While the nation stands united with its soldiers, Bhagwant Mann chooses to ridicule their heroism. This is not just political immaturity, it is moral bankruptcy."

Taking direct aim at AAP, Chugh reminded the people that this is the same party whose Delhi-based top leader's

residence was the site of misbehaviour with a female MP from their own party - by none other than a close aide of the CM, who was later protected and rewarded with a plum posting in Punjab CMO.

Chugh added, "When AAP's Punjab Women Wing President Preeti Malhotra raised her voice against this misogyny and internal abuse, she was thrown out of the party. This is the real face of AAP - a party that mocks sacrifice, insults women, and protects predators. The women of Punjab will never forgive such a party."

Public Notice under Section 3(G) (3)

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EXTRAORDINARY

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PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)

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NEW DELHI, FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025/ JYAISTHA 9, 1947

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAY

Notification

New Delhi, the 30 May 2025

S.O. 2405 (E). -Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, S.O. 1758 Dated:16 April 2025 published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening /four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH-NE5 in the stretch of land from Km. 515 to Km. 566.52 in the village(s) namely- Majeen Taluk- Jammu in the district of JAMMU in the state of JAMMU & KASHMIR

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "State Times" and "Dainik Savera" both dated 23-04-2025; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas the Competent Authority has received objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same aspropiately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

Now, therefore, in compliance of sub-section (3) of Section 3(G), the Competent Authority hereby invites all the land owners or persons interested in the land being acquired under these proceedings to submit their claims in respect of the land mentioned in the Schedule given here-in-below within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this Public Notice in the office of the Competent Authority i.e. Office of Deputy Commissioner (CALA), Jammu

All the persons interested (owner of the lands and other interested person(s)) in the lands specified in the Schedule given below are hereby called upon to submit their claims in the said land their share, area of land, any assets attached thereto e.g. structures/trees etc. and state the nature of the respective interest in such lands along with relevant records. The said land owners or persons interested therein shall also furnish the particulars of their Bank Accounts to which they would like their compensation amount to be credited. The claims may be submitted in the following indicative format

Name of village/ Town	Name of the Landowner/ interested person	Field Survey No.	Area of land in his share	Any structures/ trees/tube well attached to the land	Name of Bank & Branch in which he/she holds the Account	Particulars of the Bank Account No. IFSC Code of the Bank Branch
Deputy Commissioner (Competent Authority for Land Acquisition) Jammu						

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling NH-NE5 in the stretch of land from Km. 515 to Km. 566.52 in the village(s) namely- Majeen Taluk-Jammu in the district of JAMMU in the state of JAMMU & KASHMIR

3542 GI/2025

File Number: NHA/PIU/Jammu/DAKP/001/3D

ABHAY JAIN, Director.

District: JAMMU

https://egazette.gov.in

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Note : The physical copy of this notification is also available at the office of CALA/PIU/PMU/RO/ED and Landowners may also see the notification there.