

Alok Kumar attends ABSS 2023, releases best practices of SED manual

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The two day's Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam (ABSS) 2023 concluded at ITPO here on Sunday, coinciding with the celebration of third anniversary of National Education Policy, (NEP) 2020.

The event started with the inaugural address by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, showcasing the achievement made by India in implementation of NEP 2020 in last three years and way forward. On the occasion first instalment of funds for the development of PM SHRI (Prime Minister School for Rising India) Scheme was also released by Prime Minister.

Principal Secretary, Education J&K, Alok Kumar; Director, SCERT J&K, Prof. Parikshat Manhas; Project Director Samagra Shiksha, Deep Raj; Director School Education Jammu, Ashok Sharma; Director RUSA Ashok Bhagat; Nodal Officer, ABSS, J&K Bilal Rashid along with other delegates attended the programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Alok Kumar said that Jammu and Kashmir has been at the forefront in implementing NEP by



Principal Secretary Education J&K, Alok Kumar with other officers at two day's ABSS programme at New Delhi.

bringing significant changes in the assessment system from rote learning to the competency based learning. He added that a paradigm shift in the method of teaching in class room to learn from surroundings to give holistic and lifelong learning opportunities to students is being witnessed across J&K. The Principal Secretary reiterated that effective implementation of the NEP-2020 will ensure sustained training of students as global citizens with 21st century skills and create a vibrant, innovative, practical and vocational skill set and research-oriented, learner-centric education system in our country.

He highlighted that focus is being laid on the Foundational Stage (ECCE), under which almost 2000 Kindergartens have been set up and more than 3000 are in process of establishment. He added that in line with the NEP, digital learning has been promoted for which more than 1000 ICT labs and 1700 Smart Class rooms are in process of establishment.

The Principal Secretary further highlighted that remarkable initiatives like JK Attendance App; ensuring the regularity and punctuality of teachers, SAMIKSHA App; platform for ranking of the schools on the basis of the feedback of the stu-

dents about their teachers and schools, STEER Mentorship Programme for Students, Coding programme, DIKSHA Platform and others are being implemented in J&K to bridge out the gaps in learning outcomes.

Jammu and Kashmir School Education Department along with other States and Union Territories exhibited On the third anniversary of the NEP 2020, School Education Department, J&K exhibited the stupendous achievements and initiatives it has taken in two years for the implementation of National Education Policy through a Stall at ITPO Exhibition ground.

Project Director Samagra on the occasion, informed that 233 Schools have been selected under Phase 1st of PM SHRI, for which Rs. 116.43 Crores stand approved by the Ministry recently. He said that, multidisciplinary approaches shall be made to make PM SHRI schools unique across J&K. He added that Students shall get all type of opportunities, to nurture their innovative and IT Skills, besides they shall be made aware of Green Schools concept to save the Environment as well, he informed.

A manual illustrating the Best practices of School Education Department (SED) was also released at the J&K Stall (Exhibition Hall) by the Principal Secretary, Alok Kumar, which was later was presented to the Union Minister of Education, GoI & other stakeholders.

From Jammu and Kashmir, Ajeet Sharma, Coordinator, Fayaz Ahmed, Sohail Raja, Dr. Rabia Mughal, Dr. Alka Sharma, Vivek Jandial, Dr. Arif Jan, Tariq Khan, Javaid Ahmed and Suheel Sheikh participated in the programme and also attended thematic sessions on different topics.

Hundreds of KPs visit Martand sun temple to perform 'pind daan'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
MATTAN: Hundreds of Kashmiri Pandits visited the Martand sun temple here in Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday to perform "pind daan" as part of the Banmass Mela and prayed for peace for the souls of their departed ancestors.

Ashok Siddha, the president of the mela management committee, said he is thankful to the local Muslims and the Anantnag district administration for extending full support for the conduct of the event.

"I am thankful to the locals. The Muslim brethren has supported us. I have been engaged in this for the last four years and I am thankful to the Muslim community. I am also

thankful to the district administration," Siddha said.

He said the Kashmiri Hindu community also celebrates Krishna Jhoola at the temple every year, during which the Muslim community extends wholehearted support.

"We also celebrate Krishna Jhoola and the Muslim community actively supports that festival as well. They distribute fruits here. This is an example of communal harmony and peace," Siddha said.

He said while the festival is observed every three years, he has not seen such a rush since 1990.

"We celebrate this every three years, but I have never seen so many people coming here since 1990. We have established a

ghat (for pooja) and also constructed toilet facilities for the devotees," Siddha added.

Meenakshi, one of the devotees who performed "pind daan", was all praise for the locals.

"We do pind daan for our ancestors so that their souls are blessed. The locals are good, we have good relations with them," she said.

Jawahar Lal Pandita, an elderly Kashmiri Pandit, said "the locals have extended cooperation" to the minority community.

A local Muslim man from Mattan said the south Kashmir town has been "an abode of peace and communal harmony and will continue to remain so".

Kin of Kashmiri freedom fighters honoured in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Family members of six freedom fighters from Kashmir, including reformer Kashyap Bandhu, were honoured at a function here on Sunday. Organised by the RSS-backed Sanjeevani Sharda Kendra in association with the Centre for Advanced Research on Development and Change, New Delhi, the event provided insights into the historical aspect of Kashmir's involvement in the country's freedom struggle. In addition to Bandhu, the families of Sarvanand Koul Premi, Jagar Nath Wattal, Reshi Dev Dhar, Harday Nath Tickoo, and Mani Ram were honoured.

Tara Chand Bhat of Gairu, popularly known as Kashyap Bandhu and Bulbul-e-Kashmir, was a social reformer, journalist, freedom fighter, and political leader. He played a key role in the Roti Agitation of 1933-34 in Kashmir.

Sarvanand Koul Premi was a poet, journalist,

research scholar, and social reformer. Terrorists allegedly killed him and his son in 1990.

Addressing the event at Jagti migrant township on the outskirts of Jammu, Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, former vice chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi Central University in Bihar, highlighted the role of freedom fighters.

He also provided insights into the historical aspect of Kashmir's involvement in the country's freedom struggle. Deputy Superintendent of Police Usha Kher pointed out that the event aimed at shedding light on the significant role played by Kashmir in the freedom struggle of the country as well as honour the brave freedom fighters of Jammu and Kashmir.

She said the event was a "remarkable success" and brought together a diverse group of people passionate about preserving the historical contributions of Jammu Kashmir to the nation's independence.

Duty with compassion is true service to society, says RSS chief Bhagwat at cancer hosp event

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
THANE: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday said duty to society with compassion is true service.

Addressing a gathering after laying the foundation stone of Dharmaveer Anand Dighe Cancer Hospital and a temple complex here, Bhagwat said saving lives is service towards the Almighty if done with purity.

"Service to human kind with the emotion of eradicating grief and without any selfish motive and ego is understanding duty towards others," he said.

Bhagwat said education and health is equally important like "roti, kapda and makaan" (food, clothing and shelter), but the facilities are inadequate and the need of the hour is affordable and accessible health infrastructure.

Bhagwat expressed confidence that the proposed cancer hospital will benefit society as it is being done with genuine emotions of eradicating grief and hardships.

"Saving lives is service to the Almighty and this gives hope to the people that they are not alone," he said.

He assured all help for the hospital project from the RSS.

PM Modi gave India new global identity: Haryana CM Khattar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
CHANDIGARH: Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Sunday said in the last nine years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has worked to give India a new global identity and to provide rights to the underprivileged.

Khattar made the remarks while addressing a gathering at his 'Jan Samvad' programme organized at Gangaicha Ahir village in Rewari district.

According to an official statement, the chief minister also said that following the "philosophy of Antyodaya", the Haryana government has been consistently speeding up development works.

"Organizing Jan Samvad is a medium to reach out to the maximum number of people at the grassroots level," said Khattar. "In the last nine years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has worked to provide rights to the underprivileged and to give India a new global identity," he said.

He said that in the last eight and half years, the BJP-led state government, while adopting zero tolerance against corruption, has taken several steps to root out corruption, and has had got some success.

Mizoram awaits Centre's relief package for over 12,600 displaced people from Manipur

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
AIZAWL: The Mizoram government is still waiting for financial assistance from the Centre for over 12,600 internally displaced people from ethnic strife-torn Manipur, a senior official said on Sunday.

Mizoram home commissioner and secretary H Lalengmawia said that

Chief Minister Zoramthanga had, in May, sought Rs 10 crore as an immediate relief package for those displaced people.

"We have not received any assistance from the Centre so far. The state government has raised funds on its own to provide relief to internally displaced people from Manipur,"

Lalengmawia told PTI.

He hoped that the Centre would soon sanction funds for these people, who have taken shelter in Mizoram after the ethnic violence broke out in the neighbouring state on May 3.

Lalengmawia also said the Mizoram administration has solicited donations from legislators, gov-

ernment employees, bankers and others.

"We have completed the collection and I am yet to receive a report of the total collected amount," he said.

According to the Mizoram home department, altogether 12,611 people from Manipur have entered the state till Friday. Of them, 4,440

took shelter in Kolasib district, 4,265 in Aizawl and 2,951 in Saitual, it said.

The remaining 955 are residing in Champhai, Mamit, Siaha, Lawngtlai, Lunglei, Serchhip, Khawzawl and Hnahthial districts.

The government and village authorities have set up 38 relief camps in

Aizawl, Kolasib and Saitual.

The state government, NGOs, churches and villagers provided food and other basic items to the displaced people.

Clashes first broke out in early May in Manipur after a Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest





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