

LG interacts with Gaddi-Sippi Community delegation

Govt to roll out handing over of rights under Forest Rights Act on Monday

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: To take a firsthand appraisal of the various ongoing schemes and initiatives for the development of tribal communities of J&K and to discuss their concerning issues, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Saturday interacted with a delegation of the Gujjar-Bakerwal community along with members of the Gaddi-Sippi Community, at Raj Bhavan.

While addressing the members of the delegation the Lt Governor noted that the UT administration is committed to make development of tribal population a key element of the overall development agenda.

"With the commitment of social equality, we have taken a slew of decisions in the last few months to bestow the due rights to all the tribal communities of J&K", he added.

Development of Tribal communities of J&K is one of the top priorities of the government and for the first time in the history of J&K, we are going to roll out the handing over of rights under the Forest Rights Act from the coming Monday, the Lt Governor announced.

Recalling his previous interaction with a 70 member delegation of the tribal community in which detailed discussions were held on development, education and other issues of tribal population, the Lt Governor observed that the government has taken many unprecedented decisions for the development and upliftment of the tribal population, besides contemplating a host of other initiatives in that direction.

"To implement an overarching plan for development of tribal communities, a two-month long survey has been conducted for effective policymaking based on ground realities", he noted.

The Lt Governor informed that the UT government has decided to develop transit accommodations at 8 places at an estimated cost of Rs 28 cr for accommodating seasonal transitory population, besides provisions for medical camps, animal yards, veterinary care, and adequate security. The holding capacity and other requirements will be as per the assessments derived from the recent Migratory population survey.

He added that the government has



Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha interacting with members of the Gaddi-Sippi Community.

decided to build Tribal Bhavans in Jammu, Srinagar and Rajouri. Project report is under preparation and the process will be started to construct the same.

To provide better healthcare facilities and to cater the needs of migratory population, the UT administration has come up with a Tribal Health Plan for which Rs 15 crore has been set aside, noted the Lt Governor.

"Government will create health sub-centre for the static population and mobile medical care units for the migratory population. It will be completely modern with good doctors and machinery and shall run with the collaboration of National Health Mission, Health Department, and the Tribal Affairs Department", he added.

On the issue of ensuring sustainable livelihood for the youth belonging to the tribal communities, the Lt Governor announced the establishment of 1500 mini sheep farms, which will provide employment opportunities to 3000 youth in this financial year. The program will not be a one-time initiative and every year 33% new sheep farms will be established.

The Lt Governor noted that Mission Youth' along with Tribal Department have started the process of setting up 16 Milk Villages to connect at least 2000 youth to the dairy sector at the cost of Rs 16 crore, besides providing training, branding, marketing and transport facilities to the youth.

Highest ever allocation of Rs 73 crore has been allocated for Cluster Tribal Model Village this year by combining the Central Government and UT Capex Budget components and the tendering process for the same has been initiated without delay, added the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said the UT

administration has decided to link children belonging to tribal communities with skill development programmes from among the identified 300 skill sets. Initially, 500 youth will be selected and trained in specialist courses like commercial pilot, robotics, management, etc, he added.

"Scholarships worth Rs 30 crore have been given to tribal children and this year 42,000 additional children will be provided this scholarship as compared to last year. 1521 Seasonal Schools for Migratory Children, two Residential Schools on the Migratory Route, 8000 e-learning tablets for children of class 7th and 8th and the salary of seasonal teachers has been increased from Rs 4000 to Rs 10000, he added.

The Lt Governor informed that the 7 new hostels which were under construction for the youth of tribal communities are near completion and the UT administration has already proposed to the Union government to build 79 additional hostels.

"We have also decided to build Tribal Tourist Villages and in the first phase, 15 such villages will be selected and this work will be started with an amount of Rs 3 crore. Apart from this, if any youth from the community wants to start their tourism business, the government will provide them training and an easy financial assistance of up to Rs 10 lakh. We have not fixed a limit on this and the government will provide handholding to each and every youth who wants to go for it", announced the Lt Governor.

Informing about the hike in funds for Eklavya Model Residential School at Gurez and Rajouri to Rs 32 crore, the Lt Governor said that we have submitted a proposal to build 5 more such model schools in the UT of J&K.

Observing that full rights were not

extended to tribals of J&K earlier, the Lt Governor said that for the first time we have tried to bring the light of development in the lives of lakhs of tribal families by implementing the Forest Rights Act.

The Lt Governor said that the tribal communities will be getting rights over minor forest produce. The UT government in coordination with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED) will establish infrastructure for collection, value addition, packaging and distribution. Further, to empower the youth and women a cluster of 15 tribal SHGs will be established and Rs 15 lakh will be provided per group", he added.

Ch Haroon Khatana, on behalf of the Gujjar-Bakerwal community expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor for fulfilling the commitments made during the earlier interaction held at Jammu in the month of April.

Various members of the Gujjar-Bakerwal and Gaddi-Sippi communities and Anwar Choudhary Phambra raised their concerning issues and submitted a Memoranda of demands to the Lt Governor, on the occasion.

Our community has been kept away from development and prosperity for more than 70 years. Now, under the present dispensation, we are hopeful of a better future, said Sh Javaid Khatana, member of Gujjar-Bakerwal community.

Praveen Jaryal, representative of Gaddi-Sippi community, conveyed his gratitude to the UT administration for providing a common platform to the members of the tribal communities to project their concerning issues.

DDC members-Shaista Aslam; Peer Shahbaz Ahmad, G H Mustafa also spoke on the occasion and thanked the Lt Governor led J&K Administration for working for the welfare and interest of the tribal communities. They termed the Implementation of Forest Rights Act and Political reservation to the tribal community historic.

Sajida Begum, DDC member Larnoo; Bilal Ahmad Deva, DDC member Qazigund; BDC members; Surparchas were present among other prominent representatives of tribal communities.

shared understanding, coordination and collaboration during joint duties and for the purpose of serving the national security of the country.

The Minister said, this programme was initiated in 2001 in the aftermath of Kargil War and has gone a long way in familiarizing the participants with the challenges of external and internal security and plays a wider role in exposing the participating officers to the imperative Civil-Military synergy.

As India enters 75 years of its independence, said Dr Jitendra Singh, and

plans for the next 25 years, such programmes enable us to prepare the Civil and the Military authorities to jointly work in different conflict situations internally as well externally.

Earlier Director LBSNAA, K Srinivas gave an outline about the Civil-Military programme and its objectives.

Traditional hydrotherapy resumes at hot spring in Ladakh's Demchok

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JAMMU: The Army and the Ladakh Hill Development Council (LAHDC) jointly restarted the traditional medicinal hydrotherapy in the immediate vicinity of the hot spring in Ladakh's Demchok sector, a defence spokesman said.

The activity being resumed by the Fire and Fury Corps in coordination with the LAHDC and the civil administration was suspended due to the pandemic, he said.

The hot spring in Demchok has healing properties and offers great help in dealing with health issues related to migraine, backache, joint pain, gastric issues, skin diseases, blood pressure and ENT, he said.

Traditionally, the hot spring hydrotherapy is expected to be undertaken till October end.

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MUSSOORIE: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here on Saturday that the curriculum for IAS/Civil Services at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) must suit India's changing scenario and therefore, needs to be accordingly modified constantly and from time to time.

This is also important to re-orient present and future administrators for the visionary roadmap that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid down before us for the next 25 years till independent India turns 100.

Addressing the valedictory session of Joint Civil-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh posing for photograph with awardee officers during Joint Civil-Military Program at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) Mussoorie, on Saturday. Also seen is Director LBSNAA, K. Srinivas.

Military Program (JCM) at the Academy today, Dr Jitendra called for joint programmes by institutes which are devoted to capacity building for good governance like, for example, LBSNAA, National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Institute of Secretarial Training and Management (ISTM) etc., so that instead of working in silos, there could be synergistic programmes which would

supplement the individual efforts made by these institutes. He also suggested widening the range of the visiting faculty at the Mussoorie Academy and making Guest faculty more inclusive of scientific experts, industrial entrepreneurs, successful Startups and women achievers.

One major step taken by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) in the direction of major reforms, the Minister said, was instituting

"Mission Karmayogi", which when defined would be the emphasis on shift of functioning from 'Rule to Role'.

Congratulating the Course Coordinator and the staff of the Academy for successfully conducting the one-week Joint Civil-Military Programme, Dr Jitendra also complemented the officers who attended the programme, which is intended to provide structural interface between Civil Service officers and Armed Forces officers for a better and

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He apprised the National leadership of the Congress that the financial and other components of the package worked out by the UPA govt and recommended by the then state government in 2014, was not sanctioned due to change of guard at the centre resulting into only a meager amount having been sanctioned by the BJP government.

He expressed gratitude to him for referring to the Rs 25 lakh financial package recommended by the state government which was enhanced to 30 lac by the parlia-



mentary committee on Home Affairs.

He told Gandhi that the package included reservation for the wards of displaced community in the central para forces and in the technical institutes of the country in the pattern West Pakistan refugees.

However neither full ex gratia relief at the rate of Rs 30 lakh per family was sanctioned nor

the other important components were sanctioned by the Modi led BJP government.

He also apprised him about the demand of the displaced community regarding reservation of seats in the legislature including allocation of share out of reserved seats of POJK.

Gandhi patiently heard the suggestions and demands of the refugee leader.

He also told him that entire displaced community is pahari speaking and the demand for ST status to them is pending consideration with the centre goverment, which needs to be pressed.

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