

Netaji Subhash's contributions underplayed by successive Congress governments: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: 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 today accused the successive Congress governments in the past of underplaying Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's contribution and legacy.

Speaking after inaugurating the Digital Exhibition on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at North Block here, the Minister said, this is indeed an occasion of redemption when we seek to restore the deserved glory of our unsung heroes and undo the injustice done to them by history, for whatever reasons. He said, the nation owes it to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for reviving and reminding us of the contribution of unsung heroes and unsung freedom fighters including Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, Syama Prasad Mukherjee and Sardar Patel, whose sacrifices and achievements were always downplayed by successive Congress governments for political and dynastic considerations.

J&K extending several support measures to investors, says senior official at ASSOCHAM meet



MD, JKTPA, Ankita Kar chairing online session of ASSOCHAM.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has opened doors for investors, providing them a slew of supporting measures like single window clearance and land allotment for promoting industry and generating employment for the youth of the UT, said Ankita Kar, Managing Director, JKTPA here on Friday at an ASSOCHAM event that focused on opportunities in J&K and Ladakh. She was addressing the J&K, Ladakh session of ASSOCHAM's Xelerate North 2021 on 'Leveraging true economic potential and enumerated a number of investor-friendly policies being unveiled by the Government.

"J&K government has opened doors for investments with new industrial and land allotment policies, single window system and other measures. Our focus is to promote startups and generate more employment for the youth of J&K," said Kar. "We are also focusing to boost Exports

from J&K and promoting Women entrepreneurs from the Union Territory," she added.

On the occasion, an ASSOCHAM Report: Ladakh: Unleashing Potential was launched.

Manik Batra, Chairman, ASSOCHAM J&K Council thanked Kar for sharing the government policies. Participating in the discussion, NABARD General Manager Surinder Singh said, "We are amongst the largest apple producers in the country." He highlighted how they are pushing for "an agricultural revolution" in J&K, adding how an efficient value chain is essential for the realisation of the farm produce so that all the stakeholders get benefitted. R.R.Joshi, Chairman ACTL and Sameer Jain, MD, Primus partners shared various opportunities the two UT's present in the sectors of healthcare, agriculture, Renewable energy.

The vote of thanks by Dr. M A Alim, Co-Chairman, ASSOCHAM J&K Council.

Union MoS Mahendra Nath Pandey pays obeisance at Raghunath Temple



Union Minister, Mahendra Nath Pandey paying obeisance at Raghunathji Temple.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Mahendra Nath Pandey, Minister of State for Skill Development and

Entrepreneurship on Friday paid obeisance here at Raghunathji Temple and prayed for seamless progress and peace in the country.

The Union MoS paid a visit to the world famous Raghunathji Temple on Friday

morning and offered special prayers. He also performed Special Pooja in the holy sanctum of Shri Raghunathji Temple and prayed for peace and prosperity of the country.

Later, the staff of the J&K Dharmarth Trust felicitated the visiting minister by presenting a shawl. It is pertinent to mention that the Raghunathji Temple situated in the Heart of Jammu city is considered a must visit destination and people visiting Jammu from within the country or abroad make it a point to visit this temple before leaving the temple city.

Secy IT reviews progress on notification of specific schemes under Aadhaar Act

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Administrative Secretary, Information Technology (IT) department, Amit Sharma on Friday chaired meeting to review the progress on Notification of Specific schemes under Aadhaar Act, 2016 funded out of Consolidated Fund of UT of J&K here today.

The meeting was attended by officers from Unique Identification Authority of India, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Department of Social Welfare, Department of Tribal Affairs, Department of Horticulture, Department of Tourism, Department of Youth Services & Sports, Department of Education, Department of Labour & Employment and Department of Law Justice & Parliamentary Affairs.

During the meeting, Secretary, IT stressed upon the use of Aadhaar in DBT schemes for authentication of beneficiaries. He said that the use of Aadhaar as identity for delivering services or services or benefits or subsidies simplifies the Government delivery processes besides it brought transparency and efficiency in service delivery.

He added that it also enables beneficiaries to get their entitlements directly in a convenient and seamless manner by obviating the need to produce multiple documents for identification.

The Secretary instructed the officers to identify schemes funded out of Consolidated Fund of the UT and mandate use of Aadhaar authentication for the beneficiaries as per the provisions of Aadhaar and other laws (Amendment) Act, 2019 and issue notifications for individual schemes in coordination with UIDAI and

Department of Law Justice & Parliamentary Affairs in a time bound manner.

Earlier, Secretary IT also chaired a meeting with Director Census, Prasanna Ramaswamy, Commissioner SMC, Athar Aamir, Officers of Director General of Economics & Statistics, J&K, Directorate of Health & Family Welfare, Additional Secretary, Law Department.

During the meeting, it was decided to pace-up work regarding allotment of Aadhaar at the time of birth itself in 135 model hospitals of UT. It was also decided to develop synchronisation between Birth Certificates being issued by Municipal Bodies and the guidelines of Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.

General Secretary of the

Association, Ajay Gupta showed dismay and briefed the gathering that 70 per cent of private schools charge less than Rs 1000 as a monthly fee.

Due to lack of resources when the education moves online amid pandemic, he said, these schools are unable to match up to elite ones.

It would lead to subsequent shutdown of thousands of unaided schools across JK UT along with bankruptcy, suicide, depression, anxiety of all those who are having no other source of income and are solely dependent on this venture, he said adding that in the pandemic government has given preference to Digital Infrastructure and Mass Promotion which seems to be the biggest blunder with the coming generation.

The sophisticated modes of online teaching like Google meet, zoom meet etc. are being used only by elite schools, he said adding that above all less than 40 per cent of the private schools and students have adopted WhatsApp as the mode for digital provision of teaching whereas more than 60 per cent students of upper reaches, poor families of rural/urban areas have no

access to the digital infrastructure till date. Vice President of the Association, Rameshwar Mengi said that a big conspiracy to launch big IT companies by the government for selling online education cannot be ruled out as none of the IT Company has facilitated free of cost data to any of the students even in this pandemic.

Most of the IT companies, mobile sellers, and computer sellers have earned in crores in this pandemic, he added.

President of the Association, Kamal Gupta said that the wrong policies of the existing Government of JKUT have failed to fulfill the aspirations of all those private school owners who are badly affected due to regular lockdown although in last year during the regime of Girish Chandra Murnu, former Lieutenant Governor a financial package was announced for the teaching and non-teaching staff members of private schools but till none has bothered for this venture.

He demanded clear cut order for the immediate restoration of offline classes with COVID Appropriate Behaviour as done in February 2021 to reopen the schools in phased manner for

the longer interest of the society.

The members who spoke in the meeting were Ram Parkash, Sat Paul Mansotra, Ashwani Khajuria, Deepak Handa, Lal Chand Gondatra, Raj Dev Singh, Sat Paul Khajuria, Gurba Singh and Parshotam Lal.

Gram Sabha to be held in all Panchayat Halqas of Jammu Distt on Sept 26

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