

# 'PM Vishwakarma' scheme blend of civilisational ethos, traditional craftsmanship: Dr Jitendra

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Sunday said, 'PM Vishwakarma' scheme represents perfect blend of India's civilisational ethos and traditional craftsmanship.

The scheme offers the option of earning livelihood while at the same time sustaining India's age old Guru-Shishya Parampara, said the Minister.

Dr. Jitendra Singh was speaking here today during the launch of 'PM Vishwakarma' scheme by Prime Minister Narendra



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking during the launch of 'PM Vishwakarma' scheme at Jammu on Sunday.

Modi.

Dr Jitendra said, PM Modi has introduced a culture of combining India's traditional knowledge with

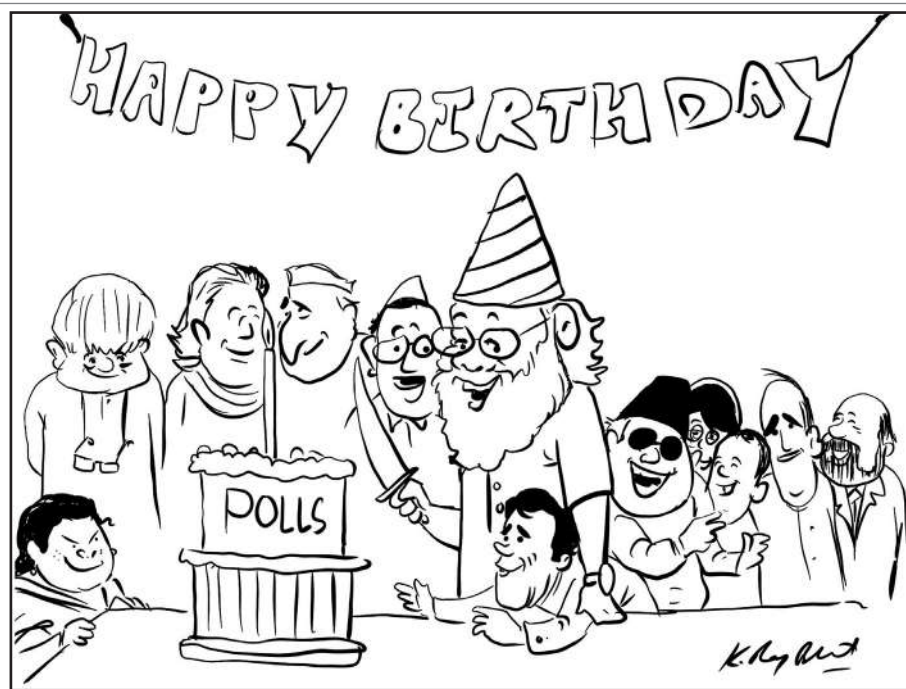
modern technology and Chandrayaan is the most striking example of this.

Dr. Jitendra said, this is a historic day in the develop-

ment journey of India when the exclusive asset of India, the traditional artisans and craftsmen are being brought into the main-

stream with the launch of 'PM Vishwakarma' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Dr. Jitendra said, the traditional artisans and craftsmen are as integral as anything in the society who have kept alive the centuries old traditions and crafts of India but were never taken care of since independence. It was only possible under PM Narendra Modi that this integral part of the society is supported and skilled now with the launch of 'PM Vishwakarma' scheme today.



## DRS launches Indian Swachhata League 2.0



Director Rural Sanitation J&K, Charandeep Singh presenting certificate to a volunteer.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Director Rural Sanitation (DRS), J&K Charandeep Singh on Sunday launched Indian Swachhata League 2.0 (ISL 2.0) an inter-district competition of youth towards building Garbage Free J&K by flagging off 'Swachhata Karwaan 2.0' from Panchayat Kalyanpur (Jhiri), Block Marh.

The Director led a team of youngsters to clean the solid waste from Tourist Park near Baba Jitto Dev Sthan Jhiri, under "Swachh Yodha Pratiyogita" (Cleanliness Warrior Competition), a unique initiative launched by the Directorate of Rural Sanitation, J&K aimed at engaging and motivating individuals, particularly in rural areas, to actively participate in the ongoing cleanliness drive.

Around 500 people including students, sports persons, PRIs, prominent people of adjoining villages, officials and shopkeepers participated in the cleanliness drive. One ton of garbage was collected in and around the public park during a two-hour long sanitation drive.

'Swachh Yodha Pratiyogita' seeks to recognize and reward individuals and teams who have made exceptional contributions towards maintaining sanitation and hygiene standards within their communities.

Immediately after the flagging off ceremony, sanitation drives were also

launched in all the districts of J&K in which thousands of people participated to clean the public places.

During the flag-off ceremony, the Director emphasized the importance of community-driven efforts in achieving the goals of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. He stated, "Cleanliness is not just a government initiative; it is a collective responsibility of every citizen. The 'Swachh Yodha Pratiyogita' is designed to celebrate those who have taken it upon themselves to be the change-makers in their villages and towns."

Director further said that the "Swachh Yodha Pratiyogita" is expected to not only encourage more active participation in sanitation initiatives but also foster a sense of pride and responsibility among the residents of Jammu and Kashmir. It aligns with the broader vision of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan to create a clean and healthy India.

The competition was held under 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign- a fortnight long sanitation drives across India.

The collection of garbage during the drive was evaluated based on quantity and a panel of officials assessed the entries and awarded the winning team.

Prizes and certificates were awarded to individuals, who bagged first, second and third positions in different sports activities

organised during the day.

Exam Pad and flower vases made of recycled waste were distributed among the students who participated in swachhata themed painting competition at the venue.

Local leaders, community representatives, and students attended the flag-off event, showcasing their support for the initiative. They highlighted the need for sustained efforts to ensure that Jammu and Kashmir remains a shining example of cleanliness and hygiene in the country.

Director also added that as the competition gains momentum, it is hoped that it will inspire individuals and communities to take proactive steps towards a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for Jammu and Kashmir.

For more updates on the "Swachh Yodha Pratiyogita" and its impact on rural sanitation efforts in Jammu and Kashmir, stay tuned to official social media pages of Directorate of Rural Sanitation, J&K for regular updates and coverage.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Director Rural Sanitation, J&K, Sanna Khan, ACD Jammu, Preeti Sharma, Assistant Commissioner, Jammu, Daljeet Singh, District Panchayat Officer, Jammu, Kapil Deol, Block Development Officer, Marh, Mulkh Raj Sharma, Sarpanch Panchayat Kalyanpur besides PRIs, Officers/officials, Students and general public.

## Yudhvir leads bike rally celebrating PM Modi's 73rd birthday in Jammu East Constituency

'Support Modi in 2024 polls for prosperous, secure & inclusive future for all'

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, Vice President of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu and Kashmir, on Sunday organized a bike rally to commemorate the 73rd birthday of the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

The rally, which started in the Jammu East constituency, saw enthusiastic participation from party members, supporters, and residents of the area.

During the bike rally, Yudhvir interacted with the public, distributed sweets, and cut cakes symbolizing the joyous occasion of Prime Minister Modi's birthday.

Expressing his elation over the event, Yudhvir Sethi praised Prime Minister Modi's dedicated service to the nation, highlighting the transformative initiatives and developmental projects undertaken during his tenure.

He emphasized the satisfaction and contentment of the people, who



Vice President J&K BJP, Yudhvir Sethi leading a bike rally on Sunday.

are overwhelmingly appreciative of the Prime Minister's work.

"Under the leadership of our esteemed Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, the nation has witnessed remarkable progress and prosperity," he said.

"His visionary policies, unwavering determination, and relentless efforts have not only improved the lives of our citizens but have also

elevated India's stature on the global stage. The people of Jammu and Kashmir are extremely pleased with the dedicated work being done by PM Modi, and this bike rally is a small gesture to showcase our support and admiration for his exceptional leadership," he added.

The senior BJP leader urged the people to further strengthen the hands of Prime Minister Modi and

support his re-election in the upcoming 2024 elections. Recognizing the need for continued progress and nation-building, he emphasized the importance of electing a leader who can guide India towards greater heights.

"Let us unite, work together, and ensure that Prime Minister Modi returns in 2024 as the leader of our great nation. By doing so, we will pave the way for a prosperous, secure, and inclusive future for all," he added.

Prominent among those who joined the bike rally include Anju Dogra, Praveen Keri, Savita Anand, Arun Sethi, Shashi Kant Sapolia, Rajinder Sika, Sudhir Anand, Rajesh Dogra, Chakshu Kapoor, Ritika Mahajan, Rashi, Monika Sethi, Sanjay Mahey, Vageesh Gupta Bharti, Chaman Lal Angral, Vineet Gupta, Rahul Gupta, Anuradha Sharma, Ajit Yogi, Pooja Sharma, Preeti Sharma and many Karyakartas.

## BJP busy in celebrations, people of J&K suffering on all counts: Bhalla



JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla and other party leaders at a programme.

Bhalla accused the BJP government of not living up to the spirit of accommodation and reconciliation in addressing the political aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhalla emphasized the need for a magnanimous approach

to address the grievances of unemployed youth in the region. He suggested that the government should focus on giving them hope and opportunities.

Mula Ram expressed concern over the claim of normalcy in J&K by the BJP govern-

ment, particularly in light of recent terror attacks. He questioned the government's assertion that terrorism has ended in the region.

Yogesh Sawhney urged fellow attendees to face matters head on and take critical issues into their hands. He

said that Congress leaders will work to create awareness among public and provide help wherever possible especially by urging the government to open its eyes towards its own blunders.

Hari Singh Chib and Uday Bhanu Chib said that dismantling of Jammu and Kashmir's edifice into two separate Union territories was criticized as a blatantly unilateral decision. They said not even a single drop of 20 lakh crore packages reached to J&K. They asked the UT administration to come up with a pragmatic mechanism to address all the issues in tandem with the sentiments and emotions of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

## City gears up to celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi



## ■ MALU SHARMA

With less than a day to go for the arrival of Lord Ganesha, the God of Wisdom in the Hindu households, preparations for Ganesh Chaturthi festival have reached their peak across the city of Temples.

Idol makers in the city have been working around the clock ahead of the 10-day mega festival, which begins on September 19.

Ganesh Chaturthi is also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi, the birthday of Lord Ganesha is celebrated with great

devotion across the country. With the passage of time and people from other states residing here in large number, the culture to celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi has started in Jammu and people have started bringing home idols of Lord Ganesha and worship them. After 10 days of keeping Ganesh Ji at home, devotees then immerse the idol in River Chenab at Akhnoor.

On the day of the Ganesh festival itself, sweets, especially Laddoos and Modaks, which are favourite of God are distributed and consumed.

Temples get crowded with devotees who participate in the worship in large number.

Nirmal Sharma, a home maker said, "I used to celebrate this festival with great pomp and show as I am a devotee of Lord Ganesha. During this period we chant the shalok 'Ganpati Bappa Moriya'. Now in our State too most of the Hindu families have started celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi. Special elaborate meals are prepared on the occasion, along with traditional sweetmeats like Patolios, sweetened milk of coconut, Modak and Ladoo."

Despite soaring prices of essential commodities and various difficulties arising in the day-to-day life, the devotees are eagerly waiting for the arrival of the deity. It is believed that the presence of the God of Wisdom in their households provides them with much needed solace and peace of mind.

Mannan Sharma, 8 yrs old said, "I and very much excited to bring Ganesha home as I consider him as my friend. I will sing 'Oh my friend Ganesha, Tu rehna sang hamesha' on his arrival. I love laddoo and will offer the same to Ganesha. Keeping Ganesha home for 3 days and after worshipping we will immerse the idol in River Tawi. I love this festival."

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