

1.8 billion US Dollar assets recovered from economic offenders, fugitives: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Over 1.8 billion US Dollar worth assets have been recovered from economic offenders and fugitives in the last about four years, after Prime Minister Narendra Modi brought in the Economic Offenders Act, while the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) has helped in attaching the assets of offenders worth more than 12 billion US Dollars since 2014.

This was disclosed here today by Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh in his inaugural address at the first-ever "International Day of Police Cooperation" after conferring Indian Police Medals to distinguished CBI officers at an Investiture Ceremony at CBI Headquarters here.

The Minister said, there has been a quantum jump in extradition of criminals and fugitives in recent years especially after India hosted 90th Interpol General Assembly in October 2022.

He said, while this year so far 19 criminals/fugitives have returned to India, in the previous years, on an average around 10 criminals/fugitives have returned to India with 27 returning in 2022 and 18 in 2021.

Dr Jitendra underlined that the marked increase in the return of criminals/fugitives to India, is the result of enhanced cooperation police



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, as chief guest, addressing the "International Day of Police Cooperation" after conferring Indian Police Medals on distinguished CBI officers at an Investiture Ceremony held at CBI Headquarter, CGO Complex, New Delhi on Thursday.

ing between India and other countries pursuant to the 90th Interpol General Assembly held in October 2022 in Delhi, which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Speaking about the enactment of the Economic Offenders Act in 2018, Dr Jitendra said, Modi Government is aggressively pursuing economic offenders and informed about the recovery of assets worth over 1.8 billion dollars from economic offenders and fugitives.

He also mentioned the Prevention of Money Laundering Act has helped in attaching the assets of offenders worth more than 12 billion dollars since 2014.

Dr Singh said, it is unique providential co-incidence that G20 Summit is happening tomorrow and the Ministry of Personnel has already deliberated the Anti-Corruption Working Group Meets in Gurugram,

Rishikesh and Kolkata and there is forward movement in areas like action-oriented High-Level Principles on three priority areas, namely, law enforcement cooperation through information sharing, strengthening asset recovery mechanisms, and enhancing the integrity and effectiveness of anti-corruption authorities.

Dr Singh recalled that it was Prime Minister Modi, who presented a nine-point agenda for action against Fugitive Economic Offenders and Asset Recovery at the G-20 Summit in 2018 and expressed happiness that decisive steps are being taken by the working group.

Dr Jitendra was happy to note that the United Nations General Assembly on 16th December, 2022 adopted a historic resolution to designate 7th September as the International Day of Police Cooperation, to be observed starting in 2023.

The resolution emphasizes

'the need to strengthen international cooperation at the global, regional and sub-regional levels in various areas related to preventing and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, and preventing and countering terrorism.' The selected date for annual observance on 7th September, coincides with the date when INTERPOL's predecessor the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) was created in 1923, he noted.

Dwelling on the brief history of the premier investigative agency, Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that from a quiet beginning in 1941 as Special Police Establishment with a mandate to investigate cases of bribery and corruption in transactions pertaining to War and Supply Department of the Government of India, Central Bureau of Investigation was established as a full-fledged anti-corruption body of India

in 1963.

The Minister was pleased to note that 2023 is the Diamond Jubilee Year of CBI and in its 60 years of existence, CBI has emerged as India's premier investigation and anti-corruption agency and internally evolved as a capable organization to handle investigations ranging from bribery and corruption, sensational and complicated cases handed over by States and Constitutional Courts, economic offences, and banking frauds. On account of its sheer professionalism and integrity, this bureau has gained the confidence of the executive, judiciary, legislature, and the common man.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the litmus test for any organization is win the trust of the people and added that CBI has not only gained the trust of public, but keeping pace with the fast changing socio-economic and technical milieu, it has also established niche specialized investigative units to handle investigations pertaining to On-line Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, Trafficking in human beings, drugs, wild life, cultural properties, and crimes in digital space.

Dr Jitendra Singh gave away medals to meritorious staff and officers and congratulated the awardees and wished all the best to CBI and its officers.



National Consultant PMTB MBA calls on LG

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: D Dharma Rao, National Consultant Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyaan (PMTB MBA) called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan, on Thursday. He was accompanied by Dr Adhfar Yasin, TB Officer Kashmir.

The Lt Governor was briefed on the achievement and activities of the National TB elimination program in Jammu Kashmir. He was apprised about the additional support to TB patients and the effort to increase community involvement under PMTB MBA in meeting the goal of TB Free Bharat.

On the eve of first



D Dharma Rao, National Consultant PMTB MBA calling on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

anniversary of PMTB MBA, the Lt Governor was registered as Ni-Kshay Mitra and adopted several TB patients.

The Lt Governor appealed to the people and the community lead-

ers to come forward and adopt TB patients across J&K UT. People can register themselves as Ni-Kshay Mitra on <https://reports.nikshay.in/FormIO/DonorRegistration>.

Secretary Pahari Advisory Board visits Anantnag, addresses residents' demands



Secretary Pahari Advisory Board, Sapna Kotwal during visit to the Pahari hostel in Anantnag.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
ANANTNAG: Secretary Pahari Advisory Board, Sapna Kotwal, and Social Welfare Officer of Anantnag, Muzafar Ahmad Malik, undertook a significant visit to the Pahari hostel in Anantnag and Haridukishroo Aishmuqam, aiming to address the pressing concerns of local residents.

During their visit, Secretary Sapna Kotwal met with various delegations of Pahari people in the district, marking an essential step towards understanding and addressing the needs of the community.

The primary demand on the table was the relocation of the Pahari hostel

from its current location in Anantnag to another building. This request was made with the intent of improving the living conditions and ensuring a safer, more comfortable environment for the hostel's residents.

Secretary Sapna Kotwal emphasized the importance of hostels as not just a place to stay but as a "home away from home" for many students and individuals. She stressed that these facilities should offer a safe and nurturing atmosphere where residents can pursue their dreams and aspirations without hindrance.

The proposed relocation of the Pahari hostel is seen as a step towards

achieving this vision. By moving to a new building, it is anticipated that residents will gain access to better facilities and improved amenities. The ultimate goal is to create an inclusive space where everyone, regardless of their background, feels valued and supported.

The visit of Secretary Sapna Kotwal and Social Welfare Officer Muzafar Ahmad Malik underscores the commitment of the government to listen to the concerns of its citizens and take action to address them. Their efforts to engage with the Pahari community and work towards a positive change have been met with appreciation and support from the locals.

As discussions continue, the hopes of the residents are high for a favourable outcome that will not only address their immediate needs but also pave the way for a brighter future in Anantnag district.

This visit serves as a reminder of the power of government officials working in collaboration with local communities to bring about positive change and improve the quality of life for all residents.

Janmashtami celebrations in Srinagar; Pandits take out Shobha Yatra amid tight security

■ MASROOR AHMAD

SRINAGAR: Kashmiri Pandits celebrated 'Janmashtami' birthday of Lord Krishna, with religious fervour in Srinagar on Thursday and took a Shobha Yatra. Men and women were seen dancing and showering flowers.

The Yatra with a group of children dressed in traditional attire on a "Jhanki" was taken out from Kathleshwar Temple in Tankipora area in Srinagar and passed through the roads of Habbakadal, Ganpathyar, Barbar Shah, Regal Chowk, Lal Chowk, Hari Singh High Street and Jahangir Chowk, amid tight security arrangements.

Chanting religious hymns, a good number of Kashmiri Pandits accompanied the yatra that passed off peacefully. Security forces were deployed at various points in strength as a precautionary measure, an official said.

In Srinagar city, temples were adorned with lights and bunting at Sheetal Nath temple Ganpathyar Habbakadal and other Temples were decorated and members of Kashmiri Pandits including women and children were seen visiting temples since morning to join special prayers.

President of the Hindu Welfare Society of Kashmir, Chummi Lal on the occasion prayed for the peace and prosperity of the whole humanity. He said the traditional brotherhood unity among the people of Kashmir valley may flourish for centuries peacefully. Kashmiri is known for brotherhood across the world and still we are loving each other and caring religious sentiments, he said.

Kashmiri Pandits, a majority of whom migrated outside Jammu and Kashmir in the 1990s in the face of raging unrest are now gaining the path which they left decades before.

Today Muslims were seen participating by showering flowers and providing every assistance in the smooth conduct of procession by the Kashmiri Pandit community.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has extended his heartfelt greetings on the auspicious occasion of Janmashtami. "Greetings and good wishes to everyone on the auspicious occasion of Janmashtami. May the festival inspire us towards the goal of Viksit Jammu Kashmir and herald peace & prosperity for all", the Lieutenant Governor said in a message on X.

Several political leader including, NC President Dr Farooq Abdullah, Vice President Omer Abdullah, PDP Patron Mehbooba Mufti and other leaders extended warm greetings to all those celebrating the joyous occasion of Krishan Janmashtami.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Government at the Centre headed by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi is working on the mission of Antodaya and every BJP activist is working tirelessly to ensure that every needy person is able to get off the beneficial schemes launched by the PM Modi led government.

This was stated by Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President while interacting with people during the public grievances camp held at Pt Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kacchi Chawni Jammu.

Praveen Keri, Mandal President Jammu East and Raman Sharma, Mandal President Amphalla were also present during the grievances redressal camp.

Yudhvir said BJP has taken every possible step to ensure development of every community and every region for unprecedented development with the target of "Antodaya".

He added that such clear vision for development in every sector and development of every section has



J&K BJP Vice President Yudhvir Sethi listening to public issues.

attracted every single individual to support BJP.

The senior BJP leader asserted that the Party is fully committed to address the day to day problems being faced by the people in general and that of Jammu City in particular.

He stressed on the party's sincere attempt to have direct interaction with the masses and provide best possible solutions to their day to day administrative and development issues. He said that it is a sincere attempt to lessen the gap between administration and people and ensure that genuine issues of people are redressed in an efficacious way. Earlier in the camp, people from different parts of Jammu visited the party

office in the form of deputations to represent the issues of their respective areas as well as their individual concerns before the senior party leadership. Main issues presented were related to the non-availability of Govt ration, verification of land titles, trans-former issues, electric poles, street lights, repair of lanes/ roads, job & pension issues, etc. While giving patient hearing to the deputations, Yudhvir resolved most of the issues instantaneously by talking to the authorities concerned on phone.

He assured to take up the rest of their issues with the concerned authorities and get the same resolved at the earliest.

Impressive Rath Yatra marks Janmashtami celebration in J&K



Glimpses of Shree Krishan Janamashtami celebration in Jammu on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU/SRINAGAR: The festival of Janmashtami, commemorating the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Krishna, was celebrated with religious fervour and gaiety in J&K UT with temples witnessing huge rush of devotees since early this morning. Devotees thronged temples to pay their obeisance to Bhagwan Krishna on the occasion of Janmashtami.

Shri Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust Gandhi Nagar organized a grand celebrations of "Shree Krishan Janamashtami" starting with Ganesh and Nav Greh Pooja followed by a colourful Rath Yatra carrying the idols of Lord Krishna in a profusely decorated

'Rath' which started from Shree Lakshmi Narayan Mandir Gandhi Nagar accompanied by a large number of devotees including Kavinder Gupta former DyCM and various other social and political personalities of Jammu, members and special invitees of the Trust led by Gulshan Singh Charak Former Minister and President of the Trust.

The Yatra passing through various temples including Shree Mahadev Mandir Gandhi Nagar, Bawa Dhudha Dhari Mandir Gandhi Nagar, Shri Dugra Mandir Rampura and Gole Market Gandhi Nagar etc.

Enroute various organizations had arranged water, cold drinks and other

items as Parshad for the yatrias.

Then the Yatra was culminated at the main complex Shree Lakshmi Narayan Mandir.

Thereafter from 2 pm to 5 pm Shree Bhagwat Katha was conducted by Swami Ajay Sharan Shastri of Varindavan. Thereafter various other programmes were organized, especially, dress competition in which hundreds of children wearing the dress of Radha - Krishan accompanied by their parents took part and were honoured by the management presenting them mementos.

Main attraction of the function was beautiful selfie point where a large number of people along with their wards were

seen taking selfies. At 12:00 PM Maha-Arti was organized.

S.C Rekhi Gen Secy of the Trust speaking on the occasion thanked KB Magotra D.C (Retd) convenor and other members of the function committee with whose efforts such a wonderful event could be organized in the end parshad was distributed.

The Janmashtami festival, marking the birth of Lord Krishna, was celebrated in Vaishno Devi Mandir, Puran Nagar, Bhagwati Nagar here on Thursday. Devotees are visiting temples to offer prayers to Lord Krishna. Mandir was tastefully decorated.

Mahant Lucky Baba, priest of Vaishno

Devi Mandir, extended greetings and best wishes to all the devotees on the auspicious occasion of Janmashtami.

He said that Bhagwan Krishna's life and teachings included the message of well being and virtue.

"Janmashtami is of great spiritual significance for the devout," he said adding that it reaffirms our faith in the victory of Dharma (righteousness) over Adharma (evil).

He expressed hope that this festival of devotion and gaiety will bring happiness, prosperity and good fortune in everyone's life.

Earlier devotees in a large number visited the Mandir to pay obeisance to

Bhagwan Krishna. They recited Bhajan and Kirtan during the Janmashtami celebration. Mahant Lucky Baba later distributed Parsad among all the devotees visited the Mandir.

KULGAM: Janmashtami was celebrated with great spiritual fervour and gaiety by the Kashmiri Pandit community at Kulgam.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr.Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, on this auspicious occasion today visited Vessu KP Colony and greeted the Hindu community on the festival eve.

Accompanying the DC were ADC Viqar Ahmed Giri, Tehsildar and other officers.