

# Dr Jitendra distributes sewing machines to slum-dweller women

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Sept 27 : 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 distributed sewing machines to slum dweller women at Sardar Patel Camp near Mother Teresa Crescent, New Delhi to mark the Seva Pakhwada.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Union Ministers and BJP ruled States are celebrating the birthday of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi by organising Seva Pakhwada from 17th September to 2nd October across the country. During the service fortnight, Union and State Ministers and party workers are rendering their services in various activities like organizing blood donation camps, free health check-up camps, distribution of ration kits, free medical implants to Divyangjan, free Covid booster doses.

The Minister also informed that during the Seva Pakhwada, TB patients are also being adopted for a year by Union Ministers and BJP leaders to take care of daily needs to accomplish PM Modi's vision of TB-free India by 2025.

Earlier, Dr Jitendra Singh interacted with each of the beneficiaries

of sewing machines and expressed happiness that many girls and women are skilled in sewing, but were lacking the machines to make both ends meet. He said, this step will not only empower them, but will also help to achieve atma-nirbharta (self-sufficiency) in economic terms.

The Minister urged managers of the Sardar Patel Sewing Centre

"rise of the last person". The Minister said that pakhwada will end Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October, whose vision was of "wiping every tear from every eye".

Dr Jitendra Singh also distributed healthy food kits containing one litre juice, chyavanprash pack, biscuits, chana dal, daliya, mixed dal, Horlicks to about 125 poor



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, flanked by NDMC Vice Chairman Satish Upadhyay and BJP Delhi State President Adesh Gupta, among slum-dweller women during "Seva Pakhwada" programme, at New Delhi on Tuesday.

to help these women to hone their skills in making affordable and sturdy cloth bags as an alternate to single use plastic and promised to procure all their finished products by Kendriya Bhandar.

Dr Jitendra Singh said during the Seva Pakhwada, we have celebrated the birthday of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya on 25th September, known for his philosophy of Antyodaya that means the

women on the occasion.

In another event, Dr Jitendra Singh interacted with about 30 old age home senior citizens at Sandhya Home for Senior Citizen's at Netaji Nagar. Most of the senior citizens including 10 women are retired government servants and teachers and they expressed satisfaction over the facilities and arrangements at the care home.

Listening to their grievances, Dr Jitendra Singh promised to construct a Guest Room for the visiting relatives of senior citizens and to organize regular medical camps at old age home. He also agreed to provide extra nursing care for some of the senior citizens. All of them were given healthy food kits from Kendriya Bhandar, Delhi.



Principal Secretary H&UDD and other officers during signing of MoU.

# Dheeraj discusses modalities for implementation of NUDM in J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: Principal Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department (H&UDD), Dheeraj Gupta today held a meeting to look into the modalities for implementation of National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM) all across the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of J&K here.

The meeting was attended by the officers from JMC/SMC, Smart City Mission Srinagar/Jammu, LCMA, Urban Local Bodies, Housing Board and UEED. Jammu based officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

On the occasion, the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) also made a presentation describing its roadmap for implementation and possible rollout of online delivery of Municipal Services in all the ULBs of the UT.

The Principal Secretary impressed upon the NIUA representatives to see that it provides J&K end to end digital solution for all its services. He asked them to put before the department all the best models implemented elsewhere so that the effective one is customized for meeting our requirements.

He maintained that the department has nearly 22 online services provided to the public and the cur-

rent initiative is to upgrade and integrate all the services provided by the department throughout J&K.

He enjoined upon them to give the department the structure for a PMU within 15 days for better monitoring of the prestigious project. He asked them to suggest the ways and means for long term sustainability of this programme.

The meeting discussed at length the components of National Urban Digital Mission (NUDM). It also delved upon J&K's E-governance roadmap. The meeting also asked for suggestions from different stakeholders and their incorporation as per their merit and advantages.

The points that came under discussion in the meeting includes institutional Structure - J&K Urban Digital Mission on lines of IKM, Kerala/UP (SUDM), appointment of dedicated Senior Nodal officer to drive the urban e-Governance, Self-sustaining financial model on lines of IKM, Kerala, High-level committee for urban services reforms and implementation monitoring, setting up of Project Management Unit - structure, role & fund requirement, adoption of futuristic micro-services-based IT platform (UPYOG), finalizing of timelines for implementation of the project besides customization etc.

Later, an MoU signing ceremony was also held with NIUA by the department for the rolling out various municipal services in the ULBs of J&K under National Urban Digital Mission.

# Multi-storey car parking, several civic projects approved for Doda town

Excelsior Correspondent

DODA, Sept 27: District Development Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan, today chaired a meeting with executing agencies to discuss



DDC Doda Vishesh Paul Mahajan chairing a meeting on Tuesday.

the execution of mega projects proposed and approved for Doda town area.

Regarding multi storey car parking at existing Bus Stand Doda, it was informed that administrative approval and clearance of DPR has been received for the project estimated to cost Rs 32.46 crore and department is ready to issue the tenders. The DDC directed the Executive Officer MC to schedule a meeting with the shopkeepers and other stakeholders

going to be affected by the project to have their views before starting the construction.

Regarding the construction of shopping complex near gas agency and Y-Junction Ghat Road, it was informed that all

the paperwork is complete and the department is soon going to float the tenders.

The meeting was further informed that Rs 93 lakh has been received for construction of Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in the town for which the work has been allotted and the contractor would start the execution in the coming days.

The meeting was attended by SSP, Ex Engineer PWD, EO MC Doda, ARTO Doda, and DIO Doda.

# Return of cinema in Kashmir to boost local economy, promote film shootings across valley

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: The return of cinema three decades after militancy forced it to shut-down, will help in boosting of economy in Kashmir besides encouraging the return of film shoots by big banners.

The opening of multipurpose Cinema Halls in Shopian, Pulwama and the first-ever Multiplex Cinema Hall in Srinagar marks the revival of cinema culture in the Kashmir valley after three decades.

Cinema being the powerful medium of sharing thoughts and ideas reflects societal values and change. Apart from entertainment, it gives hopes, dreams and inspiration to youth to pursue their dreams till they realise it.

The administration led by Manoj Sinha is providing opportunities and support to the Young generation of Kashmir who want to see a better society, to learn about other cultures, to become part of inter-dependent world.

The new cinema halls and ongoing film shootings will renew the beautiful bond between Jammu Kashmir and the Indian Film Industry as it was once known as filmmakers turf.

Notably, the new Film Policy has been rolled out with special provisions and incentives for encouraging local youth to take up film as a career. Government has also identified the land for developing Film City in the UT and the facility will come-up in

the UT soon.

"In the new film policy there are a lot of avenues for local youths and if they make small films they will get a lot of incentives and get self employed," LG, Manoj Sinha had said at the launch. He also said that Film Policy aims to facilitate the overall growth of the film industry in the region, including setting up of a film development council and revival of closed cinema halls besides providing hands on access to website for talent pool and all shooting destinations.

Remarkably, the Film Policy also facilitates the development of shooting locales, infrastructure for film screening, revival of closed cinema halls, upgrading existing cinema halls, encouraging setting up of multiplexes and cinema halls, destination marketing, organising the J&K film festival, and restoration and preservation of films from the region.

Recently, the inauguration of INOX Multiplex marked a new beginning in the history of cinema in the Valley and it began with a Kashmiri message rolled out on the big screen, 'Myoun Cinema' (My Cinema). The first message also said: "The beginning of a new era and Kashmir's first multiplex. The trailers of films such as 'Vikram', 'Janwar', 'Silsila' and 'Haider' were played on the screen as major portion of these blockbuster films were shot in Kashmir.

# Advisor reviews progress on implementation of JJM across J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 27: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar today maintained that Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is a flagship program and needs speedy implementation across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Advisor made these remarks while chairing a meet to review the progress of ongoing works under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and CAPEX for the year 2022-23 at the Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department, Shaleen Kabra; Mission Director, JJM, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah; Special Secretary, Jal Shakti, Director Finance, Jal Shakti, Chief Engineer, PHE Jammu/Kashmir, Chief Engineer, I&FC Jammu/Kashmir, Chief Engineer RTIC, Superintending Engineers and other concerned officials both in person and through video.

During the meeting, the Advisor held detailed assessment on Physical and Financial achievements made under CSS/CAPEX/NABARD/PMDF for the Financial year 2022-23. The Advisor also reviewed the status of JJM works and the infrastructure proposed under the scheme.

Speaking during the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar impressed upon the officers that the pace of ongoing works shouldn't be slowed down due to routine impediments like weather or other things and due efforts should be made to achieve the objectives of JJM. He impressed upon the officers that there should be no scope for laxity in implementation of JJM as it is a flagship programme and caters to essential requirement of clean adequate water straight to each and every household.

While reviewing the status of major works under JJM, Advisor Bhatnagar enjoined upon the officers that tendering of works

should be expedited and timely allotment of works is imperative. The Advisor called for encouraging wide participation of contractors and for giving wide publicity to tenders so that maximum people participate in them.

Assessing the status of detailed project reports (DPRs) and approval of works, Advisor Bhatnagar instructed the executing agencies to practise due diligence before project planning and asked them that all the bottle necks and hindrances in projects should be removed in coordination with other departments for speedy execution and timely completion of works. He directed them to ensure that contractors possesses necessary machinery for undertaking projects of this magnitude.

For timely completion of projects, the Advisor directed the respective officers that monthly progress reports as well as

plans for fresh works should be submitted to the department. He also called upon them to use Project Management Softwares for effective implementation of this prestigious mission.

During the meeting, Advisor Bhatnagar also reviewed the status of individual Water Supply Schemes (WSS) at various stages of their completion across Jammu and Kashmir. He also reviewed the progress of other projects like the Shahpur Kandi Dam, Ujh Multipurpose Project and River Jehlum Tributaries project.

The Advisor remarked that these projects are of great importance for entire J&K and due commitment should be maintained to complete these projects within the given timelines.

During the meeting, MD, JJM gave a detailed presentation on the progress achieved till date in the implementation of mission across Jammu and Kashmir.



Senior Cong leaders VR Wani, Raman Bhalla, GA Mir and others during party convention at Kokernag on Tuesday.

# Cong will bounce back on J&K's political landscape: Wani, Bhalla

Excelsior Correspondent

KOKERNAG, Sept 27: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) president, Vikar Rasool Wani today said that Congress Party will emerge stronger in coming days and defections by 'some people' won't have impact on dedicated Congress workers.

Addressing a party convention at Kokernag in South Kashmir today PCC chief expressed confidence that Congress will emerge stronger in view of dedication and enthusiasm amongst the Party workers across J&K. He said many leaders have defected and deceived Congress Party after enjoying power from time to time.

Their defections won't have impact over the Party cadres. They (cadres) will move on and fight against the conspiracies being hatched against Party, he asserted.

Wani lashed out at BJP's divisive politics blaming them it for dividing people on regional, caste and religious lines to serve the dirty political ends. People of J&K have always stood with harmony and secularism. They will continue to oppose any misadventure by BJP RSS. He urged Party workers to remain steadfast to serve people and highlight their problems, as that, it is the Congress Party alone which has served the people and it will continue to fight for safeguarding rights of people, Wani said.

"Congress Party shall continue to remain relevant, strong and unified force, it will never compromise on its principle-based politics," Wani averred.

Former PCC chief GA Mir said declaring holiday on Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary was a welcome step amounting to respecting the aspirations of the people. Congress party appreciates the decision wholeheartedly.

"BJP Govt cannot escape the responsibility of disrespecting Maharaja's desires, decisions and laws passed by him in the interest of J&K citizens. State subject laws and Special Status granted to erstwhile J&K State should also be restored as that will be the real and great tribute to Maharaja Hari Singh," Mir added.

Bhalla said that leadership has started working on a revival plan and the cadre is being revitalized to carry on the party's political campaign with renewed vigour. He said that Congress is a movement that will surge back. He stated that people of Jammu and Kashmir are eagerly waiting for assembly elections and they will teach a lesson to BJP and definitely show this party its place.

Former MP and CWC Member Tariq Hameed Karra emphasized the Party workers to start mass contact with the people in their respective areas, constituencies and districts and enlighten them about the Congress Party's pro people policies and programmes and seek their support in strengthening the party.

fyng force, it will never compromise on its principle-based politics," Wani averred.

Former PCC chief GA Mir said declaring holiday on Maharaja Hari Singh's birth anniversary was a welcome step amounting to respecting the aspirations of the people. Congress party appreciates the decision wholeheartedly.

"BJP Govt cannot escape the responsibility of disrespecting Maharaja's desires, decisions and laws passed by him in the interest of J&K citizens. State subject laws and Special Status granted to erstwhile J&K State should also be restored as that will be the real and great tribute to Maharaja Hari Singh," Mir added.

Bhalla said that leadership has started working on a revival plan and the cadre is being revitalized to carry on the party's political campaign with renewed vigour. He said that Congress is a movement that will surge back. He stated that people of Jammu and Kashmir are eagerly waiting for assembly elections and they will teach a lesson to BJP and definitely show this party its place.

Former MP and CWC Member Tariq Hameed Karra emphasized the Party workers to start mass contact with the people in their respective areas, constituencies and districts and enlighten them about the Congress Party's pro people policies and programmes and seek their support in strengthening the party.



New entrants of AAP posing with the party leaders Salahuddin Khan, Hakeem Rahulla Gazi and others in Srinagar.

# AAP only political setup that will turn slogans into reality: New entrants

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is the only political leader in the country who is turning dreams into reality and Aam Aadmi Party is the only political platform which is winning public hearts by its mode of working and not by hollow sloganeering.

This was stated by new entrants of the AAP while joining the Party at a function organized in its Kashmir office. They said that education, health and all other models adopted by AAP in Delhi and now in Punjab are directly related to life of a common man and everyone in Jammu and Kashmir is eagerly waiting to see AAP in Government office so that state of uncertainty in the UT can come to an end. They further said that the number of people including prominent faces who are set to join Aam Aadmi Party in days to come is infinite and this all will give the party a big strength in near future.

The new faces who joined AAP in the event include former chief member of Maynadeeka National Party and member of BJP Nazir Ahmad Sofi, social activist Barkat Ali Mir from

Budgam, social activist Advocate Muzaffer Allai from Budgam, village president Mir Yusuf from Budgam, social activist Zahoor Ahmad Ganai from Budgam, social activist Fayaz Ahamd Bhat from Budgam, Sarpanch Ali Mohammad Rather, Naib Sarpanch of Budgam Syed Sajad, social activist Shahid Umar from Srinagar, social activist Imran Beig from Srinagar and others.

AAP senior leaders including Kashmir Incharge Salahuddin Khan, Hakeem Rahulla Gazi, Dr Tausif, Anurag Mishra and Sheema Farooqi welcomed new entrants in the Party fold. Salahuddin Khan and Hakeem Rahulla Gazi said that large scale joining in AAP is a clear indication that political dimensions in J&K are moving towards AAP and public is looking at the leadership of Arvind Kejriwal with large scale expectations.

They further said that the present Government in J&K headed by LG administration is ruining the UT in all aspects and everyone in the UT is feeling distressed and looking up for a pro-people democratically elected Government.



First coordination meeting between UT & Central GST officers at Jammu.

# Maiden coordination meeting between J&K, Central GST officers held

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 27: The first coordination meeting between UT and Central GST officers was held in the conference hall of Excise and Taxation Complex, Jammu. The meeting deliberated on different areas where State/UT and Central GST officers could work together to augment revenue collections under GST and to counter tax evasions.

Dr. Rashmi Singh, Commissioner State Taxes, H.B Negi Commissioner CGST Commissionerate Jammu and other senior officers from the UT and Central GST Department attended the meeting.

The deliberations focused on developing a mechanism for information sharing and to curb tax evasion in the region. Many other serious concerns related to Jurisdiction, Audit, Enforcement, Intelligence inputs were thor-

oughly discussed. Agreeing to the instructions by the Chair, the attending members agreed to the proposal of sharing of information pertaining to different areas of work on monthly intervals.

To sensitise the general public, it was further decided that a joint outreach/awareness program by the UT and Central CGST Officers would be held on a regular basis.

The meeting concluded with the determination to put in place convenient modalities between the officers of both the departments to make knowledge and work experience sharing a regular feature.

Dr Rashmi Singh, expressed that a need has been felt to have a regular interface between the officers of both the departments and this meeting shall act as starting point in this regard.



Secretary Tourism during Heritage Walk in Downtown Srinagar.

# Tourism Secy flags off Downtown Legacy Tour, Historical Walk on World Tourism Day

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Sept 27: Secretary Tourism & Culture, Samad Hafeez today launched several tourism related activities to mark the World Tourism Day celebrations at Zabarwan Park on Tuesday.

On the occasion, the Secretary Tourism flagged off the Downtown Legacy Tour and Heritage Walk.

Director Tourism Kashmir, Fazl ul Haseeb; Managing

[www.excelsiornews.com](http://www.excelsiornews.com)

Director, J&K Tourism Development Corporation, Minga Sherpa, heads and representatives of travel & trade, tourists, students and other concerned were also present on the occasion.

The Downtown Legacy Tour would explore art and culture of old Srinagar, besides showcasing traditional locations which include Sheher-e-Khaas Bazaar, Khanqah-e-Maula, Tomb of Zainul Abidia's mother, Pathar Masjid, Jame Masjid, Raghunath Temple, Hari Parbat Fort (Koh-e-marran) and Gurudwara Chattipadshahi.

The events were organized by J&K Tourism Development Corporation and J&K Tourism in association with Aabe Rawan.

Speaking on the occasion, Hafeez reiterated that J&K Tourism has taken several initia-

tives to boost local sightseeing and Downtown sightseeing is another step in this regard.

He observed that the theme of WTD is Rethinking Tourism and J&K has already started on it since 2020. He said that during COVID-19 Pandemic, Tourism Industry was one of the worst hit and that is where Rethinking Tourism comes into handy and that there is need to rethink our tourism and find ways and means to revive its pristine glory.

He reaffirmed that J&K Tourism is trying to concentrate more on experiential tourism and working to enhance that experience for tourists. He maintained that Kashmir has so much to offer where tourists can come and have this local experience.

He said that J&K is a brand and people from all over the world and the country want to travel to Kashmir.

"We have suffered from recent past as there are perceptions about Kashmir, perceptions about travelling to Kashmir and with these initiatives we all are able to defeat some of these perceptions. All the efforts like festivals, travel marts, road shows has helped us to defeat those perceptions and there is no stopping now," Hafeez told the gathering of tourism players.

He added that time is not far when Kashmir will regain number one place in the entire country in tourism.



DC Reasi inaugurating Multimedia Exhibition.

# DC Reasi inaugurates CBC's Multimedia Exhibition at Katra

Excelsior Correspondent

KATRA, Sept 27: Deputy Commissioner, Reasi, Babila Rakhwal, on Tuesday inaugurated a multimedia exhibition on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav organized by the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Regional Office, Jammu, in Katra.

The multimedia exhibition mounted at Government Higher Secondary School, Katra is part of various outreach activities being organized by CBC, Jammu during this year's Navratra Festival.

The 8-day long exhibition showcases the freedom struggle of India through a series of photo exhibits as well as audio-visual media. Apart from this special section in the exhibition has been dedicated to 8 Years of Seva, Sushasan, GaribKalyan wherein the achievements of the Government across various sectors in the last 8 years including in Jammu & Kashmir, have been highlighted. Separate corner for Azadi Quest-recently launched online educational video games and Swaraj - a 75 episodic mega serial portraying stories of unsung heroes of India's freedom struggle is also part of the exhibition display.

The aim of the multimedia exhibition is to generate awareness among the masses regarding the various initiatives & welfare programmes of Government of India. It is an effort to familiarize people with the objectives and vision behind Amrit Mahotsav and how people can be a part of the campaign.

In her address DC, Reasi appreciated the efforts of the CBC, Jammu in organizing the multimedia exhibition.

# Show cause notice to ASO FSL for poor performance in reporting NDPS cases

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Sept 27: An Assistant Scientific Officer (ASO) in the Directorate of Forensic Science Laboratory, J&K, has been issued show cause notice for unsatisfactory performance in analyzing and reporting the NDPS cases.

According to the show cause notice, Dr Rais, Ahmad Shah, ASO, C&T, FSL Srinagar, examined, analyzed and reported less than one third of the NDPS cases in comparison to his counterparts during the last two months.

Maintaining that performance of the officer has remained totally abysmal and unsatisfactory despite repeated verbal directions issued by then Director FSL J&K, and the Deputy Director Narcotics/Chemical Division, FSL Jammu/Srinagar, the notice said that lackadaisical approach of the

dia exhibition and urged people to visit the exhibition. She also exhorted youth especially students to visit the dedicated corners for Azadi Quest and Swaraj and download the video game for an insight into the freedom struggle of India.

Joint Director, CBC, Jammu, Ghulam Abbass gave a detailed overview of the functioning, structure and working of CBC, in the twin UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. He also briefed the audience about various outreach activities that will be organized during Navratra Festival.

Abbass said that these programmes are being organized so that people get benefits of various public welfare schemes of the Government. He informed that CBC's empanelled troupes from different states including J&K will present Cultural Programmes throughout the Navratra Festival and participate in the Prabhat Pheris and Shobha Yatra on a daily basis.

Others present during the event were Ayushi Puri, AD, PIB Jammu, Angrez Singh, SDM Katra, Shahid Mohammad Lone, Field Publicity Officer, Anantnag, Khurshaed Yousuf, Field Publicity Officer, Udhampur, Incharges of Field Officers, Kathua, and Doda, Artists of CBC, Jammu.

In run up to Exhibition, CBC, organized two Pre-Publicity Programmes in and around Katra to inform people about the various activities being organized by CBC during the Navratra Festival. The Exhibition is open to the public up to 4th October, 2022 during which people may visit the exhibition participate in open Quiz competition and enjoy the cultural programmes in the evening.

Cinema being the powerful medium of sharing thoughts and ideas reflects societal values and change. Apart from entertainment, it gives hopes, dreams and inspiration to youth to pursue their dreams till they realise it.

The administration led by Manoj Sinha is providing opportunities and support to the Young generation of Kashmir who want to see a better society, to learn about other cultures, to become part of inter-dependent world. The new cinema halls and ongoing film shootings will renew the beautiful bond between Jammu Kashmir and the Indian Film Industry as it was once known as filmmakers turf. Notably, the new Film Policy has been rolled out with special provisions and incentives for encouraging local youth to take up film as a career. Government has also identified the land for developing Film City in the UT and the facility will come-up in