



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the "Purvoday Conclave" commemorating 9 years of Modi Government, at Guwahati on Saturday.

As PM, Modi visited Northeast 60 times: Dr Jitendra

Excelsior Correspondent

GUWAHATI, July 1: "As Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has visited the Northeast around 60 times in 9 years which could be more than the total number of visits by all his predecessors put together. The result is miraculous transformation in the region and Northeast being cited all over as Modi Govt's development model".

This was stated here today by the Union Minister of State (Ind. Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, DoPT, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh while inaugurating the "Purvoday" Conclave showcasing incredible transformation in Northeast during the last 9 years.

"Nine years ago, North East was in the news for wrong reasons, like insurgency, clash, etc. Youths were confused and disturbed. Now the situation has changed dramatically with the initiative of PM Narendra Modi. Northeastern youth are now part of India's mainstream journey" he added.

PM Modi has visited the Northeast more around 60 times in the last 9 years, while his Council of Ministers have also visited the North-East more than 400 times. And if there were no COVID the PM might have visited 100 times.

Interacting with the media, he said that during the last eight years, from 2014 to 2022, 1,350 projects worth Rs.15,867 crore have been sanctioned under the schemes of the Ministry of DoNER and NEC in the North-Eastern States. The Armed Forces Special Protection Act (AFSPA) has been completely removed from Tripura and Meghalaya, and majorly removed from Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh barring some areas. Further, he added The Law & Order situation has been vastly improved as there has been a reduction of 63% in the incidents from 8700 cases during the period 2006-14 under UPA to only 3195

SBI celebrates 68th Bank Day

Excelsior Correspondent

CHANDIGARH, July 1: State Bank of India (SBI) today celebrated its 68th Bank Day.

A handout of SBI stated that the Bank was incorporated by an Act of Parliament on July 1, 1955.

The day was celebrated throughout the country by organizing various programmes at different centers. At Chandigarh, the Bank Day was celebrated by organizing Circle Level staff cultural programme and a get together of local



A dignitary lighting ceremonial lamp at a function organised by SBI in Chandigarh to celebrate Bank Day.

dignitaries, customers, staff and their families at Tagore Theatre.

Vinod Jaiswal, Chief General Manager, Chandigarh Circle graced the occasion as chief guest.

The get together was made memorable with energetic and melodious performances by staff members from the States of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and UTs of J&K, Ladakh and Chandigarh in the Circle.

At the outset, Vinod Jaiswal in his brief address, informed the audience about the importance of maintaining values of glorious heritage of Banking by SBI in its over 200 year journey.

All 774 villages of Jammu district declared ODF Plus

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 1: The District Jammu has declared all 774 villages as ODF Plus under Aspiring category of SBM-(G) 2.0.

On achieving the milestone, Assistant Commissioner Panchayats Jammu, Preeti Sharma has appealed to the stakeholders to continue to work in a collaborative manner to achieve the target of making the district as ODF Plus under Model category by 15th August, 2023.

The Block Development Officers are constructing Solid Waste Management and Liquid Waste Management structures like Segregation Sheds, Compost Pits, Soakage Pits in all the villages for managing Solid Waste and Grey Water.

during the period of 2014-22, during the NDA-led Government of India. For the Financial Year 2023-24, the total Budget Estimates (BE) allocation is Rs. 5892.00 crore which is 114% higher than the Revised Estimates (RE) 2022-23 allocation of Rs. 2755.05 crore and 223% higher than the Revised Estimates (RE) 2014-15 allocation of 1825.5 crore. As per Union Budget 2023-24, the 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) share (BE) for the region has been increased to Rs. 94,679.53 crore which is 31% higher than the RE 2022-23 allocation of Rs. 72,540.28 crore and 246% higher than the RE 2014-15 allocation of Rs. 27,359.17 crore.

Elaborating on the road infrastructure development in the region, he said that Till 2013-14, the total length of National Highways in the North-east region was 8,480 km, which increased to 15,735 km in 2022-23 under the Modi government, showcasing a growth of 85.55%. Besides, since 2014-15, the government has spent Rs 19,855 crore for the development of new tracks and doubling the existing lines of the railways in the north-east region. The number of airports and waterways in the northeast region was 9 and 1 till 2014, which has increased to 17 and 18 respectively under the PM Modi-led NDA government.

A total of 4 power projects and 239 power projects have been sanctioned in the region under NESIDS and NLCP scheme respectively worth Rs. 3,200 crores, out of which 211 projects worth Rs. 2031.79 crore have been completed.

The North-east region is also benefiting from the schemes such as SWADESH DARSHAN and PRASHAD for the promotion of Tourism in the region and Rs. 1502.48 crore have been sanctioned under both schemes for the region.

"Today SBI is in forefront of Banking by leading in financial inclusion and providing banking services to all," he maintained adding: "Bank's values of service, transparency, ethics, politeness and sustainability symbolize the focus of SBI."

Jaiswal also emphasized for the need for digital banking in present-day world and shared about various digital products like YONO and paperless banking for enhanced customer satisfaction and impressed

upon all to adopt and use these products.

He reiterated Bank's commitment to its legacy of transforming banking and appreciated the good work being done by the staff for providing banking services to the people in remotest and toughest terrains of the country and promoting digital banking among the people powered by trust and support of customers.

He also impressed upon the staff to keep up the good works being done by them and wished them all the best in their future endeavours.

The general public has been requested to avoid littering so as to make their villages visually clean.

The Assistant Commissioner Panchayats, Jammu highlighted the adverse effects of using Plastic and appealed to the public to refrain from using Plastics in their day to day routine.

Further, she highlighted that all the BDOs and staff of the department is working with full enthusiasm to achieve the target of declaring whole UT of J&K as Model under ODF Plus of SBM-(G) 2.0 under able guidance of Commissioner/Secretary Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Mandep Kour, District

Development Commissioner, Jammu, Avny Lavasa and Director Rural Sanitation, Charandeep Singh.

Reiterating Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's focus on education Dr Jitendra Singh said that From 2014 till now, the Modi government has spent Rs 14,009 crores to promote higher education in the north-east and 191 new institutes of higher education have been set up. There has been a 39% increase in the number of universities set up since 2014 and a 40% increase in central institutions of higher education set up since 2014-15. Under the "IshanUday" Special Scholarship Scheme for financial assistance to students of the region, more than 44,000 fresh candidates were selected for the scholarship during 2015-16 to 2019-2020 and the total expenditure under the scheme for the fresh and renewal of the scholarship from 2015-16 to 2020-21 was Rs 661.1 crores.

Moreover, he said Under the Khelo India scheme, which was launched by the Modi Government in 2018, 62 sports infrastructure projects of various categories were sanctioned in the North East Region in 2021 at a cost of Rs. 423.01 crores.

Sadhotra calls for strict adherence to Nitish panel recommendations

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 1: Wishing Shri Amarnath Ji pilgrims a safe, secured, smooth and blissful yatra to the revered cave shrine on the Kashmir Himalayas, former minister and senior National Conference leader, Ajay Kumar Sadhotra today called for strict adherence to the recommendations of the Nitish Sengupta Commission with regard to safety and security of devotees and the facilitators.

In a statement, the former minister said the safety and security of the Yatris and all those facilitating the pilgrimage enroute the mountainous and difficult terrain is of paramount importance and the Lieutenant Governor's administration besides Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board should utilize all the resources to ensure regulated and hassle-free Yatra.

He said the constitution of the Nitish Sengupta panel post the most tragic 1996 snow and storm catastrophe, which claimed nearly 250 lives, manifested in drawing a pragmatic roadmap for smooth conduct of the pilgrimage with focus on pilgrim safety. Eventually, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board was constituted by an Act of Legislature during National Conference Government in the year 2000 to manage the yatra. Therefore, learning lessons and utilizing the experiences of the previous pilgrimages, he hoped

PNBMT demands restoration of temple land at Bemina

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 1: Prem Nath Bhat Memorial Trust (PNBMT) held a meeting here, today to take stock of the condition of temples at Kashmir and also the recent political developments affecting the community.

The Chairman of the Trust, C.L Pandita informed the members regarding the recent encroachment of a Government allotted plot of land for the construction of a temple at Bemina Colony, Srinagar. He said that the land allotted for the temple at 2 E, Bemina Colony near Abu Bakr Mosque Srinagar is being encroached upon by some unscrupulous elements. He further said that the allotted land is being illegally appropriated and a barbed wire fencing put around the plot.

It may be recalled that sometime back the Government had allotted land at Bemina Colony for the construction of a mosque, a Gurudwara and a temple. However, it is unfortunate that before the construction of the temple could take place, the land stands encroached upon.

The Trust has written to the Divisional Commissioner in this regard and requested him to issue orders for the restoration of the land to legal care takers.

Pandita also raised the issue of the Mangleshwar temple at Pahalgam which is in a dilapidated condition and needs

Commissioner State Taxes launches week long GST celebrations

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 1: The State Taxes Department commemorated the successful completion of six years since the implementation of the Goods & Services Tax (GST) by inaugurating GST Week celebrations today at the Convention Centre.

Commissioner State Taxes Department, Dr. Rashmi Singh, graced the occasion as the chief guest while other dignitaries including Additional Commissioner Tax Planning, Ankita Kar; Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namrita Dogra; Joint Commissioner CGST J&K, Amit Sharma and various officers from the respective departments.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rashmi Singh emphasised the significance of capacity building within the department with special focus on Startups. She mentioned that they have been working on enhancing their own capacity through knowledge sharing and collaboration with external agencies such as GSTN and ICAL. Dr. Rashmi Singh also underscored the importance of utilizing advanced technology and data analysis to improve their effectiveness and efficiency.

Commissioner State Taxes spoke about the importance of fostering trust within the department and with external stakeholders. She mentioned that they have been working on ameliorating communication and dismantling information asymmetry within the depart-

ment. Dr. Rashmi Singh discussed the importance of revenue collection for the development of the state. She mentioned that every tax realised contributes to the state's revenue and development. She accentuated the importance of compliance and mentioned that

they have been working on educating taxpayers through various representative bodies. She also mentioned that they have been working on detecting non-compliance and fraud through data analysis and other methods.

In return filing to maintain proper and timely flow of input tax credit. A technical session on various aspects of GST was organized in which academicians from IMPARD Jammu, Dr. Reva Sharma, Faculty from IIT Jammu Prof Manoj Aggarwal, NACIN Deputy Director NACIBN Mr varun soni, and Assistant Director NACIN Mr B S Khara spoke about new amendments and notifications in GST ACT 2017.

During the session, an interactive session was held with various Stakeholders of Jammu division where Senior Vice President CCI Anil Gupta, president Federation of Industries, Lalit Mahajan, President PHDCCI, Rahul Sahai, representative from PHDCCI Shivang Mahajan, representative from CII, Neeraj Anand, president of Traders Federation Jammu appreciated the working of GST department and requested to hold such sessions in future as well.

Additional Commissioner Tax Planning, Ankita Kar imparted a detailed lecture, speaking extensively about the role, responsibilities and activities of the Tax Planning wing of the department.

Additional Commissioner State Taxes Jammu, Namrita Dogra delivered the welcome address and disclosed that SGST revenue realisation for 2022-23 amounted to Rs 7300 crores and is projected to reach Rs 10000 crores for the current financial year. She apprised the audience about the department's endeavors towards augmenting revenue.

All necessary safety protocols are being maintained in the larger interests of the pilgrims and all the stakeholders.

The former minister said though the administration has made elaborate and relentless efforts for the Yatra, yet extra caution is required to be taken in view of weather vagaries and the difficult terrain. These need constant monitoring for improvisation of facilities as may be required from time to time, he added.

Sadhotra described the holy pilgrimage as a shining example of Jammu and Kashmir's glorious inclusive heritage, saying this is perhaps the only and unique Yatra around the world that is performed by the followers of one dharma and facilitated by another religion.

It also reflects the deep bonds of brotherhood and amity in the land of Rishis, Sufis and Saints. Amity and secularism is ingrained in the basic character of the people, who are known for their warmth and hospitality towards the pilgrims, he said, wishing this year's Yatra to prove harbinger of peace and tranquility.

He urged the administration and the S&SB to ensure all comforts in terms of boarding, lodging and other logistical support to the pilgrims right from the advanced base camp of Jammu up to the cave shrine from both the axis of Baltal and Pahalgam axis during the 62-day yatra.

She elucidated that they routinely perform data analysis to identify instances of tax evasion and non-compliance. She further expounded that they undertake trend analysis with an emphasis on hand-holding and addressing genuine concerns related to GST and its provisions, as well as assisting



Commissioner STD Dr Rashmi Singh speaking during GST week celebrations at Jammu.

* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

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JKPCC leader Raman Bhalla interacting with people in Nagri area of Kathua on Saturday.

People eagerly waiting for polls to teach lesson to BJP: Bhalla

Excelsior Correspondent

KATHUA, July 1: The Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) working president Raman Bhalla today said that the people are waiting eagerly to teach a lesson to the BJP for allegedly failing to fulfill the promises made before coming to power at the Centre and in J&K.

Bhalla said this while interacting with prominent people of Block Nagri village Chamba Dha Bhah Panchayat Bajwal, in Kathua constituency. He said that people should elect those who will ensure that their voice is heard. "People of J&K want a credible voice to represent their aspirations and Congress is the only credible voice of all the regions of J&K," he added.

"The people of J&K remember BJP for unleashing countless miseries on the State and its people. People still recount the numerous instances of BJP and its leaders committed from time to time. The treacherous role played by the BJP and its leadership is an open secret," he said, adding, now the responsibility rests on people to choose between forces inimical to State's integrity and those who have lent immense sacrifices for the protection of the State's communal harmony and brotherhood.

"Now, it is up to people to dis-

Rs 8.45 lakh penalty imposed on shops Prefer digital payments at liquor vends: Excise Com

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 1: Excise Department has intensified the enforcement activities in different parts of Jammu division which resulted in the destruction of 7215 kg of Lahan, destruction of three working stills, 205 litres of illicit liquor.

Official sources said that on the directions of Excise Commissioner, Pankaj Kumar Sharma, and under the supervision of Deputy Excise Commissioner (Executive), Jammu Kusum Sharma, the department conducted surprise inspections in different ranges across the Jammu division to address the issues related to overcharging by shops and booked various wine shops and imposed heavy penalties on the erring wine shops.

The wine shops which have been recently booked are Surjit Singh Wine Shop Kathua, Moonlight Wine Shop Lakhanpur, Sat Pal Wine Shop Kathua, Sudesh Kumar Wine Shop Rehari, Chankar Singh Wine Shop Ward 66-A, Roopnagar; Jasbir Singh Wine Shop Nagrota, Vijay Kumar Wine Shop Narwal; Danish Tanakiya Wine Shop RS Pura, Simson Charak Wine Shop, Pouni



Chairperson NCW chairing a meeting in Karnah area of Kupwara.

Chairperson NCW visits Karnah, takes stock of implementation of women oriented schemes

Excelsior Correspondent

KUPWARA, July 1: Chairperson, National Commission for Women (NCW) GoI, Rekha Sharma today visited Karnah sub division of frontier district Kupwara to have an interaction with women and to review the empowerment of women and women-friendly schemes.

The Chairperson paid a visit to Teetwal village where she met several delegations and heard them.

Chairperson visited Seemari, the last village of India (which is located close to Zero line) and interacted with locals of Seemari and sought their feedback regarding implementation of women oriented welfare and development schemes.

Later, the Chairperson NCW convened a meeting at the Meeting Hall of Mini-Secretariat Tangdhar where she took a review of various schemes related to the empowerment of women.

Addressing the meeting, the Chairperson asked women to come forward to take benefit of women-friendly schemes of the Government of India.

She emphasized that women have to lead from the front in every sphere of life.

She said that the various roles performed by the women in every sphere of the human society ranging from taking care of their households, upbringing their families to confronting and

safeguarding the borders of the country, heading the top most positions in the different Ministries of the Government of India, etc., were appreciable and commendable.

She also stressed on the need for empowering the women and making them aware about their fundamental rights & the Government Policies that are beneficial for them.

The Chairperson emphasized on PRIs and functionaries of different departments to give awareness about empowerment of women, girl child education, legal support to women, and health care facilities for women.

The Chairperson NCW complimented the District Administration Kupwara for showing good progress in the empowerment of women.

She assured that all possible support from the National Commission for Women will be provided to District Administration Kupwara.

The review meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan; SDM Karnah, Gulzar Ahmad Rather; BDC Teetwal, Naushada; CAO Kupwara Gurdeep Singh; District Information officer Kupwara, Muddasar Sikander; Tehsildar Tangdhar, Ayad Qadri; Women PRIs (Women Sarpanches, women Panchs), female police personnel, members of Self help groups of NRLM, AWWs, and ASHAs and other concerned.

HexaMed Technologies Pvt Ltd awarded

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 1: HexaMed Technologies (India) Pvt Ltd, a leading Indian company specializing in biomedical equipment maintenance, systems, and allied healthcare solutions, has received the prestigious global business award for being the "Most Emerging Healthcare Service Provider in India".

This recognition underscores the company's outstanding achievements and commitment to excellence in the healthcare sector, particularly in biomedical equipment maintenance and management.



A dignitary from HexaMed Technologies (India) Pvt Ltd receiving an award in Mumbai on Saturday.

Presented annually by Global Business Magazine, the award acknowledges companies that demonstrate exemplary performance, innovation, and dedication to advancing their field.

As per a statement, HexaMed stood out among a highly competitive pool of nominees due to its exceptional contributions, groundbreaking solutions, and unwavering commitment to customer satisfaction.

On receiving the award in Mumbai, Nigam Gupta, Managing Director of HexaMed Technologies (India) Pvt Ltd, expressed immense pride and gratitude. He dedicat-

ed the honor to the directors, business associates, staff members, biomedical engineers, and Chairman D Selvakumar, whose instrumental leadership has motivated the team associates.

Chief Operating Officer Sumit Jaiswal also emphasized that the recognition is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and talent of their exceptional team. He further highlighted their commitment to pushing the boundaries of the industry and delivering innovative solutions that exceed customer expectations.

HexaMed, a Hyderabad-based startup, has consistently demonstrated itself as a market leader by leveraging its expertise, cutting-edge technology, and customer-centric approach to drive growth and success.

The company's dedication to staying at the forefront of the healthcare and medical industry has earned it a well-deserved reputation for excellence.

Nigam Gupta reiterated that despite this remarkable achievement, HexaMed remains focused on its mission to provide unparalleled solutions, set new industry standards, and empower clients to thrive in an ever-evolving marketplace.

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