

LG addresses 'Amar Ujala's Inspirational Teachers Award' Ceremony

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Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha on Tuesday emphasised the need for forward-thinking teachers who can equip students for tomorrow's uncertainties, like Artificial Intelligence (AI) disruptions, climate shifts, inspire to pioneer breakthroughs and fuel a dynamic and innovation-driven economy.

The Lieutenant Governor was speaking at the "Inspirational Teachers Award" ceremony organized by Amar Ujala Group at Padma Shri Padma Sachdev Government College for Women, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. At the ceremony, a total of 101 best inspirational teachers from various schools across Jammu were honoured with the prestigious Award.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor lauded the valuable contribution of teaching community in shaping the character and cultivating the talents that boldly reshape the future at full throttle, equipping young students with skills and courage to brave an unpredictable world.

"I believe teachers and their craft form the backbone of a society and the soul of the nation," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that like a master artisan at the forge, teacher



knows learning ignites from sheer curiosity.

"Inspirational teachers avoid rote learning and they weave science into captivating tales that electrify the classroom and for them history transcends mere dates and timelines, blooming into vivid sagas of human triumphs and tumbles," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that we need more inspirational teachers who can transform students from passive listeners into intrepid explorers.

"Teachers are bedrock of tomorrow. A classroom is not just four walls and a blackboard. A classroom is the glowing forge of a blacksmith, where raw futures are hammered and shaped anew.

I envision classrooms where teachers don't merely dispense bookish answers but ignite inquiry with probing questions. To forge a knowledge economy and vibrant society, transform learners from

passive consumers of information into sharp analysts who dissect it," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor exhorted upon the teachers to cultivate a culture of collaboration in their classrooms.

"The truth is, tomorrow's world belongs to those who work as a team. So, we need to turn classrooms into collaboration hubs, where research, writing, and innovation unfold as collective quests," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor further advised the teaching community to think beyond the curriculum's rigid map. He stated that curriculum offers mere direction, but creativity and curiosity propel students toward life's true readiness.

The Lieutenant Governor said that a teacher must tie learning to life itself, so every day sparks fresh discoveries and generates further curiosity.

"In this AI era, teaching isn't about rote delivery but

nurturing creativity. I believe humanity's greatest asset in future will be innovative and creative thinking. I want our teachers to break down preconceived boundaries and offer every student not just knowledge but unlimited possibilities," he said.

Prof Umesh Rai, Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu; Prof. K.S. Chandrasekar, Vice Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu; Shri Ram Niwas Sharma, Commissioner Secretary, School Education Department; Shri Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Dr Rakesh Minhas, Deputy Commissioner Jammu; Shri Mahendra Tiwari, Editor, Amar Ujala, Shri Naresh Sharma Unit Head and other senior office bearers of Amar Ujala Group; heads of educational institutions, teachers, families of awarded teachers and students attended the award ceremony.

He further mentioned key welfare measures, including the free ration schemes and the enhancement of old-age pension, asserting that these initiatives were in line with the commitments made in the election manifesto.

Rameshwar Singh who seconded the motion, reflected the achievements in terms of education, health, rural infrastructure said that the present government has

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accepted the challenges and the work it has done is praise worthy.

He also expressed serious concern over the growing menace of substance abuse and drug addiction in the Union Territory, describing the figures as alarming.

Singh further emphasized that collective efforts are essential to ensure unity and sustained progress in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mohammad Yousuf Rather (Tarigami) highlighted that the Budget should have a provision for separate climate fund for Jammu and Kashmir, on the lines of provisions made in other States and Union Territories, to effectively address climate-related challenges.

Sham Lal Sharma said that people need respite from unscheduled power cuts and more efforts need to be taken in this direction as there has been significant increase in revenue realization in the power sector. He also said that JMM schemes need to be completed so that people will have regular water supply. He further said that more avenues need to be created for generating employment for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Ghulam Ahmad Mir, while participating in the debate, asserted for more efforts from the government for restoration of statehood. He added that business rules shall also be finalized as soon as possible for smooth functioning of the Government. Ajaz Ahmad Jan while speaking on the motion, said that the present government has

were held by Chief Minister with all stakeholders so that the upcoming budget reflects aspirations of the people.

Arjun Singh Raju said that the government has made significant strides in development across various sectors, including power infrastructure, reduction of transmission and distribution losses, roads, education, health, and other key areas.

Nizam-ud-din Bhat, in his address spoke about the basic privileges for the Legislators and also raised various issues of his constituency.

Participating in the debate, Payare Lal Sharma appreciated the government's development-oriented vision for Jammu and Kashmir. He thanked Chief Minister for sanctioning Rs. 80 crore for electricity infrastructure in his constituency, improving power supply in the area. He also appreciated the government's efforts in strengthening the Education and Health sectors by providing basic facilities to the people.

Hasnain Masoodi, while participating in the debate, appreciated the efforts of the government for sustainable development in J&K. He said that the government has developed a robust people centric mechanism and public grievances redressal system bringing transparency and good governance.

Devinder Kumal Manjyal, during the debate spoke on various constituency specific issues. He sought upgradation of facilities in tourist and religious places like Utter Vani-Purmadal and Baba Chambyal.

ment, particularly Chief minister Omar Abdullah, tourism sector has revived across J&K. He added that Chief Minister participating in numerous conferences outside J&K like Mumbai, West Bengal, Gujarat, New Delhi and others, which in turn have translated into revival of tourism sector here.

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Salman Ali Sagar, while speaking in favour of the motion, said that Omar Abdullah led Government has laid great focus on socio-economic upliftment of people across all sections of society and has been working tirelessly for the holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir.

While participating in the debate, Shakti Raj Parihar said that the Government should give focus on the development of Chenab Valley, including Doda district.

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Budget Session-2026

Discussion on Motion of Thanks on LG's address commences in LA

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The discussion on Motion of Thanks on Lieutenant Governor's Address commenced in Legislative Assembly today.

The motion was moved by MLA Showkat Hussain Ganji and seconded by MLA Dr. Rameshwar Singh.

Initiating the debate, Showkat Hussain Ganji stated that more than 7000 people have been employed since Omar Abdullah assumed office, while around more than 23000 more are currently in the process of recruitment. He acknowledged that the tourism sector had suffered initially, but noted that over two crore tourists have since visited the region, reflecting sustained efforts by the government to revive the sector.

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Highlighting infrastructure development, he referred to construction of major roads and tunnels, including Sonamarg Tunnel, Shopian-Surankote National Highway and several flyover projects, aimed at improving connectivity and boosting economic activity.

He further mentioned key welfare measures, including the free ration schemes and the enhancement of old-age pension, asserting that these initiatives were in line with the commitments made in the election manifesto.

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NABARD estimates priority sector credit potential of Rs 49,795.58 cr for J&K

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The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has estimated a credit potential of ₹49,795.58 crore under Priority Sector for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for 2026-27.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo today released the focus paper during the Credit Seminar organised by NABARD.

The seminar provided a forum for the policymakers, bankers and other key stakeholders to deliberate on strategies aimed at promoting sustainable and inclusive development in the region.

Addressing the gathering, the Chief Secretary expressed satisfaction over the launch of the focus paper by NABARD. He underscored the theme "Last Mile Credit Inclusion: Reaching the Unreached", describing the Potential Linked Plan (PLP) as a crucial planning instrument that guides credit flow and development priorities.

He said that NABARD's projections are realistic and achievable, emphasizing the need for universal coverage of Kisan Credit Cards with timely and adequate credit. He appreciated the role of



RIDF in strengthening infrastructure.

Stressing a shift from subsistence to commercially viable agriculture, the Chief Secretary called for greater focus on infrastructure, processing, value addition, term lending, niche crops and suitable tweaks in KCC, highlighting medicinal and aromatic plants as income-enhancing opportunities.

The Chief Secretary advocated an integrated approach involving universities, banks and line departments. He urged attention to sectors like wool processing and fisheries and emphasized supporting SHGs and "Lakhpatti Didis" as emerging entrepreneurs through credit. He also highlighted the success of Mission YUVA, the need for skill-based lending over collateral, promotion of homestays to decentralize

value addition, structured marketing support and Geographic Indication (GI) registration.

Earlier, Vikas Mittal, General Manager and Officer-in-Charge (GM/OIC), NABARD, highlighted NABARD's continued commitment towards strengthening rural credit flow, agriculture, allied activities, MSMEs and rural infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir.

In his address, he emphasized NABARD's role in collaborative planning, close coordination with stakeholders and targeted development interventions to unlock the vast economic potential of the region.

Pertinently, NABARD is driving inclusive development in Jammu & Kashmir through credit planning, agricultural modernisation, digital traceability projects and value chain support for FPOs. It has strengthened rural infrastructure via major RIDF investments, launched a Rural Business

Incubation Centre at SKUAST K, supported GI tagging of local products, deepened MSME lending, expanded financial inclusion through CFLs, RSETIs, micro ATMs and literacy camps and fully digitised PACS to enhance last mile credit delivery.

The Focus Paper outlines sector-wise credit projections with a strong thrust on agriculture and allied sectors, MSMEs, farm and non-farm activities besides rural infrastructure. Emphasis has been laid on enhancing the agriculture credit flow, strengthening Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and Rural Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, improving productivity and area expansion in horticulture crops such as apple and saffron and promoting handloom and handicrafts through

tourism, technology upgradation and traceability in handicrafts and described ULI as a potential game changer requiring focused rollout in J&K. He also distributed micro ATMs among the Banking Correspondents (BCs) affiliated with J&K Grameen Bank.

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