GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1972

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 03RD AUGUST, 2022/ SRAVANA 12, 1944 (SAKA)

DEVELOPMENT IN KASHMIR VALLEY

1972. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any progress in the Kashmir valley in terms of education, tourism and employment after abrogation of Article 370 and 35A; and

(b) whether Government proposes new schemes for employment generating and self-supporting to attract the youth of the valley?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) and (b): The Government has taken several steps for all round development of Jammu and Kashmir including implementation of Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP)-2015, flagship programmes and fast tracking of projects in roads, power, health, education, tourism, etc. Besides, a new Central Scheme is being implemented for industrial development of J&K with an outlay of Rs. 28,400 Crores which would provide employment to 4.5 Lakhs persons. Some of the steps in education and tourism sectors are as under:

i. UT of J&K has adopted and launched National Education Policy, 2020.

ii. A uniform Academic Calendar framed and adopted across all Universities and Higher Educational Institutions of J&K.

iii. 02 new AIIMS, 07 new medical colleges, 02 State cancer institutes and 15 nursing colleges have been taken up/operationalised recently. Intake capacity of 854 seats was added, which includes 600 MBBS, 50 PG courses, 26 BDS, 38 MDS and 140 DNB.

iv. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu and Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu have been made functional. The number of government degree colleges/engineering colleges has increased from 96 to 147.

v. During the current calendar year i.e. from January-2022 till 3rd of July-2022, the tourist footfall in UT of J&K increased significantly and estimated to be around 1,06,24,000.

vi. 75 Off Beat Destinations have been identified for tourism across J&K.

vii. In order to attract private investors from across the country for investing in tourism infrastructure, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Policy, 2020 has been notified. Tourism has been given the status of Industry to encourage the investment under this sector.

viii. Under the scheme Creation of Development Authorities, 4 New Tourist Development Authorities viz, Shopian-Dubjan-Peer-ki-Gali, Bani-Basholi, Tosamaidan and Hygam-Ningli-Tarzoo Tourism Development Authorities have been created for harnessing the tourism potential of these untapped areas.

ix. In order to give a boost to Golf Tourism, Jammu Tawi Golf Course has been completed. The Kashmir Golf club has also been started functioning after a gap of 7 years.

x. Peerkho to Mahamaya and from Mahamaya to Bagh-e-Bahu and Patnitop Ropeway Project has been commissioned and dedicated to the public.

xi. To promote border Tourism in the UT, Beating retreat Parade has been started at Suchetgarh International border in Jammu District.

The Government has taken many steps for employment generation in the UT of J&K, some of which are as under:

i. Recruitment drive was taken up in a transparent manner for which an Accelerated Recruitment Committee (ARC) was constituted for identifying Gazetted, Non-Gazetted & Class-IV posts in the UT of J&K.

ii. Special recruitment rules were made and various departmental rules amended to accelerate the recruitment process in a transparent and time bound manner.

iii. Recruitments in the public sector have been carried out from the year 2019 onwards totalling 29,806.

iv. A special Scheme, Youth Mission has been started to target unemployed youth directly to provide the avenues and opportunities for starting their own ventures like Mumkin, a livelihood generation programme, under which financial assistance by way of loan from selected commercial banks is provided to youth for purchase of commercial vehicles. Similarly, a special scheme 'Tejaswani' has been launched to promote entrepreneurship among women.

v. Employment for 5.2 lakh persons is estimated to have been created through self-employment schemes from August 2019 upto June 2022.

vi. An employment portal has been developed for registration of employment seekers and employment providers to facilitate employment.

vii. Counselling/e-counselling Sessions are regularly held at District Levels for awareness of unemployed regarding availability of various jobs.

viii. Model Career Centers have been set up for increasing the access to larger employment market and assistance is provided by holding job fairs etc.

ix. Under the Himayat scheme, a Special initiative of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, the youth with age group of 15-35 years are provided skill training in various trades.

x. Low Interest loans are made available to unemployed youth to start their ventures/entrepreneurship in different fields on regular basis.

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