



Prime Minister's Office



## PM visits J&K to participate in celebrations of National Panchayati Raj Day

Addresses all the Gram Sabhas across the country from Palli Panchayat in Samba district

Inaugurates and lays the foundation stone of multiple development initiatives worth over Rs 20,000 crore

Inaugurates Banihal Qazigund Road Tunnel which will help bring the regions of Jammu and Kashmir closer

lays foundation stone of three road packages of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway and Ratle&Kwar Hydroelectric projects

Launches Amrit Sarovar - an initiative aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country

“Celebration of National Panchayati Raj Day in Jammu and Kashmir marks a big change”

“Be it democracy or resolve for development, today Jammu and Kashmir is presenting a new

example. In the last 2-3 years, new dimensions of development have been created in Jammu and Kashmir”

“Those who did not get the benefit of reservation in Jammu and Kashmir for years, are also getting the benefit of reservation now”

“Distances, whether of hearts, languages, customs or of resources, their elimination is our major priority today”

“This ‘Amrit Kaal’ of Independence is going to be the golden period of India”

“Youth of the valley will not face the problems that their parents and grandparents faced”

“If our villages move towards natural farming that will benefit the entire humanity”

“Gram Panchayats will play a major role in combating malnutrition with the help of ‘SabkaPrayas’”

Posted On: 24 APR 2022 2:56PM by PIB Delhi

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Jammu & Kashmir to participate in the celebration of National Panchayati Raj Day today and addressed all the Gram Sabhas across the country. He visited Palli Panchayat in Samba district. The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development initiatives worth around Rs 20,000 crore. He also launched the Amrit Sarovar initiative. Lt Governor Jammu and Kashmir Shri Manoj Sinha, Union Ministers Shri Giriraj Singh, Dr Jitendra Singh and Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil were among those present on the occasion.



Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that today is a landmark day in the development journey of Jammu and Kashmir. He thanked the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their enthusiasm. The Prime Minister said, due to his long association with the state, he understands the issues involved and expressed happiness about the focus on connectivity in the projects inaugurated and for which foundation stone was laid today. “Projects worth 20 thousand crore rupees related to connectivity and electricity have been inaugurated and the foundation stone has been laid here. To give a new impetus to the development of Jammu and Kashmir, work is going on at a fast pace. These efforts will provide employment to a large number of youths of Jammu and Kashmir”, he said. Today many families have also got property cards of their houses in villages. These ownership cards will inspire new possibilities in the villages. 100 Jan Aushadhi Kendras will become a medium to provide affordable medicines and surgical items to the poor and middle class families of Jammu and Kashmir, he said. The Prime Minister pointed out that all schemes of the centre government are being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir and people are being benefitted from them. People in the villages are the biggest beneficiaries of schemes for LPG, toilets, electricity, land rights and water connections. Before arriving at the dais, the Prime Minister met the delegations from UAE. The Prime Minister said that a new story of development is being written and many private investors are interested in Jammu and Kashmir. For 7 decades of independence, private investment of only Rs 17 thousand crore could be made in Jammu and Kashmir. But now it is reaching around Rs 38,000 crore. Tourism also is thriving once again, the Prime Minister noted.

The Prime Minister underlined the changed system of working in the Jammu and Kashmir, by giving example of the 500 KW solar plant that is being established in three weeks whereas earlier even the movement of file from Delhi used to take 2-3 weeks. He said all houses of Palli Panchayat getting solar power is a perfect example of Gram Urja Swaraj and the changed way of working will take Jammu and Kashmir to new heights. The Prime gave assurance to the youth of Jammu. He said “friends, believe my words, youth of the valley mark my words, the difficulties faced by your parents and grandparents, you will not face those problems. This I will accomplish and I have come to assure you of that.”

Shri Modi referred to India’s leadership on international environmental and climate change platforms and expressed pride in the strides that Palli Panchayat is making towards becoming first carbon neutral panchayat. “Palli Panchayat is moving towards becoming the first Carbon Neutral Panchayat in the country. Today, I have also got an opportunity to interact with the people’s representatives of the villages of the country, in the village of Palli. Many congratulations to Jammu and Kashmir for this big achievement and development works”, he said.

The Prime Minister said that “celebration of National Panchayati Raj Day in Jammu and Kashmir marks a big change.” Shri Modi expressed deep satisfaction and pride that democracy has made way to grass roots in Jammu and Kashmir. “Be it democracy or resolve for development, today Jammu and Kashmir is presenting a new example. In the last 2-3 years, new dimensions of development have been created in Jammu and Kashmir”, the Prime Minister stressed. For the first time, elections to the three-tier Panchayati Raj system- Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and DDC have been held in Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to the process of inclusion of Jammu and Kashmir in the development journey of the nation, the Prime Minister informed that more than 175 central laws have become applicable in Jammu and Kashmir. The biggest beneficiaries of this have been the women, poor and deprived section of the area. He also talked about removal of anomalies in the reservation clauses. “Vamiki



Samajhas been freed from the fetters that were put in their feet for decades. Today sons and daughters of every community are able to fulfil their dreams. Those who did not get the benefit of reservation in Jammu and Kashmir for years, are also getting the benefit of reservation now”, he said.

Referring to his vision of ‘Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat’, the Prime Minister explained that the vision focuses on connectivity and elimination of distances. “Distances, whether of hearts, languages, customs or of resources, their elimination is our very big priority today”, he added.

The Prime Minister dwelled on the role of Panchayats in the development of the country and said “This ‘Amrit Kaal’ of Independence is going to be the golden period of India. This resolve is going to be realized by SabkaPrayas. In this, the role of the Gram Panchayat, the most grassroots unit of democracy and all of you colleagues is very important”, he said. It is the effort of the government, he stressed, that the role of Panchayat should deepen in planning and implementation of every project related to the development of the village. “With this, Panchayat will emerge as an important link in the achievement of national resolutions”, he added. The Prime Minister said that 75 sarovars will come up in every district by 15 August in 2023. He urged that these sarovars should be lined with trees named after the martyrs and freedom fighters. Shri Modi also elaborated upon the push for transparency and empowerment of Gram Panchayats. Measures like e-Gram Swaraj are linking processes from planning to payment. Panchayats will be audited online and a system of citizen charter for all the Gram Sabha is encouraging the Sabhas for taking up many roles. He also highlighted the role of women in these institutions and village governance especially water governance.

Reiterating his push for natural farming the Prime Minister said that it is critical to free mother earth of chemicals as it is harming the land and groundwater. He said if our villages move towards natural farming that will benefit entire humanity. He asked to explore how natural farming can be promoted at the level of Gram Panchayats, for this collective efforts are needed. Similarly, Gram Panchayats will play a major role in combating malnutrition with the help of ‘SabkaPrayas’. “People on the ground have to be made aware about the initiative taken by the central government to save the country from malnutrition and anemia. Now the rice being given under the government schemes is being fortified”, he informed.

Since the introduction of constitutional reforms with regards to J&K in August 2019, the government has been focussed on bringing about wide ranging reforms to substantially improve governance and enhance ease of living for the people of the region at an unprecedented pace. The projects inaugurated and whose foundation stone was laid will go a long way in facilitating provision of basic amenities, ensuring ease of mobility and development of infrastructure in the region.

Prime Minister inaugurated the Banihal Qazigund Road Tunnel, built at a cost of over Rs 3100 crore. The 8.45 Km long tunnel would reduce the road distance between Banihal and Qazigund by 16 km, and reduce journey time by around one and a half hour. It is a twin tube tunnel – one for each direction of travel – with the twin tubes being interconnected by a cross passage every 500m, for maintenance and emergency evacuation. The tunnel would help establish an all-weather connection between Jammu and Kashmir, and bring the two regions closer.

Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of three road packages of Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, being built at a cost of over Rs. 7500 crore. They are for the construction of 4/6 lane access controlled Delhi-Katra-Amritsar Expressway from: Balsua on NH-44 to Gurha Bajldaran,



Hiranagar; GurhaBaidaran, Hiranagar to Jakh, Vijaypur; and Jakh, Vijaypur to Kunjwani, Jammu with spur connectivity to Jammu Airport.

The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of Ratle and Kwar Hydroelectric projects. The 850 MW Ratle Hydroelectric Project will be constructed on Chenab river in Kishtwar District at a cost of around Rs 5300 crore. The 540 MW Kwar Hydroelectric Project will also be built on Chenab river in Kishtwar District at a cost of over Rs. 4500 crore. Both the projects will help meet the power requirements of the region.

In order to further expand the network of Jan AushadiKendras in J&K and to make good quality generic medicines at affordable prices available, 100 Kendras have been made functional and dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister. These Kendras are located in the remote corners of the UT. He will also inaugurate a 500 KW solar power plant at Palli, which will make it the country's first panchayat to become carbon neutral.

The Prime Minister handed over SVAMITVA cards to beneficiaries. He also transferred award money to Panchayats which are winners of awards given across different categories on National Panchayati Raj Day for their achievements. The Prime Minister also visited the INTACH photo gallery which depicts the rural heritage of the region, and Nokia Smartpur, a rural entrepreneurship-based model designed to create ideal smart villages in India.

With a view to ensure rejuvenation of water bodies, the Prime Minister also launched a new initiative named Amrit Sarovar. It is aimed at developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country as a part of celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Panchayati Raj institutions strengthen the spirit of democracy. Addressing  
Gram Sabhas across the country from Jammu & Kashmir.

<https://t.co/dMWIbBU92x>

— Narendra Modi (@narendramodi) April 24, 2022

यहां कनेक्टिविटी और बिजली से जुड़े 20 हज़ार करोड़ रुपए के प्रोजेक्ट्स का लोकार्पण और  
शिलान्यास हुआ है।

जम्मू-कश्मीर के विकास को नई रफ्तार देने के लिए राज्य में तेजी से काम चल रहा है।

इन प्रयासों से बहुत बड़ी संख्या में जम्मू-कश्मीर के नौजवानों को रोज़गार मिलेगा: PM

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) April 24, 2022



आज अनेक परिवारों को गांवों में उनके घर के प्रॉपर्टी कार्ड भी मिले हैं।

ये स्वामित्व कार्ड गांवों में नई संभावनाओं को प्रेरित करेंगे।

100 जनऔषधि केंद्र जम्मू कश्मीर के गरीब और मिडिल क्लास को सस्ती दवाएं, सस्ता सर्जिकल सामान देने का माध्यम बनेंगे: PM @narendramodi

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) April 24, 2022

पल्ली पंचायत देश की पहली कार्बन न्यूट्रल पंचायत बनने की तरफ बढ़ रही है।

आज मुझे पल्ली गांव में, देश के गांवों के जन प्रतिनिधियों के साथ जुड़ने का भी अवसर मिला है।

इस बड़ी उपलब्धि और विकास के कामों के लिए जम्मू-कश्मीर को बहुत-बहुत बधाई: PM @narendramodi

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) April 24, 2022

इस बार का पंचायती राज दिवस, जम्मू कश्मीर में मनाया जाना, एक बड़े बदलाव का प्रतीक है।

ये बहुत ही गर्व की बात है, कि जब लोकतंत्र जम्मू कश्मीर में ग्रास रूट तक पहुंचा है, तब यहां से मैं देशभर की पंचायतों से संवाद कर रहा हूँ: PM @narendramodi

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) April 24, 2022

बात डेमोक्रेसी की हो या संकल्प डेवलपमेंट का, आज जम्मू कश्मीर नया उदाहरण प्रस्तुत कर रहा है।

बीते 2-3 सालों में जम्मू कश्मीर में विकास के नए आयाम बने हैं: PM @narendramodi

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दशकों-दशक से जो बेड़ियां वाल्मीकि समाज के पांव में डाल दी गई थीं, उनसे वो मुक्त हुआ है।

आज हर समाज के बेटे-बेटियां अपने सपनों को पूरा कर पा रहे हैं।

जम्मू-कश्मीर में बरसों तक जिन साथियों को आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं मिला, अब उन्हें भी आरक्षण का लाभ मिल रहा है: PM @narendramodi

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जब मैं एक भारत, श्रेष्ठ भारत की बात करता हूं, तब हमारा फोकस कनेक्टिविटी पर होता है, दूरियां मिटाने पर भी होता है।

दूरियां चाहे दिलों की हो, भाषा-व्यवहार की हो या फिर संसाधनों की, इनको दूर करना आज हमारी बहुत बड़ी प्राथमिकता है: PM @narendramodi

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आज़ादी का ये अमृतकाल भारत का स्वर्णिम काल होने वाला है।

ये संकल्प सबका प्रयास से सिद्ध होने वाला है।

इसमें लोकतंत्र की सबसे ज़मीनी ईकाई, ग्राम पंचायत की, आप सभी साथियों की भूमिका बहुत अहम है: PM @narendramodi

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सरकार की कोशिश यही है कि गांव के विकास से जुड़े हर प्रोजेक्ट को प्लान करने, उसके अमल में पंचायत की भूमिका ज्यादा हो।

इससे राष्ट्रीय संकल्पों की सिद्धि में पंचायत अहम कड़ी बनकर उभरेगी: PM  
@narendramodi

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धरती मां को कैमिकल से मुक्त करना ही होगा।

इसलिए प्राकृतिक खेती की तरफ हमारा गांव, हमारा किसान बढ़ेगा तो पूरी मानवता को लाभ होगा।

ग्राम पंचायत के स्तर पर कैसे प्राकृतिक खेती को हम प्रोत्साहित कर सकते हैं, इसके लिए भी सामूहिक प्रयासों की आवश्यकता है: PM @narendramodi

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ग्राम पंचायतों को सबका साथ लेकर एक और काम भी करना होगा।

कुपोषण से, अनीमिया से, देश को बचाने का जो बीड़ा केंद्र सरकार ने उठाया है उसके प्रति ज़मीन पर लोगों को जागरूक भी करना है।

अब सरकार की तरफ से जिन योजनाओं में भी चावल दिया जाता है, उसको फोर्टिफाई किया जा रहा है: PM

— PMO India (@PMOIndia) April 24, 2022

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