

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2138**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19TH MARCH, 2025/ PHALGUNA 28, 1946 (SAKA)

'WATAN KO JANO' PROGRAMME

2138 DR. BHAGWAT KARAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures in place to track the long-term impact of this programme on the participating children's educational and professional outcomes;

(b) whether there are any plans to expand the scope of the 'Watan Ko Jano' programme to include vocational training and skill development for the youth of Jammu & Kashmir;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is considering special exchange programs between Jammu & Kashmir students and students from other States to foster deeper national integration; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The 'Watan Ko Jano' programme, organized by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir under the funding from Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, is aimed at fostering national integration by exposing children of the age less than 18 years from government-run homes to the cultural, historical, and technological advancements of

other parts of the country. The 'Watan Ko Jano' programme has been successful in promoting national integration, fostering unity among India's youth, and helping create a more inclusive, harmonious society. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir is implementing various vocational training and skill development programmes including two flagship programs namely, Mission Youth and Mission Yuva. These missions have been specifically mandated to empower and enhance the skills of the youth in the region, providing them with the necessary tools and opportunities to excel in various sectors.

Further, under 'Kashmiri Youth Exchange Programme (KYEP)' various activities are being organized for school students/youth of Jammu and Kashmir with the other states/UTs through interactions, seminars, panel discussions, skill development, visit to Industries, exhibition of artefacts and local products of Kashmir valley, food festival, sharing of best practices, culture and customs, career guidance, patriotism and nation building programme, cultural programs, etc. by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS).
