



*Jehlum Post News/Jammu/April 22, 2015/Prime Minister, Mr Narendra Modi on Wednesday held his second monthly video conference under his Pro-active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI) initiative, with Union Secretaries of various Ministries and Chief Secretaries of States. Chief Secretary J&K, Mr Iqbal Khandey also participated in the video conference. Under PRAGATI,*

*Prime Minister conducts meetings with Union Secretaries and Chief Secretaries on monthly basis to review the progress of infrastructural projects and schemes under implementation in the States. During today's interaction, the Prime Minister in respect of J&K discussed the progress achieved under 'Himayat'- a placement linked market driven skill training program for youth of J&K and integration of J&K in the 'Green Energy Corridor for Renewable Energy'. While discussing progress of various skill development initiatives, the Prime Minister appreciated the success achieved under J&K's skill development initiative 'Himayat' and asked the Union Rural Development Ministry to replicate the 'Himayat' model in other states of the country. 'Himayat' was conceived as training cum placement initiative for a 5 year period for the youth of J&K, to hone their skills and then place them in the private sector with one year post-placement tracking. Since its introduction in the year 2011-12, 40,000 youth in the age group of 18-35 years, have been trained in various skills, 32331 placed and out of these as per the one year post placement tracking, as many as 22695 youth i.e 70% are in jobs in the private sector. The state Government has urged the centre that 'Himayat' should keep operating beyond 2015-16 and its guidelines brought in line with 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaye Grameen Kaushalya Yojana' so that better and greater support can be extended to the youth of J&K. While reviewing the status of various Green Energy corridor projects including the 7500 MW Solar Power Project in Ladakh region of J&K, the Prime Minister called for fast tracking harnessing and integration of renewable power potential available in various states including J&K with the National Grid.*