

Govt stepping up efforts to identify poorest of poor in villages for employment : Capt Amrinder

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Chamkaur Sahib, October 5: Giving a further impetus to his government's flagship 'Ghar Ghar Rozgar & Karobar Mission' scheme, Punjab Chief Minister on Saturday declared all-out efforts to identify the poorest of the poor jobless in villages for employment, even as he announced a free coaching scheme for candidates to prepare for Group C exams for public sector and government jobs.

Under the unique '10 unemployed per village' initiatives, 10 of the poorest of the poor jobless were being identified in every village, he said, adding that so far, 134,104 such jobless youth had been identified, with 32,420 placed in private employment and 12,114 successfully skill-trained.

The Chief Minister was here to hand over appointment letters to some of the 116,556 selected for jobs/identified for self-employment or skill training during the recently concluded 5th Mega Job Fair in the state. He also interacted with the successful students, most of whom have received salary packages up to Rs 20,000 in this round of the job fairs.

Describing these jobs as stepping stones for the future success of the youth, the Chief Minister said the bulk of the jobs less than Rs 10,000 had gone to school drop-outs, thus helping to bring them out of the unemployment cycle in which they were caught as a result of their failure to complete their education. He recalled that he himself had started his career in the Army with a meager salary of Rs 325, with just Rs 50 as high-altitude allowance.

Captain Amarinder expressed his appreciation for the success of the job melas, which have so far

seen 10.70 lakh placements/recruitments/self-employment opportunities. The private sector, which has been infused with new dynamism as a result of the government's investment and industry friendly policies, has absorbed 3.75 lakh candidates, while 40,000 have been taken in by the government against vacancies, and the remaining have been facilitated self-employment, since the first job fair was held in August-September 2017.

The Chief Minister noted with satisfaction the growing success rate of these job fairs, pointing out that the rate had gone up from 5% in the first job fair to 56% in the fifth, indicating the high level of enthusiasm among the candidates as well as the companies in search of talent.

On the free coaching scheme, the Chief Minister said it was aimed at enhancing employability in the Public Sector. The Government is spending Rs 2 lakhs for each group/batch of 30 students for 2-month coaching as part of the programme, currently being implemented on pilot basis in Patiala, Mohali, Jalandhar, Sangrur and Ludhiana on pilot basis, with the government targeting one such coaching centre in each district, going forward. Tenders have already been floated for this purpose, said the Chief Minister, adding that the scheme will significantly enhance the capabilities of eligible candidates to secure government jobs.

In his welcome address, Technical Education Minister Charanjit Singh Channi congratulated the Chief Minister for fulfilling his promise of Ghar Ghar Rozgar Scheme. He said that the Rozgar Melas held at 72 places recorded great enthusiasm. Guided by the visionary and dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister, the government had ensured that nearly five lakhs youths had been provided loans for their self-employment ventures, which would transform their destiny.

Education & PWD Minister Vijay Inder Singla spoke about the new wave of development and progress under Captain Amarinder. Development works worth Rs 112 crore were in progress in the Chamkaur Sahib constituency alone, he said, adding that the Punjab Investors Summit in December will give a further boost to the state's economic, infrastructural and social growth.

Pointing out that the progress in Punjab defied the global economic slowdown, MP Manish Tewari attributed the same to the efforts of Captain Amarinder.

Earlier, on his arrival here, the Chief Minister paid his respects at Gurdwara Sri Katalgarh Sahib, Chamkaur Sahib. Gurdwara Manager Mohinder Singh Chuhanke and Head Granthi Major Singh presented a siropa (robe of honour) to Captain Amarinder.

During his visit to the constituency, Captain Amarinder laid the foundation stone of two gates, in the names of Baba Ajit Singh and Baba Jujhar Singh, built at a total cost of Rs 3 crore. He also laid the foundation stone of a railway under bridge at Morinda, to be constructed at a cost of Rs 17.5 crore.

Besides Cabinet Ministers Charanjit Singh Channi and Vijay Inder Singla, the Chief Minister's Media Advisor Raveen Thukral and MP Manish Tewari, Chairman Warehousing Corporation Raj Kumar Verka, MLAs Kuljit Singh Nagra, Gurpreet Singh GP, Chaudhary Surinder Singh, Santokh Singh Bhalaipur and Amarjit Singh Sandoa were also present.

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