

» TODAY'S PAPER » NEW DELHI

Published: August 16, 2016 00:00 IST | Updated: August 16, 2016 05:37 IST SHIMLA, August 16, 2016

6 per cent hike in DA for H.P. govt employees



Dance of joy: Exiled Tibetans performing 'Lion Dance' during Independence Day celebrations in Shimla on Monday. – PHOTO: PTI

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh on Monday announced release of 6 per cent additional DA to employees and pensioners of the State government with effect from January 1 this year, which would cost Rs.330 crore more to the State exchequer annually.

Presiding over the State-level function on the occasion of the 70th Independence Day at Solan, he said the government has already released 5 per cent interim relief to employees and pensioners, and 6 per cent additional DA would be paid from October.

Mr. Singh, who unfurled the National Flag and inspected the march past at the function, listed the achievements of his government and claimed that the State has made "remarkable progress" in education, health, construction of roads, and opening and upgradation of over 1,000 schools.

Twenty-four Industrial Training Institutes, two engineering colleges and 41 government degree colleges have been opened, mostly in rural areas in the last three years.

The enrolment of girls in higher education has surpassed that of boys, the Chief Minister claimed.

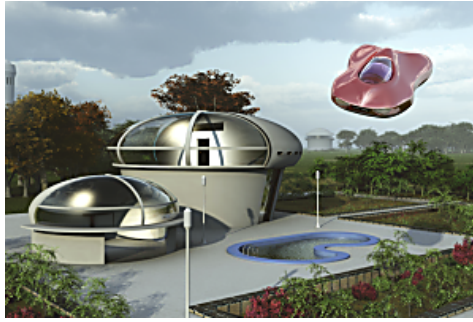
An IIT, IIM and Fine Arts College are coming up in Una, Sirmaur and Shimla, four medical colleges at Nahan, Chamba, Hamirpur and Mandi and AIIMS at Bilaspur, he said, adding that 135 health institutions have been opened and upgraded and 41,500 youth given jobs during the tenure of the present government.

Asserting that welfare of people is top on the agenda of the government, he said till date 1.27 lakh youth have benefited from Skill Development Allowance Scheme. Contractual employees and daily wagers who have completed five and seven years of service respectively are being regularised. - PTI

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