

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh delivered Kunwar Viyogi Annual Memorial Lecture on 20th September, 2020.

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh delivered the inaugural Kunwar Viyogi Annual Memorial Lecture at the University of Jammu, discussing the post-abrogation scenario of Articles 370 and 35A in Jammu and Kashmir. He expressed optimism, stating that terrorism in the region is in its final phase, with terrorists resorting to attacking soft targets. Dr. Singh highlighted the equal distribution of central resources in Jammu and Kashmir divisions under the Modi government's second term, aiming for the region's holistic development. He underscored the historical rectification achieved through the abrogation of Article 370, which had remained a permanent feature for 70 years. Despite predictions of violence, the region witnessed a peaceful festive season post-abrogation. Dr. Singh emphasized the empowerment of local governance through panchayat elections and the restoration of rights to various marginalized groups, including West Pakistan Refugees and displaced persons from PoJK. Addressing administrative reforms, he noted increased transparency, digitization, and accountability post-August 5, 2019, with developmental projects seeing progress after years of stagnation. Additionally, Dr. Singh highlighted cultural strides, particularly the recognition of Dogri as an official language, signalling a shift towards embracing local heritage and identity.

