

Aim of digital village is to make rural citizens digitally literate: Officials

Srinagar, Jul 26: The Jammu and Kashmir government recently inaugurated 44 digital village centres while officials claim that this move will help people in rural areas to conduct their activities online, thereby saving their time and money.

Top officials of Rural Development Department told news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), that the digital village initiative will enable the government to disseminate its programme, schemes and policies through a readily available system.

They said that the main aim of the digital village is to make the root of Indian Society, the villages digitally connected and every rural citizen digitally literate. “44 digital village centres (DVCs) have been established, two in each district, across Jammu and Kashmir recently and under this mission 44 Panchayat Ghars were identified by concerned District Commissioners. The DVCs were established in these Panchayat Ghars and were equipped with IT infrastructure, other equipment and all connectivity,” they said.

The officials said that DVCs will act as a one-stop service solution at the village level and provide services like Wi-Fi hotspots, telemedicine, agricultural support service, digital payments and other G2C/B2C services.

The programme was launched on a pilot basis at a cost of Rs 5 Crore across 44 villages in J&K, they said.

“The basic aim of the programme is to deliver governance effectively through IT enabled services, generate awareness regarding the implementation of Government schemes and upgrade the socio-economic status of the rural masses,” said an official wishing not to be named. “Some villages are being transformed into digitally active, cashless villages, allowing rural residents to conduct most of their daily activities entirely online and the work of many rural institutes may be handled entirely via the internet and every rural resident would become digitally literate.”

The officials said that once residents will be able to conduct their all activities online, this will be helpful in saving their time and money as well, they said.