

J&K private job scheme

Srinagar, Dec. 17: At least 1.4 lakh youths from Jammu and Kashmir are set to get private-sector jobs across India within the next five years under two central government schemes.

Union rural development minister Jairam Ramesh today officially launched Himayat, a Rs 235-crore training-cum-placement scheme for one lakh undergraduates and school dropouts from the state.

They will initially be given entry-level training for three months in batches and then be given jobs, till the number reaches one lakh in the next five years. After three years, each batch will receive further training.

Ramesh said another project, Udaan, would be launched next year to train 40,000 graduates over the next five years.

Himayat had been announced at the peak of last year's summer unrest, apparently to lure youths away from the agitation. The training started a few months ago, ahead of the official launch.

Ramesh said the first batch of about 1,000 youths had been given job letters today. "These youths will go to different cities of the country, including Delhi and Chandigarh."