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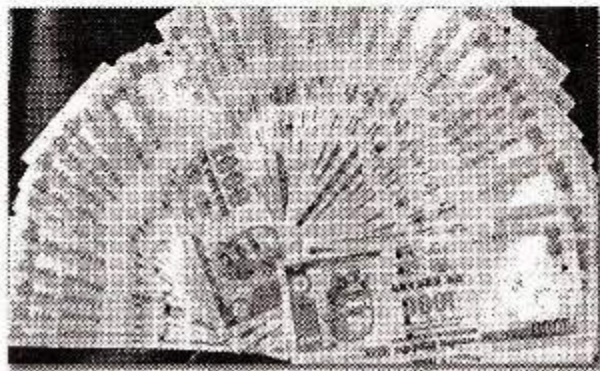
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi

DEPOSITS worth Rs 36,000 crore have been received in accounts opened under the government's flagship financial inclusion programme pradhan mantri jan dhan yojana (PMJDY), Union minister Jitendra Singh said here on Wednesday.

Addressing inaugural function of civil services day here, he said in the last two years the government has become more citizen-centric towards the goal set by prime minister Narendra Modi of delivering 'minimum government, maximum governance'.

"As part of the pradhan mantri jan dhan yojana, more than 28 crore bank accounts have been opened and about Rs 36,000 crore deposits have been received by the banks. It shows that citizens are not only economically empowered, but their self-esteem has also gone up," said Singh, minister of



state in prime minister's office.

He said the government has been able to address the public grievances more successfully. Compared to an average of two lakh grievances annually received in the previous years, more than six lakh grievances were registered last year and over 90 per cent of these grievances were redressed, which reflects the faith of the citizens in the current government.

Singh also discussed various other initiatives including promotion of self-attestation of documents

instead of notarised ones among others which have contributed to good governance.

The prime minister will address the civil services day function on Thursday during which he will give away awards to bureaucrats for implementing government's key programmes.

He said this year four more categories have been included in the prime minister's awards for excellence in public administration.

These awards pertain to the four priority programmes of the govern-

ment namely, PMJDY, swachh bharat (Grameen), swachh vidyalaya and soil health card.

Speaking on the occasion, secretary, department of administrative reforms and public grievances Devendra Chaudhry said civil services day function spread over two days will include eight sessions being attended by more than 1,200 civil servants representing different states.

He said that for the first time a theme has been dedicated to the civil services day this year. The theme reflects prime minister's vision i.e. "transforming India" and ten districts have been selected out of 677 districts for this year's prime minister awards.

Cabinet secretary P K Sinha, former cabinet secretaries, secretaries, chief secretaries of states and senior officers from various ministries of central and state governments were also present on the occasion.