Prime Minister Rural Development Fellow in Jammu & Kashmir wins 'Ek Bharat' contest

NEW DELHI: A youngster working as a Prime Minister Rural Development Fellow (PMRDF) in Jammu & Kashmir for the last two years has won the contest for suggesting best ideas for Narendra Modi’s pet ‘Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat’ project that aims at cultural connect between states.

28-year-old Aniket Choudhary, who hails from Udaipur, had submitted the winning presentation. “I stressed on inculcating sense of pride among school children about culture and traditions of other states, having a hosting culture where people from one state can host tourists from the other for a first-hand experience of their culture and free roaming mobile facilities for such tourists. I have been working in J&K since 2013 as PMRDF,” Choudhary told ET on winning the prize of Rs One Lakh. The contest was launched on the MyGov portal after PM’s call for it on the occasion of birth anniversary of Sardar Patel on 31st October 2015 and saw over 50000 ideas and suggestions being proposed by nearly 3400 persons.

Choudhary suggested introduction of new chapters from Class 5 in schools highlighting cultural aspects of other states and story-telling competitions about leaders of other states. He also suggested people registering their homes as a centre and taking responsibility of providing care and hospitality on behalf of the state towards people of another chosen state. One state can also offer guided tours on subsidized rates for tourists from the chosen state to ensure increase in tourism and revenue and best habits of one state being replicated by the other. Another interesting suggestion gleaned out of other winning entries is running long distance trains running between two partner states to have a “Bharat Store” selling handicrafts and traditional items of the state from where the train starts.