

# India's future growth linked to technology driven economy: Dr Jitendra

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NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here on Monday that India's future growth is linked to technology driven economy.

Addressing the interactive session on "Role of Research Technology & Startup in Blue Economy" at the inaugural session of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav week organised by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh said, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while India commemorates 75 years of independence, it is also an occasion to plan for the next 25 years with conscious realization that science and technology is going to be the main currency for the inclusive growth of India.

Dr Jitendra said, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision and his stature as the world's most popular leader has accorded an extraordinary esteem to India which was never forthcoming in the earlier decades. Significantly, Prime Minister Modi has a special aptitude for science driven developments, which has enabled all the sci-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing interactive session on "Role of Research Technology & Startup in Blue Economy", at the inaugural session of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, organised by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, at New Delhi on Monday.

tific programmes to concentrate on applications which are relevant to the life of the common man.

Dr Singh said, India's blue economy is understood as a subset of the national economy comprising an entire ocean resources system and human-made economic infrastructure in marine, maritime, and onshore coastal zones within the country's legal jurisdiction.

He said, it aids the production of goods and services that have clear linkages with economic growth, environmental sustainability, and national security.

The blue economy is a vast socio-economic opportunity for coastal nations like India to utilize ocean resources for societal benefit responsibly, the Minister added.

Referring to the term "Earth Sciences" the Minister said, this includes study of earth's atmosphere and the water flowing on and beneath the surface and also the earth's seas and oceans.

He said, India's oceans are our treasures and therefore the "Deep Ocean Mission" initiated by the Modi government heralds yet another horizon to

harness various resources to enrich the "Blue Economy".

Emphasizing the need to reach out to the stakeholders across the sections, Dr Jitendra reminded that connecting the industry is one of the themes of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

It is therefore important to ensure that the indigenous Startups or the Swadeshi Startups actively participate in today's programme, he added.

With its vast scientific acumen and natural resources, Dr Jitendra said, the Ministry of Earth Science has been catering to various needs of common people ranging from agro-meteorological services to conversion of salt water into sweet water through indigenous technology.

In the times to come, the Minister said, Marine pollution is going to pose a formidable challenge and demodation of the coast will add to the erosion of the coastal land. The Ministry of Earth Sciences, he informed, has developed an innovative technology from the coast of Pondichery and it can be strengthened in further areas as well.

Earlier, the newly appointed Secretary of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Dr M Ravichandran delivered the welcome address while Dr. Neeloy Khare introduced the theme of the programme.



## Separate Jammu State the only lasting solution: IkkJutt Jammu



President IkkJutt Jammu, Advocate Ankur Sharma addressing a press conference.

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JAMMU: "The otherwise historic reforms of August 5, 2019 have miserably failed to produce the desired results and the people of Jammu Province continue to groan under the yoke of Kashmiri, Communal, bigoted, Islamist, oppressive and totalitarian eco-system aided and backed by the Govt. at Delhi" said Advocate Ankur Sharma, President Ikkjutt Jammu while addressing a press conference at the party headquarters today.

"Except for a brief period of 370/35-A abrogation, we are witnessing a continuous process of defeating the purpose of removal of Article 370. Jammu Province has further been pushed to a permanent inferior status and it continues to be a colony of Kashmir thanks to the unfortunate perpetuation of 70 Years' old State of India's Nehruvian Policy Paradigm on J&K" he emphasised. Given such a situation, "Separate Jammu state is the only panacea available to meet the national requirement, empower people of the province to manage their own affairs, defeat enemies working day and night to change Jammu's Demography and create Kashmir-like situation in this strategic region," asserted Ankur Sharma. The people of Jammu province will rise in revolt sooner than later if the powers-that-be in New Delhi continue to treat Jammu as a Kashmir's colony in its desperate bid to appease, please and pamper the Jihadis in Kashmir, he warned.

Justifying the demand for separate Jammu State, Ankur Sharma said that the manner in which State of India remains Jihad Blind and is itself leading the blur campaign in favour of Jihad, the manner in which jihadi leadership in Kashmir identified itself with Taliban, Pakistan and China; the manner in which the terrorists targeted and brutally murdered innocent peaceful Hindus and Sikhs in Kashmir; including the poor Hindu labourers from Bihar and other places; manner in which the authorities treated the votaries of "Islamic rule and Sharia, Afghanistan-type"; the manner the people of Jammu province were ill-treated and excluded from all walks of life, including the vital service sector; even after the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A have once again established that Jammu Province and Kashmir Valley just can't be maintained as a single political unit.

"To maintain Jammu and Kashmir Valley as a single political unit will be only to help the protagonists of Shari law/Nizam-e-Mustafa convert Jammu alike Kashmir, cause Hindu-Sikh migration from Jammu and achieve the age-old objective: separation of J&K from India and its merger with Pakistan," said Ikkjutt Jammu President. He added that "separation of Jammu from Kashmir alone could avert the impending disaster in Jammu province and help the nation in this sensitive border region".

He said, "If the national interest is to be protected and promoted further in the region, unabated Hindu Genocide and exodus has to be prevented and Jihadists have to be comprehensively defeated." Ankur Sharma also tore into the votaries of early elections based on the fudged & fraud 2011 census based delimitation and grant of full state status to the UT of J&K. Separation of Jammu as a full-fledged State is the only way ahead and people and Jammu will not accept any fraud against them by the Govt. in Delhi. Doing anything otherwise would be dancing to the tunes of the protagonists of Islamist rule in J&K.

"Delimitation based on the 2011 fudged census figure, grant of statehood status to the J&K UT & elections in J&K without Jammu's separation would mean more rivets in the chain of Jammu's slavery, and a compromise on National interest" asserted Ikkjutt Jammu President, adding that "the such elections in J&K will be an elixir to the life of jihadis in Kashmir and will be a deadly poison for the already suffering and under grave threat people of Jammu province".

IkkJutt Jammu opposed it in the past and it will continue to oppose them, he said.

Ankur Sharma appealed to the people of Jammu province to see through all the evil game plans and strengthen the hands of Ikkjutt Jammu in the national interest and in their own interest. Any failure on their part to see the writing on the wall will be only to witness a situation the minorities are witnessing in Kashmir, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh, he warned.

Present on the occasion were Ashwani Sharma, Harish Kapoor, Vikram Sharma, Rajinder Sharma, Ajay Singh, Tlak, Rajinder Singh Jaiswal, Mukesh Gupta, Virender Abrol and Manik Janwal.

## Higher qualification may not be suitable qualification for every post: DB

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JAMMU: A Division Bench (DB) of Jammu & Kashmir High Court comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Rajesh Oswal holds that higher qualification may not be suitable qualification for every post and, if candidates with higher qualifications are excluded, the action on the part of the employer in this regard cannot be faulted with and said to be unfair or arbitrary.

While upholding the order of Central Administrative Tribunal, Division Bench dismissed the petition filed by 348 persons.

In all, 348 persons have invoked the extraordinary jurisdiction of this Court to challenge the order dated August 6, 2021 passed by the Central Administrative Tribunal, Jammu Bench, Jammu (for short 'the Tribunal') in Original Application No. 1107 of 2021 titled Rohit Chib and others v/s Service Selection Board, J&K UT.

The aforesaid order of the Tribunal is an interlocutory order by which the Original Application of the petitioners has been entertained but they have been denied interim order as prayed for on the ground that the grant of the same would amount to granting the final relief which is not permissible in law.

DB observed that the short controversy which actually arises in the original application or as a matter of fact in the writ petition is as to whether petitioners are entitled to grant of interim protection pending the original application which is dependent upon the eligibility of the petitioners to participate in the selection for the post of Class-IV employees in the various departments of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. If the peti-

tioners are not qualified and eligible to participate in the selection process, obviously, they are not entitled to any interim protection.

The Advertisement No.1 of 2020 dated June 26, 2020 invited applications for appointment on 8575 employees on Class-IV posts with one of the conditions that the minimum and maximum qualification for appointment to Class-IV posts under direct recruitment shall be "minimum matric and maximum 10+2" with the further condition that any candidate having qualification other than prescribed shall not be eligible for Class-IV post.

The petitioners are candidates who are graduates or possessing even higher qualification and, as such, have been denied participation in the selection process.

DB observed that it is well settled and recognized that appointments on public posts have to be made strictly in accordance with the Rules of service or the terms and conditions of the advertisement.

In Yogesh Kumar v/s Government of NCT of Delhi, it has been clearly held by the Supreme Court that recruitment to public service should be held strictly in accordance with the terms and conditions of the advertisement and the recruitment Rules, if any.

Any deviation from the Rules or the terms of the advertisement amounts to allowing ineligible persons and depriving right of consideration of many deserving eligible candidates.

Division Bench after hearing Sr. Adv Sunil Sethi with Adv Parimoksh Seth for the petitioners whereas Advocate General DC Raina appeared for the UT observed that the appointment to

Class-IV posts in Jammu and Kashmir Public Service has to be in accordance with the Jammu and Kashmir Appointment to Class-IV (Special Recruitment) Rules, 2020 as promulgated vide S.O. 184 dated June 4, 2020 issued in exercise of powers under Article 309 of the Constitution of India.

These Rules specifically provide that the Board i.e Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board shall invite applications from the persons who are domiciled in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and who possess minimum and maximum educational qualification as prescribed in notification SRO 99 of 2008 dated April 7, 2008.

DB further observed that the SRO 99 of 2008 categorically lays down that for the purposes of recruitment of Class-IV posts, the minimum and maximum qualification shall be matric and 10+2, respectively and the advertisement also specifically provides that in accordance with the above Rules and the SRO 99 of 2008, the maximum and minimum qualification for appointment to Class-IV posts through direct recruitment shall be "minimum matric and maximum 10+2" with the further rider that any candidate having qualification other than prescribed shall not be eligible for Class-IV post.

It may be noted as the appointment to such posts has to be on the basis of the suitability vis-avis the qualification held by the person and the nature of the job, for which purpose the decision of the employer is final provided it is not arbitrary in nature. In other words, the suitability and the qualifications for any post have to be laid down by the employer and the same are not

liable to be interfered with judicially, until and unless the policy decision in that regard is found to be irrational or arbitrary. In the case of appointments to Class-IV posts, higher qualification than 10+2 may not be a suitable for many reasons; the first being that a highly qualified person may not be in a position to discharge the menial work which is required to be done by Class-IV employee; secondly, if such highly qualified candidates are allowed to compete with candidates with lower qualification as prescribed, it is but obvious that they will score above them and would get selected to the detriment of the candidates possessing the requisite eligibility; and thirdly, such candidates of higher qualification, if selected, would always be looking for a better job and, as soon as they are selected in some other better discipline, they would leave the Class-IV post rendering the entire selection as useless forcing the employer to get those posts re-advertised and re-filled.

DB said that the laying down of the criteria of the minimum and the maximum qualification for the Class-IV post as matric and 10+2 respectively is neither irrational, unreasonable nor arbitrary.

With these observations, Division Bench observed that in view of the law as discussed, this Court is of the opinion that the Tribunal is justified in refusing interim protection to the petitioners at the interim stage of the original application. With these observations, Division Bench dismissed the petitions with the request to the Tribunal to dispose of all original applications on the subject in the light of the observations and the law as discussed above.

# Present reservation system has not yielded real good in 70 yrs

## How will religion as basis will benefit Muslims?

India needs another "Dandi March." That time it was for "Salt", this time it has to be to carry the message of truthfulness towards the voter citizen of India. Who will lead the march and from where will 'One' would lead, is the question that people of India need ask to their self ?

Most effective tool for removing economic backwardness is participation of the common man in the affairs of the society at the level of planning & decision making. So the elders drafting the Constitution of Indian Republic in 1949 adopted the 'social caste' based and tribe based criteria to identify the remotely backward classes. The term used was educationally and socially backward classes / castes / tribes. In general the reasons for distress and backwardness of masses were then seen more as a result of social backwardness. The Hindu Society was more accused for having socially pushed some to distress for centuries as a result of the social caste system they 'practiced'. And Hindu leadership accepted that.

It was projected that the malice of Social neglect based on caste system existed only in the Hindu Society. The Muslims and Christians leaders then felt pride in declaring that no social discrimination existed amongst their sects/ classes. Whereas surely their community too had social discrimination (educa-

tional/professional backwardness).

So, caste based reservations were kept in 1950 only for the Hindu in the form of Schedule Castes.

As regards the Tribes, reservations were kept for the tribes as a whole irrespective of the castes / religion a tribe may comprise of. All Brahmins, Rajputs, Baniyas and other segments / castes / sects / religions from amongst the tribes were to benefit from the reservation kept for Schedule Tribe.

It was and is a hard reality that Muslims and Christians too live in same social environments as do 'Hindu' live. They too had / have some social / discrimination classification based on the profession/ economic weakness / administrative level. As the time passed, the socio-economic injustice done to even some Muslims and Christians by their own elite leadership started surfacing and some regretted for their having not been included in the reservations as were kept for the Schedule Caste from amongst the Hindu.

But so unfortunately, still, some elite socio political leadership of the Muslim and Christian instead of accepting the truth of social and educational backwardness existing in their society too, are now instead raising demand for constitutional provision for religion based reservation for all muslims in proportion to their population . It is more damaging

approach than what even the British had adopted

It is so painful that not only some leaders of Indian National Congress , whose 'elders' worked for strengthening the unity of Indian people, but even some opinion makers from almost all political clans , could be so often sensed struggling to be in the front line talking of some programme/promises in the name of religious minorities , particularly focusing on the Muslims.

But this race is less for the welfare of the target groups , but is more with an eye on innocent Muslims as vote bank. Since the Christians Parsies, Jains, sects like Radhsoamis do not form big lots of population, they less attract the attention of the politicians.

It is time for the target innocent masses to examine that inspite of so much of concern shown by Politicians even for constitutionally nominated socially & educationally backward segments from amongst the Indian citizens ( ST /SC) why the social and educational backwardness has instead further percolated into the Hindu society after independence and why have not 'props' like caste based reservations yielded the desired results even 6 decades after the target date that was fixed in 1950 ? The real needy SC/ ST is still at the bottom



. Not only that instead more classes/ castes have been identified amongst the Hindu in the name of OBCs.

No doubt literacy levels have gone up. But the competitive skills and capabilities have still remained more only in the reach of a few of the elite of the 'nominated' castes and classes ( SC /ST). If reservations in present form have not done good to the Hindu how will any reservation based on religion would benefit the 'poor' Muslim? Indian Politician should not be allowed to divide Indian people as Hindu and Muslim in the name of reservations. They should not allow the economically/ administratively/politically 'rich' of their class to exploit them in the name of religion. Elite of the Muslims and Christians too would walk away with the benefits if reservations are kept on the basis of religion as has happened with the SC/ST/OBC. Power lust has grown so large that the Indian Politicians can this day even dare to play with Constitution .

No doubt Muslims and Christians too had in 1947 and even now have socially and educationally backward people amongst them. These sects/sections too could be included through a constitutional provision in the list of Schedule caste like Hindu. Reservation of 15 % for SC could be increased beyond 15 %,

may be to 18%. Common muslims and the Christians must create pressures on the politicians to demand reservations for discriminated / socially backward castes amongst the muslims/ Christians for inclusion in Schedule of Castes like Hindu castes. This way the provision will be supported by all . No doubt the politicians would be left with one less tool to exploit Indians in the name of religion .

Muslims are seen as the biggest vote bank by all politicians . Hence some non muslim leaders are also playing gimmicks demanding religion based reservations. Common Hindu and Muslim must stand united against the political leadership that wants to divide the people simply to rule over the common Hindu or Muslim. The Christians too have now grown in number worth attracting the politicians as a vote bank.

Those from the communities of Muslims and Christians need to particularly appreciate that the elite leaders from the ( SC/ST/OBC ) have always opposed broadening the scope of creamy layer . They fear that If the creamy layer is excluded the real socially backward will get the true benefits of higher education and recruitment in prime services. In the past the British had tried to use the poverty amongst the Indian people to divide them into caste groups . In pre independence days also

reservation for some Hindu castes had been kept. But it was less for upliftment and more to divide Indian people. It was Bhatiyas/Sanseriti and millenniums old traditions and culture that the masses did not break from the lands of Bharat.

While drafting the Constitution of India highest concerns were expressed by the leaders like Jawahar Lal Nehru ,Bhim Rao Ambedkar and Maulana Azad for the upliftment of the poor people of India. It may not have been put by them in black and white but the way they worked surely reflects that they classified 'poverty' in two broader segments. For explanation purpose it could be said that while keeping reservations for SC /ST focus was kept more on social ( only Hindu ) and geographical backwardness / discrimination. The manner in which socially & educationally backward classes have been listed in the Indian Constitution as Scheduled castes & Scheduled tribes supports my observation.

It is time for the political leadership of the day to build an environment worth dismissing the opinions like "Mere Desh Ke Neta Nafarit Ooglein, Ooglein Joothae Badae" that have started emerging from corners. "

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