

Dr Jitendra addresses India-Sweden Innovation Day, supports joint StartUps

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister for Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Indo-Swedish companies must support start-ups from both sides, and undertake collaborative research and human resource exchange.

Addressing the India-Sweden Innovation Day through virtual mode, Dr Jitendra said, collaborative research and joint StartUps ecosystem will help build a shared future by harnessing the power of science, technology and innovation for social good. Referring to the joint projects having significant potential to improve public health, nursing or care in India and Sweden, Dr Jitendra Singh informed that in 2020, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, and Vinnova, Government of Sweden announced grant funding to implement projects aimed at producing new solutions which, aided by artificial intelligence (AI), have significant potential to improve public health.

Dr Jitendra recalled that in April 2019, India and Sweden announced the India-Sweden Collaborative Industrial



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing India-Sweden Innovation Day, on Thursday.

Research & Development Programme. The Joint programme co-funded by the Indian Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Sweden's Innovation Agency - Vinnova brings together the world class excellence of Sweden and India to address challenges in the area of Smart Cities and Clean Technologies and Digitalization / Internet of Things (IoT).

The Minister was also happy to note that Swedish Energy Agency earmarked an additional 25 million over 4 years for research and innovation collaboration with India.

Dr Jitendra Singh fondly remembered that in April 2018, during Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's visit to Sweden, India agreed to deepen the collaboration through the Joint Declaration on Innovation Partnership for a Sustainable Future. He said, the partnership aims to increase the impact of bilateral cooperation in innovation, science and technology and it sets the framework for future cooperation to jointly tackle societal challenges including innovation-driven challenges on cross-sectoral issues with multi-stakeholder/agency participation from both countries.

Dr Jitendra Singh underlined that the partnership covers several areas, including smart cities, transportation and eMobility, energy, clean

technologies, new materials, space, circular and bio-based economy, and health and life sciences. The India-Sweden Innovation Partnership bridges institutions, R&D intensive industries and creative entrepreneurs to address global challenges in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr Jitendra Singh shared his thoughts with the distinguished delegates and said, India has been progressing well in recent years in terms of its overall performance and outcome in science and technology and it has attained the 3rd position globally in terms of the number of publications. India's growth rate of publications in SCI journals is nearly 14% against the global average of 4% and India has attained the 10th spot in the number of patents filed, the Minister added.

In conclusion, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the bilateral diplomatic relations have flourished on the back of our like-mindedness and commitment to fair trade and globalization and added that Innovation cooperation is the fastest growing element in the bilateral relationship between India and

Sweden.

Dr Jitendra Singh thanked Ms Ebba Busch, Swedish Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden and Minister for Business and Energy for her participation and also extended his sincere thanks to Indian Embassy in Sweden, the Swedish Government Agency for Innovation Systems (Vinnova), the Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education, guest speakers, industry partners and participants to make this even successful.

Dr Fredrik Hörstedt, Head of Division for International Collaboration, Vinnova, Mr. Ulf Borbos, International Project Manager, SISP Swedish Incubators and Science Parks, Dr. Andreas Göthenberg, Executive Director of STINT, Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Scientist F, International Cooperation Division, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, and Dr. Sapna Poti, Director, Strategic Alliances Division, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India participated in the India Sweden Innovation Day event.

Nehru's mistakes responsible for creation of PoJK, Kashmir imbroglio: Kavinder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Hitting out hard against the Congress Party, Kavinder Gupta, senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister on Thursday said that the mistakes made by Pt Jawaharlal Nehru were responsible for the creation of Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), and the mayhem in Kashmir.

In a statement issued to media persons, the BJP stalwart said that if the first Home Minister of the country Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel had handled the Kashmir at that time things would have been different today because by declaring untimely ceasefire then, Nehru had committed a big blunder giving parts of undivided J&K to the rogue country Pakistan.

"This gaffe by the first Prime Minister of the country is unpardonable because the entire nation is feeling the heat of this mistake committed out of false ego and boorish attitude", Kavinder said, adding that BJP Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is undoing the mistakes of Congress party and very soon the blunders done by the Nehru and his coterie would be rectified and the things which had been gone haywire will be set right as already much has been achieved and J&K is now moving towards development, peace and



Senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta along with his wife paying obeisance to Mahant Ram Sunder Dass Ji at Dhyanpur Dham, Punjab.

progress.

The former Deputy Chief Minister made an appeal to the electorate of J&K to continue to support BJP for restoring lasting peace and prosperity because it is the only political outfit which has a vision and mission to bail out Kashmir from the turmoil as all other parties have been tested by the people and were proved to be failure as their leadership is dynastic and never cared for the welfare of common man.

Meanwhile, Kavinder Gupta along with his wife visited Bawa Lal ji Temple, Dhianpur in district Gurdaspur, Punjab on the occasion of Bhai Dhoj festival. They performed Pooja of Baba Lalji and prayed for peace and prosperity of J&K Union Territory.

Kavinder said that it is due to the blessing of saints that our earth is surviving despite having reached nearly a never to return situation a number of times.

Highlighting the role of saints during times immemorial, he said that the saints have played a significant role in preserving the rich cultural heritage of India through their significant teachings and actions (Karma).

"Our saints and seers are very noble and have always been compassionate towards society and the poor. Even today we find living legend saints who continue contributing in campaigns to build toilets, provide electricity in remote areas where the standard of living of the people is abysmal," he said.

The former Dy Chief Minister appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to maintain communal harmony and brotherhood at all costs. Be vigilant against anti social elements who are trying to create wedge between various communities in the society, he cautioned them.

J&K witnessing new era of youth entrepreneurship: Yudhvir Inaugurates 'Energy Café' established under CSS



Vice President BJP J&K, Yudhvir Sethi inaugurating a Café at Jammu on Thursday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, Vice President Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir, has asserted that Jammu and Kashmir has been witnessing a new era of youth entrepreneurship under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi led BJP Govt at the Centre with youth across the Union Territory preferring to become job providers instead of job seekers.

He stated this while addressing a gathering at an impressive function in which he inaugurated a Café here today. The Café namely 'Energy Café' is a business venture established in Rehari area by a young entrepreneur namely Mandeep Singh under the Union Govt's

Central Sponsored Scheme (CSS). BJP leader Sardar Jashpal Singh, Rajkumar Chairman JMC Committee, Kuldeep Magotra, Sardar Hardeep Singh, Onkar Bose, Karan Sharma, Ramesh Gupta and Co-Convenor Rajesh Gupta also presented on the occasion.

Yudhvir Sethi said that in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir under successive regimes for about seven decades the youth only depended on Govt jobs and the majority of unemployed waiting for long in the hope of job and ultimately becoming age barred without getting the job. However, in today's scenario the BJP Govt at the Centre has launched multiple schemes tailored specially for the

youth and now youth are coming forward to take benefit of these central sponsored schemes thus setting up their own ventures instead of wasting their precious time in waiting to get Govt jobs which are quite limited in numbers. He said that the youth of this Union Territory encouraged and emboldened by the Central Sponsored Schemes have brought a paradigm shift in their mindset and opt for establishing business ventures under these schemes. By doing so they not only generate handsome incomes for themselves but also generate job avenues for others, he added.

The senior BJP leader asserted that by establishing the business ventures the youth entrepreneurs play a vital role in proactively contributing in giving a fillip to the economy of this Union Territory. Appealed to the unemployed youth of J&K to get inspired by the new generation of entrepreneurs like Mandeep Singh and establish their own ventures availing the benefits of Centrally Sponsored Schemes thus becoming job providers instead of job seekers.

BSS distributes jackets, other items among border dwellers in Suchetgarh



BSS J&K members and other dignitaries distributing jackets and other items among border dwellers.

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JAMMU: Bharat Sevashram Sangha's (BSS) Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory branch whose motto is the 'service towards humanity', following the ideology of its great founder Swami Pramanandaji Maharaj, was involved in the distribution of jackets and other useful items among the poor and needy persons at the border village of Suchetgarh in Jammu with the help of BSF officials on Thursday. Swami Bhaskaranandaji Maharaj, Joint Secretary of Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Swami Sarbesananda, Leader of All India Sangha Pracharak, Swami Bedantananda, Secretary of BSS Haridwar Branch, Swami Parasarananda, Assistant leader of All India Sangha Pracharak and DDC Chairman, Dalip Kumar distributed jackets and torches among the needy persons in presence of other prominent citizens were of the area. Appreciating the Sangha's commitment towards the service of humanity, DDC Chairman congratulated the BSS for its selfless activities. He noted that the activities of such organization for providing winter clothing to poor and needy sections of the society especially border dwellers and other activities highlight and reinvigorate our ethical traditions and serve as a guiding force for the betterment of humanity. He also lauded the efforts of BSS for their social welfare programmes and appealed to the Sangha to continue its humanitarian services for the disadvantaged sections of the society. Swami Bhaskaranandaji Maharaj also highlighted activities of the organization in his address.

He said BSS distributed warm clothes among the poor and needy people for the last many years.

Executive body of Radha Krishan Mandir Digiana announced

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JAMMU: During a public meeting held in premises of Radha Krishan Mandir, Rani Talab, Digiana, under the leadership of former Registrar SKAUST-Jammu, Dr J P Sharma, the executive body of the temple for 2022-2025 was announced. Deepak Gupta was nominated as General Secretary while Dr Subash Goswami was declared as Sr Vice President and Satpal Bittu as Vice President. Others

Incharge) and Pardeep Singh Chib (Legal Advisor). Moreover, it was also announced that advisory council of 21 members will be led by Subash Master and shall be further extended to 51 members in coming days.

Dr J P Sharma further said that Tilak Raj Divan who was the Chairman of Mandir Committee, has decided to discontinue and accordingly Maggar Singh Manhas will be the new Chairman of Radha



Former Registrar SKAUST-Jammu, Dr J P Sharma talking to reporters.

members included Surinder Singh Bunt (Publicity Secretary), Darbari Lal Sharma (Finance Secretary), T S Salaria and Sunil Choudhary (Joint Finance Secretaries), Vijay Kumar (Store Officer), Abhishek Prajapati & Rahul Kumar (Store management), Satpal Saini (General Management & Records), Shagun Sharma, Shashi Mehra, Charanjeet Singh, Krishan Singh Manhas and Rajesh Chib (Management team members), Kuldeep Sharma (Developmental

Krishan Mandir Committee Rani Talab, Digiana as per a resolution passed in the public meeting. He further said that it has been brought into the notice of general body that a publication was issued in a newspaper that a Trust was created with name Radha Krishan Mandir. Taking cognizance of the matter, it was resolved that any such attempt to challenge integrity of Radha Krishan Mandir Committee shall not be tolerated and necessary legal action will be taken against such elements.

Tributes paid to PoK martyrs of 1947

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting of prominent persons was held today in the premises of Gurdwara Kalgidhar Rehari under the supervision of DGPC member from Jammu West, Karan Singh Bali and President of Gurdwara Kalgidhar Rehari Committee Dr. Surjeet Singh in which rich tributes were paid to the PoK martyrs of 1947 from Muzaffrabad and other places.

They said that the Kabailies with the assistance of Pakistan Army attacked the area and brutally killed thousands of unaware, unarmed and innocent Sikhs and other Non-Muslims on 22/23 October 1947. The innocent people left their homes empty handed, perhaps thinking that they will be back as soon as the situation becomes normal but it never happened.

Karan Singh Bali said that the administration gave an assurance to the Refugees that they will be compensated for everything which they left in PoK but till 2014 nothing was done.

Later a decision was taken by the present Government for one time settlement in which each family will be given Rs 30 lakh as compensation adding that an installment of Rs 5.50 lakh was given to the Refugees.

He said that there is no further information as to the rest of the compensation amount.

He appealed to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi to look into the matter and instruct the concerned authorities to immediately release the balance amount of the compensation.

Dr Surjeet Singh requested the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and MPs of JK UT Dr Jitendra Singh and Jugal Kishore Sharma to take personal interest into the long pending demands of the Refugees. He further requested that ownership rights to the refugees for the properties on Nazool land for which promises had been made number of times earlier.

DGPC condemns unconstitutional restrictions imposed on Sikh aspirants, seeks action against erring officials

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: DGPC Jammu along with DGPC Samba, Reasi, Kathua & various other Sikh organizations, while speaking during a joint press conference on Thursday, took strong exception of unconstitutional attitude of the police & other civil authorities for not allowing aspirants belonging to Sikh community to appear in recruitment exams for constables in border battalion with their 'Kakars' at private school in Purani Mandi, Jammu.

While addressing media, Ranjeet Singh, President DGPC Jammu and Balvinder Singh, Vice President DGPC



Balvinder Singh, Vice President DGPC talking to media persons.

said it is apparent that it is pre-planned attack on religious freedom of Sikh Community enshrined in Article 25 of Constitution otherwise how it is possible that despite being constitutional guarantee granted under the Constitution for carrying

Kirpan and wearing of Kara, Amritdhari Sikh aspirants were asked to remove their articles of faith before entering examination centre.

Referring to Delhi High Court case of DSGMC and Ors vs Union of India, Balvinder said, "There is no

law which bans entry of Kakars or Kirpans or such objects or articles of faith. Every practising Sikh is enjoyed to wear the Kara and carry the 'Kirpan'. Court further stated that Constitution has gone to the length of clarifying that those articles of faith are deemed to be a profession of Sikh religion." The Sikh leaders demanded a through probe in the matter besides taking action against all those found responsible for the act. "DGPC Jammu demands immediate registration of an FIR against erring officials, failing which Sikhs shall be compelled to launch a massive agitation against this unconstitutional act. Other present were Kulvir Singh President DGPC Samba, Deedar Singh President Reasi, Surjit Singh Secretary Jammu, Gurnail Singh Vice President Samba, Jagpal Singh Cashier Jammu, Ranvir Singh Joint Secretary and Gurneet Singh Incharge Dharam Parchar Committee Jammu.



Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria chairing a meeting.

department is working dedicatedly to deal with dengue.

Appreciating contributions of health wing in making Jammu city clean, Billawaria said that JMC is constantly making efforts to eradicate dengue, he asked people of Jammu city to keep their surroundings clean and submit user charges in time.