

Dr Jitendra inaugurates Himachal Science Museum, links it with StartUps

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

CHAMBA: Union Minister for Science and Technology and MoS PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh on Saturday inaugurated the first-of-its-kind Science Museum at the Aspirational District of Chamba in Himachal Pradesh in presence of State Chief Minister Jairam Thakur.

Linking it with StartUps, Dr Jitendra said, the state-of-art institution in this hilly region will inspire young children to discover their potentials and use their innovative skills to find a source of livelihood in later life.

The "DBT-NIPGR-Pandit Jaiwant Ram Upmanyu Science Museum" set up by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research, an autonomous institute of Department of Biotechnology, at Government Boys Senior Secondary School (GBSSS), Chamba will help infuse scientific temper among the



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking after inaugurating the first-of-its-kind Science Museum developed by Union Ministry of Science & Technology at Chamba, Himachal Pradesh on Saturday.

school children.

Dr Jitendra said that Himachal being a Himalayan State with rich biodiversity is most suitable for promotion of Agri-tech Start-ups and the Department of Biotechnology is willing to hand-hold the young innovators to take a plunge in the ongoing start-up boom in the country.

Dr Singh said, the geography and climatic conditions in Himalayan states like Himachal Pradesh favour

the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants and these can be developed into Agri-tech and aromatic enterprises. The Minister offered Chief Minister Jairam Thakur all help to study and implement CSIR supported Aroma Mission in Jammu and Kashmir, which can be replicated in a big way in Himachal.

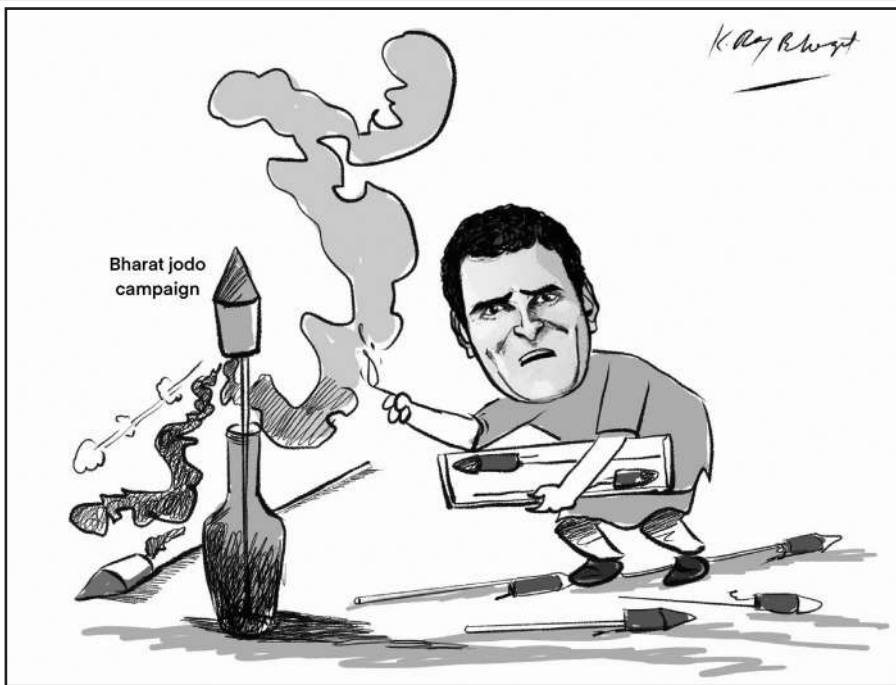
Dr Jitendra pointed out that only recently Prime Minister Modi has reviewed the progress of Aspirational

Districts and remarked, "The success of Aspirational Districts on various parameters - be it health, nutrition, education or exports - is heartening. Glad to see the lives of lakhs get transformed due to Aspirational Districts program."

The Minister was happy to note that Chamba has been ranked second in Health and Nutrition in March 2019, ranked among best districts in basic infra-

structure in November 2020 and overall second in October 2021 in the country among the 117 districts identified across the country by NITI Aayog. He added that Aspirational District concept is based on objective parameters and it is scientifically designed with evaluation based on certain essential indices.

Dr Jitendra told the gathering they aligning with the vision of Prime Minister to make Science & Technology reach every nook and corner of the country, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India has taken an initiative to install 75 science museums in different Aspirational districts of the country. He said, the purpose of these science museums is not only to apprise the scientific journey and achievements of India in the last 75 years of Independent India but also to infuse scientific temper among the school children.



IAF Jammu Station conference hall named after Flight Lt Advitiya Bal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Air Force's Jammu Station conference hall on Saturday was named after Flight Lieutenant Advitiya Bal who died after his aircraft crashed during a training mission in Rajasthan's Barmer in July, a defence spokesman said.

The 26-year-old officer, a resident of Jinder Mehlu village in Jammu, was flying a battle inoculation training mission on a Mig-21 Type-69 trainer aircraft along with Wing Commander Mohit Rana of Himachal Pradesh. Both the pilots were killed in the crash on July 28.

On the occasion of the 90th Air Force Day, the 'Bal Conference Hall' was inaugurated by the flight lieutenant's mother Praveen Kumari and his father Subedar Major Swaran Bal, the spokesman said.

The first video conference call from the hall was between Bal's parents



Flight lieutenant Advitiya Bal's mother Praveen Kumari and his father Subedar Major Swaran Bal inaugurating Conference Hall at Jammu Airport.

and the commanding officer and officers of his fighter squadron at Utarlai in Barmer, he said.

The spokesman said that Air Officer Commanding, Jammu, Air Commodore G S Bhullar, president of the Air Force Wives Welfare Association, Jammu, Ruhi Bhullar, and senior officers of the Jammu Station were present on the occasion.

Flight Lieutenant Bal, an alumnus of the Sainik School Nagrota in Jammu and the National Defence Academy, was commissioned into the fighter stream of the IAF on June 16, 2018.

The bravery and supreme sacrifice made by Flight Lieutenant Bal will always be remembered and inspire generations of this soil for years to come, the spokesman said.

EPFO Jammu holding Pension Adalat on Oct 10

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), Regional Office - Jammu is organising outreach programmes "Nidhi Aapke Nikat" and "Pension Adalat" on 10th October 2022 in its office premises from 12.00 PM onwards.

Rizwan Uddin, Regional PF Commissioner-I will personally hear the grievances/issues of all stakeholders. Nidhi Aapke Nikat is a public outreach programme that endeavours to address the problems/grievance of all stakeholders i.e., employees and employers by bringing them on a common platform and to increase awareness and sensitize them about the new initiatives undertaken in their interest by the organisation (EPFO).

Pension Adalat provides a platform to existing and prospective pensioners for closer interaction with EPFO officers for understanding the provisions of EPS 1995 and getting resolution of their pension related grievances such as non-receipt of pension, Digital life certificates etc.

All the stakeholders are invited to attend the above programme for quick disposal of their grievances and/or to register any problems faced by them related to EPFO.

Raina visits protesting employees, appeals to Govt to address grievances

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina on Saturday met the government employees who have been protesting for over four months here seeking their relocation outside the Valley in view of targeted killings by terrorists.

They also demanded the government to release their pending salaries ahead of the festival season.

Raina called up Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Secretary Arun K Mehta from the protest venue and later assured the protesters that he was hopeful that the administration will fulfill their genuine demands.

Hundreds of panic-stricken



J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina interacting with protesting government employees at Jammu.

Dogra employees moved to Jammu from Kashmir after the killing of a teacher named Rajni Bala inside her school in south Kashmir's Kulgam district on May 31.

"They have been on strike

for the last 130 days and their demands are justified. Nothing is more precious than a human life. How can a person perform their duties in an atmosphere of fear?" Raina told reporters at

PIB Jaipur to organise Press Tour to Ladakh UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Press Information Bureau (PIB), Government of India, Jaipur is organizing a press tour to the Union Territory of Ladakh from October 9 to 18, 2022. "A group of 13 media persons and PIB officials from Rajasthan will be part of the press party to the Union Territory," a handout issued by PIB stated. "The team is scheduled to visit and study the implementation of various centrally sponsored schemes and projects across the Union Territory of Ladakh," it said. During the tour, it stated, the group will be visiting Kargil, Drass, Leh, Nubra and other locations to get first-hand information about various schemes and achievements of schemes like

National Rural Health Mission, Jal Jeevan Mission, Poshan Abhiyaan, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, National Education Policy, Khelo India, in addition to other groundbreaking initiatives.

The team of journalists associated with various print and electronic media houses will also experience the Best practices followed by the UT in the field of agriculture that has got recognition.

In addition to this, the implementation of schemes like Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Mission Organic Development Initiative (MODI) will also be experienced.

An Interaction with Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Ladakh is also lined up during the tour.

Youngsters to be given special role in next Assembly polls: J&K Cong Chief



JKPCC leaders addressing a rally at Kathua.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Congress chief Vikar Rasool Wani asked the party's young workers on Saturday to work hard for strengthening the organisation in the Union Territory, promising a special role for them in the next Assembly polls.

Wani said this at a daylong convention of the Congress in Kathua district.

"Youngsters need to make strenuous efforts to strengthen the party at the grassroot level. They will be assigned special roles in the coming election. They will get their due share," he said.

A Congress spokesperson said the objective of the convention was to mobilise public opinion to strengthen the party at the grassroot level as also to highlight the BJP government's wrong policies, especially in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The Congress will make the role of the youngsters more vibrant in order to nurture them for future challenges," Wani said.

He alleged that over the last eight years, in the name of "achhe din" (good days), the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has misled the people

of the country.

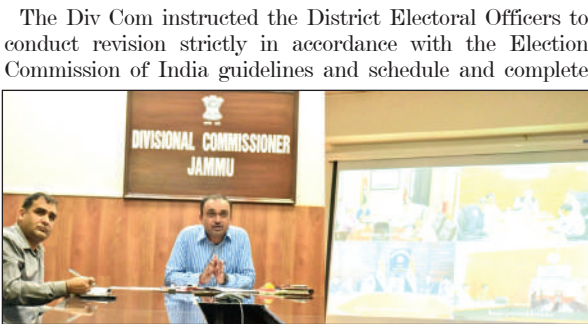
"Farmers are suffering instead of getting double income, the unemployment rate is growing like never before, the backbone of the common people is broken due to inflation and a skyrocketing rise in the prices of essential commodities," the Congress leader said. He accused the saffron party of playing with the sentiments of those who voted it to power.

"People are not happy with its policies and the government has proved to be a failure. We have taken to the streets against the governance deficit, the lack of development and the failure of the government to deliver on the promises made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir," Wani said. Addressing the gathering, All India Congress Committee (AICC) joint secretary and Jammu and Kashmir in-charge Manoj Yadav urged the members of the public to join the party in its fight against the BJP-led Centre's "anti-people policies, misrule and mismanagement". Yadav said the Congress will vigorously fight against the "wrong policies" of the government to ensure justice and relief to the common people.

Div Com Jammu reviews Special Summary Revision process

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, who has been appointed as Electoral Roll Observer for the districts of Kishtwar, Doda, Reasi and Ramban, on Saturday chaired a meeting of District Electoral Officers of these districts to review the progress of Special Summary Revision of Electoral Rolls with reference to October 1, 2022 as the qualifying date. Detailed discussions were held on a wide range of issues, including the provisions and parameters of Special Summary Revision and the progress achieved in the districts so far. The Div Com inquired about the notification of the Electoral Registration Officers, Assistant Electoral Registration Officers in the districts. The DEOs informed that EROs and AEROs have been notified in their respective districts.



Div Com Jammu, Ramesh Kumar chairing virtual meeting.

the process within the given timeline.

He exhorted DEOs to take extra care while making addition of new voters/left out voters and deletion of duplicate voters to avoid errors and completion of the process before the due date. The Div Com directed DEOs to further pass instructions to all the officers and Officials associated with the SSR to work with dedication and zeal to complete the exercise in a time bound manner with 100 percent enrolment of eligible voters. He asked DEOs to personally monitor the process of summary revision and ensure that all guidelines, circulars are being followed. The DEOs were further asked to ensure that the list of BLOs along with their contact numbers is uploaded on websites, pasted on notice boards for information of the general public. He also asked them to conduct training of the BLOs and ensure 100 percent attendance. The Div Com asked the DEOs to conduct meetings with registered political parties and sensitize them about the summary revision and share draft electoral rolls with them. The Div Com also stressed on the timely disposal of claims and objections.

Others who attended meeting include Additional Commissioner, Pankaj Katoh while DEOs alongwith Deputy DEOs of Kishtwar, Doda, Reasi and Ramban participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

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