

# Dr Jitendra visits 'Skyroot' StartUp private Rocket unit, hails 'unshackling' of Space

## STATE TIMES NEWS

HYDERABAD: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here on Tuesday that "unshackling" of the Space sector by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has led to StartUp boom, as a result of which, within a short span of just about four years, the number of Space StartUps has gone up from a mere single digit to over 150, with some of the earlier ones like the "Skyroot" turning into lucrative entrepreneur.

During a visit to the newly setup facility of Skyroot here in a premises of 60,000 Square Feet which is possibly India's largest Rocket factory in private sector, Dr Jitendra said, Skyroot is not only example of India's superlative talent and scientific acumen but it also has message for all of us that a huge potential was lying dormant for several decades before Prime Minister Narendra Modi came and broke the taboos of the past and opened India's Space Sector for Public Private Partnership (PPP). "Skyroot Aerospace" was the first Space StartUp to have launched a private rocket from ISRO station at Sriharikota after the Space sector was thrown open to private players over three years ago. Headed by two IITians, Pawan and Bharat, they have now set up India's largest Rocket developing facility with updated technology. It has capacity to develop cost effective rocket, on demands.

Referring to Amritkaal and Prime Minister's vision for "India @ 2047", Dr Jitendra said, the value addition to India's economy is going to come from hitherto unexplored sectors including the space sector: From



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh speaking after visiting the new global headquarters of Skyroot Aerospace, a leading Space StartUp, at Hyderabad on Tuesday.

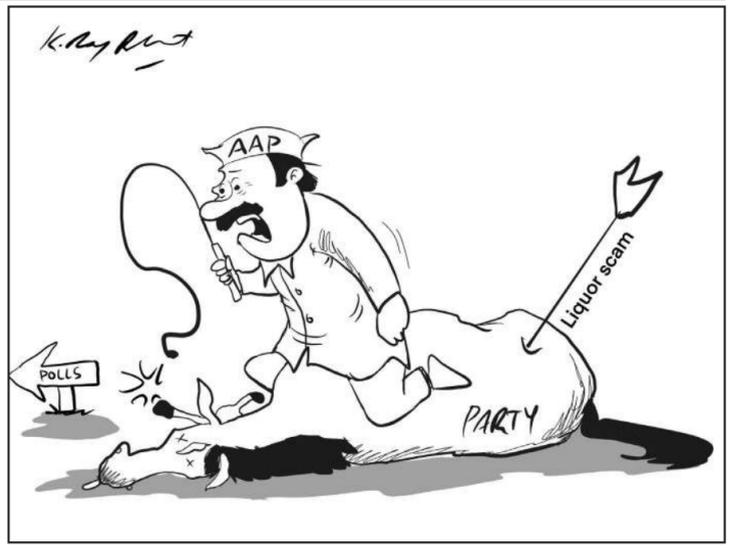
that point of view, he said, the Space economy is going to make a significant contribution to the nation's economy when independent India celebrates 100th Independence Day and is a frontline nation of the world. "Over the last 9 years the country has made rapid strides in every area of Science & Technology thanks to the leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said. Skyroot is India's largest private rocket development facility under a single roof. In yet another milestone for the Indian private Space sector, Dr Jitendra Singh also unveiled Skyroot's Vikram-

1 orbital rocket. Vikram-1 is expected to mark yet another first for India, since the country opened up the Space sector to private players in a landmark reform. "The success of Skyroot is an inspiration to India's vast youth talent pool aspiring to set up their own Startup ventures, especially in new and emerging sectors including Space, BioTech, Agriculture and Energy," said Dr Jitendra Singh.

The Minister said that PM Modi has enabled India to earn universal recognition for India's Science, Technology and Innovation capabilities and our StartUps are much sought after.

Dr Jitendra said, Dr Vikram Sarabhai, the first Chairman of ISRO and the founding father of India's Space Programme, always insisted on ISRO playing a meaningful role "nationally" and said it was a vindication that during the nine years of the Government led by Prime Minister Modi, the youth talent of India, which was waiting to be explored, got new wings.

Dr Singh said India's space missions are designed to be cost effective, building upon human resources and skills. Stating that the "Anusandhan National Research Foundation" will pave the way for a greater PPP model in scientific research, Dr Jitendra Singh said the NRF will catapult us to the league of handful of developed nations pioneering new research in new frontiers. "NRF" budget envisions a spending of Rs. 50,000 crore over five years, out of which a major share of Rs. 36,000 crore, over 70%, is estimated to come from non-government sources, from industry & philanthropists, from domestic as well as outside sources," he said.



# Com State Taxes visits Lower Munda, leads sanitation drive



Commissioner State Taxes Department, Dr. Rashmi Singh inaugurating renovation works on office of Deputy Commissioner State Taxes Enforcement South Kashmir Lower Munda.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

QAZIGUND: Commissioner State Taxes Department, Dr. Rashmi Singh, on Tuesday visited Enforcement office Lower Munda here, where she inaugurated the repair and renovation works on office of Deputy Commissioner State Taxes Enforcement South Kashmir Lower Munda.

Additional Commissioner State Taxes Department, Kashmir, Shakeel Maqbool, Deputy Commissioner Enforcement Central, Parvaiz Ah Raina, Deputy Commissioner Enforcement South, Shahnavaz Ah Shah, State Taxes officers, Inspectors, Sub-inspectors and other officials of the

department were present on the occasion.

After the Inaugural session, an overall overview of infrastructure and working of the Department was presented to the Commissioner.

Later, Dr. Rashmi Singh also led a sanitation drive at Enforcement office South Kashmir Lower munda which was carried out under Swachhta Hi Sewa campaign.

Officers and officials of State Taxes department also joined the sanitation drive.

While addressing on the occasion, Commissioner emphasised upon the importance of Swachhta and exhorted upon the employees and other officials of the

are clean.

Dr. Rashmi Singh also impressed upon the officials to work with much zeal and dedication to boost the revenue of UT of J&K.

Additional Commissioner State Taxes emphasised on importance of Enforcement activities in GST and its role in overall revenue implication of the UT. He directed the officers and officials of the department to widen the enforcement activities under GST.

Following sanitation drive, DC Enforcement presented vote of thanks and urged all the participants to ensure cleanliness of their offices and surroundings.

# Cong used minorities for vote Bank politics: MP Khatana



MP Rajya Sabha, Er. G.A. Khatana addressing public meeting at Pokhran.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

POKHARAN: Bharatiya Janata Party MP Rajya Sabha (Nominated), Er. Gulam Ali Khatana on Tuesday accused Congress party for using minorities for vote bank politics, while praising Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a true messiah for Muslims.

In a whirlwind tour of Pokhran Assembly constituency including Bhaniyana, Jeeyasar, Bikhodai, Phalsund, Padampura and Bandhewa areas to canvass for Mahant Pratappuri Maharaj, BJP candidate, MP Gulam Ali Khatana said that the Congress party has historically employed divisive tactics that revolve around identity politics to garner votes from the minority communities. He further said, "It

is time to acknowledge the reality that certain political parties, including the Congress, have often used the sentiments and aspirations of minority communities for their electoral advantage. This form of 'vote bank politics' may have gained votes, but it has not genuinely addressed the concerns and aspirations of these communities."

MP Khatana praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, particularly in terms of his efforts to promote social and economic development for all sections of society, including the Muslim community. He praised Prime Minister Modi's policies and initiatives aimed at empowering minorities and promoting their well-being. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has dis-

played an unwavering commitment to the betterment of all citizens, regardless of their faith. His policies have been instrumental in enhancing the lives of the Muslim community, uplifting them economically, and ensuring equal opportunities," he asserted.

Er. Gulam Ali said that PM Modi has enhanced the reputation of India across world while giving special focus for the upliftment of poor downtrodden people and backward areas. The road infrastructure, business opportunities, health-care, roads, railways and other areas have witnessed a complete transformation. Govt of India has provided free ration to 82 crore souls, introduced new and innovative ideas like Make in India, Startups, borders have been secured and corruption has decreased to a large extent; and if Rs. 100 are released for common man, it reaches to the bottom, he said adding the DBT(Direct benefit transfer) has made it sure that the benefits are reaped by all. He urged the people to vote for BJP for a stable, prosperous and developed Rajasthan.

# Raina launches BJP Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyaan

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir commenced its Booth Jana Samvad Abhiyaan under the leadership of J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina, while successfully conducting 111 programmes on the first day of the Abhiyaan.



J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina addressing gathering.

Ravinder Raina, while launching the BJP's Booth Jan Samvad Abhiyaan from Patyari Panchayat of Bishnah in Jammu and Kashmir, said that the BJP has initiated this Abhiyaan on the national level to acquaint the people with the welfare schemes, works and the achievements of Modi government in the last 9.5 years.

Raina said that the party will organize 'Choupal' to discuss all these works by BJP led government with the common masses.

He also appealed the people to vote Modi government to power once again in 2024 in order to increase the pace of development in whole nation and especially Jammu & Kashmir adding the Modi government has brought peace and prosperity to the J&K, which was once marred with the turmoil and restlessness. Vibodh Gupta, General Secretary J&K BJP said that the J&K has witnessed unprecedented development under Modi government especially after the abrogation of 370 giving benefits to every single resident of J&K. He emphasized on the improved security scenario and the major development projects undertaken in J&K.

He said that the selected party activists as speakers will interact with the public for the next three months, while apprising masses of these schemes, policies, and achievements.

# Dr Darakhshan takes stock of Urs-e-Dastgir Sahib arrangements at Khanyar

## STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Chairperson of Jammu & Kashmir Waqf Board and Minister of State Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Tuesday visited the shrine of Peer Dastgir Sahib (RA) at Khanyar to take stock of the arrangements in place for pilgrims.

She spoke to the representatives of different departments and the people's delegations at the shrine. The Annual Urs celebrations are on at the shrine and the



Chairperson JKWB Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi visiting shrine of Peer Dastgir Sahib (RA) at Khanyar.

Annual Urs will be celebrated on Friday.

A large number of devotees visit the shrine for paying obeisance and offering prayers. Dr Andrabi said that during her recent meeting with the administration and many departmental representatives, a roadmap for proper arrangements was at the shrine was devised.

"The mecademization of the road is happening as decided in the meeting and

other facilities are satisfactorily in place. I have given instructions to the ground staff deputed at the shrine to ensure requisite facilities and services to all those visiting the shrine on the special days", said Dr Andrabi while speaking to media during her visit.

The people at the shrine thanked Waqf Board Chairperson for the reformative initiatives of the Board during the past one and a half years.

# Grand Finale of Navratra Festival 2023: Katra Shines in Spectacular Glory

## STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: The captivating Navratra Festival 2023 reached its grand conclusion on Tuesday in Katra, leaving all in attendance spellbound with its mesmerizing performances and cultural richness.

This spectacular event was a collaborative endeavor by the Directorate of Tourism Jammu, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Katra, and the Divisional Administration Jammu.

The festival's crowning day was highlighted by the dazzling Shobha Yatra, ceremoniously inaugurated by Anand Jain, IGP Jammu, and Suleman Ch, DIG Udhampur-Reasi range, accompanied by an array of dignitaries.

The Shobha Yatra, a vibrant procession graced by colourful tableaux and captivating cultural presentations, masterfully showcased

the profound cultural diversity and rich aspects of Hindu mythology.

The atmosphere pulsed with joyous celebrations and fervent devotion as enthusiastic crowds joined the parade, adding to the event's grandeur.

In the grand climax of the festival, distinguished guests gathered at the serene Yog Ashram Complex, where the All India Devotional Song Competition culminated with heart-touching performances by the participants. The audience was held in raptures by the devotional songs and Bhajans.

The honour of first place in the Mega Final was bestowed upon the exceptionally talented Laisal Roy from Chandigarh. Anmol from Hoshiarpur secured the second position, and Sukhjinder from Punjab claimed the third spot, each demonstrating their remarkable talents.



Joint Director Tourism Sunaina Sharma Mehta posing with other dignitaries and winners at Navratra Festival.

The winners were awarded prizes in the form of gold: Rs 3 lakh for the first prize, Rs 1 lakh for the second, and Rs 50,000 for the third.

The event was graced by notable guests, including Anand Jain, IGP Police

Jammu, Suleman Ch, DIG Reasi-Udhampur range, Deputy Commissioner Reasi Babila Rakwal, Joint

Director Tourism Sunaina Sharma Mehta, Vipin Chandra, Addl SP Katra, Deepak Dubey, SDM Katra, Arif Lone, AD Tourism Kata and other distinguished figures.

Renowned Bollywood and media personalities, including Ganesh Jain, former SMVD Shrine Board member, and Managing Director of Venus

Worldwide, Pahlaj Nihalani, former Chairman of the Central Board of Film Certification and renowned filmmaker, the talented actress Mishikka Chourasia, the celebrated former actress and wife of the renowned actor Shatrughan Sinha, Poonam Sinha, the leading film singer Shankar Sahney, the accomplished filmmaker

Rishi Raj, the film maker and trade analyst Kumar Mohan, the Vice President of Zee Network Barkha Arora, along with CL Verma and Dr. Surinder, Rakesh Wazir also graced the event with their presence.

Anand Jain commended the event's resounding success and extended his gratitude to the organizers, recognizing

the support provided by numerous individuals and organizations, including those from the film and media industry.

Babila Rakwal, commended the commendable efforts of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDB), the Tourism Department, and all other stakeholders for their successful organization of the event.

Sunaina Sharma Mehta, highlighted the global live telecast of the event, which played a pivotal role in promoting Jammu and Kashmir tourism on a global scale. She extended a warm invitation to the film industry to explore the region for film shoots, emphasizing the untapped potential of Jammu in the realms of adventure, pilgrimage and rural tourism. Her statements underscored the department's steadfast commitment to unlocking these opportunities.

The grand finale also included the unveiling of the trailer/poster for Pahlaj Nihalani's upcoming movie, "Anari is Back," scheduled for release on November 24. This closing ceremony of the Navratra Festival 2023 was not merely a celebration of culture and devotion; it was also a vivid testament to the region's deep cultural heritage and spirituality.

The Navratra Festival featured a diverse array of events and cultural expressions on the concluding day including the traditional 'Prabhat Pher' in the morning, captivating 'Ramleela' performances, the spiritual 'Bhagwat Katha,' the enchanting 'Mata ki Kahani,' a cultural and multimedia exhibition presented by the talented artists of CBC, 'Vartap' sessions, and a special showcase of rural media work hosted by CBC, among other captivating events.