

Dr Jitendra presents ‘Indian of the Year’ Award to Team ISRO

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh presented 'Indian of the Year' Award for the year 2023 in the category 'Outstanding Achievement' to Team Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The award, instituted by a national TV channel, was received by ISRO Chairman S. Somnath and Project Director of Chandrayaan 3, Dr P.Veeramunthul, at a glittering ceremony here on Thursday.

The award recognised the remarkable contribution made by ISRO in pushing the boundaries of Space exploration, read the award citation.

"The year 2023 will undoubtedly be etched in the books of history as a period when India's Space agency demonstrated unparalleled prowess and resilience in the face of challenges. The pinnacle of ISRO's achievements in 2023 was the successful first-



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh presenting "Indian of the Year" Award for the year 2023, in the category "Outstanding Achievement" to Team ISRO at a glittering ceremony at New Delhi. The award is received by ISRO Chairman, S.Somanath.

ever soft landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the Moon's uncharted South Polar region. In his remarks, Dr Jitendra said the Chandrayaan-3 was not only indigenous but also a very cost-effective mission, with a budget of about Rs. 600 Crore. Even though talent was never lacking in the

country, the missing link of enabling milieu was created under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, four-five years back, we had just one Startup in the Space sector; today we have 190 private Space Startups after

opening up of the sector and the earlier ones of them have even turned entrepreneurs.

There has been an investment of over Rs.1,000 crore by private Space Startups in the current financial year from April to December 2023, he said.

"So, there's huge pooling of both the financial resources as well as the knowledge resources happening. And that is what has now placed India as the frontline nation... I think these three successive success stories, which I would say is a trilogy of ISRO's success, are the

first of their kind in one way or the other," he said.

The distinguished jury panel for the IotY Awards comprised iconic figures, including former solicitor General of India, Harish Salve, screenwriter and Lyricist Javed Akhtar, Retired Supreme Court Judge, Justice Indu Malhotra, former Indian Athletics Federation of India, Anju Bobby George, chairperson of RP Sanjiv Goenka Group, Sanjiv Goenka, and environmental activist and lawyer Afroz Shah.

Modi Govt presented true model of development in country: Sham Lal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government presented the true model of development in the country and this has shocked the opposition parties which never concentrated on taking the nation towards progress and prosperity, stated Sham Lal Sharma, J&K BJP Vice-President.

Sham Lal added that Jammu & Kashmir and its residents have received benefits in every segment from peace to development in this unprecedented era of development set in by the Modi government.

J&K BJP Vice-Presidents Sham Lal Sharma (Former Minister) and Chander Mohan Gupta (former Mayor), accompanied by party Incharge of Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal were listening to the grievances put forth by visiting individuals and deputations at BJP headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, here on



Sham Lal Sharma, J&K BJP Vice-President listening to public issues at Party Headquarter.

Thursday.

Sham Lal, said that while BJP has delivered on all the promises it made with the residents of this country.

He said that the Modi government has proved that it has the courage and the will to do good for the under-trodden, neglected and oppressed people.

He stated that the opposition parties were startled and shocked after witnessing this pace and true model of development presented by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi



led Union government as they never cared for the needy sections of this great nation and never cared to take the nation towards progress and prosperity.

Chander Mohan Gupta said that every BJP activist is determined to serve the nation and its people with his or her full might.

He said that the BJP activist dedicates personal and familial pleasures just to ensure that the society and the nation are secured and prosperity prevails. He added that the party

has always kept its doors open for the people to approach with their issues.

Individuals and deputations of people from Srinagar town, Kachi Chawni, Bari Brahmana, Rajouri, Talab Tillo, Bhatindi Reasi, Gangyal, Gole gujaral, Mathwar, Subhash Nagar, Sanjay Nagar, Samba, Mishriwala, Lower Jamula Rajouri, Baghe Bahu and other places had reached Trikuta Nagar office to meet these leaders with their grievances.

Issues related to the land

issue, lanes & drains repair, construction of road under PMGSY at Kalakote, Express highway, regarding mark 2 hand pump repair, salary issue of flood & control dept, PDD electric poles, pension issues, medical issue, upgradation of 100 KVA transformer, Gujjar Hostel issue, migrant accommodation issue, repair of tube well at Samba, scarcity of water, shifting of electric pole from fields, construction of road from Khrooni to Dandheri, Jamula lower Rajouri, SPO issue etc. were presented before the senior party leaders. Dil Bahadur Singh Jamwal, while conducting the proceedings of the grievance camp said that BJP has adopted the principle of service to people and through this camp, the party leaders regularly listen to the issues of people on a daily basis and take immediate measures to provide them the relief in a time bound manner.

Mandeep reviews functioning of JMC, JSCL



Comm Secy HUDD, Mandeep Kaur chairing comprehensive review meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, on Thursday convened a comprehensive review meeting regarding functioning of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) and Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL).

Commissioner Secretary directed the officers to ensure completion of all the projects undertaken by JMC and JSCL within fixed timelines. She emphasized the importance of transitioning towards a paperless work environment through full utilization of e-office potential. This move is expected to not only reduce bureaucratic hurdles but also enhance data security and facilitate faster decision-making processes within the department, she added.

She laid emphasis on implementation of online solutions to streamline administrative

processes within the Jammu Municipal Corporation and Jammu Smart City Limited. She underscored the importance of embracing technology to enhance workflow efficiency, reduce paperwork and ensure a more responsive and agile municipal administration.

Commissioner Secretary highlighted the importance of implementing effective revenue enhancement strategies to ensure financial sustainability for Jammu Municipal Corporation and Jammu Smart City Limited. She also emphasized on increasing validity/renewal period for different licenses/NOC as part of ease of doing business.

The meeting discussed innovative approaches to boost revenue streams, ensuring that the municipal bodies are well-equipped to meet the growing demands of urban development while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

In a move to streamline sanitation issues and garbage collection processes, Commissioner Secretary asked to ensure 100 per cent door to door collection of wastes. She also asked for finalizing modalities for removal of primary collection points within the Jammu Municipal Corporation area to make Jammu a bin free city. This initiative will improve overall sanitation scenario in the city.

Commissioner Secretary reviewed major projects of JMC and JSCL and also visited the Integrated Command & Control Centre of JSCL at Town Hall.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner, JMC, Special Secretary, H&UDD, Director Finance, H&UDD, Joint Commissioner (R&E), FA/CAO, JSCL, Joint Commissioner (Works), CAO JMC, Superintendent Engineer, PHE, Executive Engineers and others.

Former CISF chief Sheel Vardhan Singh appointed UPSC member

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Former CISF chief Sheel Vardhan Singh was on Thursday appointed as a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), according to a personnel ministry order.

Singh had served as the Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) from November 2021 to December 2023 where he provided visionary leadership enhancing Security across the vital Industrial Sector.



The President is pleased to appoint Singh as a member of the UPSC, the order

said. The UPSC conducts the civil services examination to select officers for the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and the Indian Police Service (IPS) among others.

It is headed by a chairperson and can have a maximum of 10 members. A UPSC member is appointed for a term of six years or until attaining 65 years of age.

After Singh's appointment, there exists vacancies of three more members.

Singh has 37 years of distinguished service behind him. He is a seasoned intelligence expert and is known for his strategic thinking, and expertise in global security scenarios and internal security, officials said.

He has served in all theatres of national security, contributing to the highest level of intelligence gathering, analysis and national security policy formulation, they said.

Singh strengthened India's international security posture during his posting at Indian High Commission Dhaka, officials said

He was awarded the President Police Medal for meritorious service in 2004

and President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service in 2010.

A Bachelor of Arts in English Honours, Sheel Vardhan Singh has done the prestigious West Yorkshire Command Course, UK and the National Defence College, India.

He has authored two volumes of short stories and is a regular contributor to the 'Speaking Tree' column in The Times of India. His podcast - 'The Dialogue Within' brings out his unique perspectives on life and living.

Singh is an avid sportsman, a devoted Yoga practitioner, and is passionate about literature and cultural exploration.

Road Safety Week takes off in Srinagar

■ MASROOR AHMAD

SRINAGAR: In connection with the Road Safety week to be celebrated from January 11 to 17, Senior Superintendent of Police, Traffic Srinagar Muzzafar Shah and Regional Transport Officer Kashmir Syed Shanawaz Bukhari on Thursday flagged off a rally on Traffic Awareness Campaign from Polo View Indoor Stadium to Lal Chowk to promote responsible driving to reduce road accidents in Srinagar district.



After flagging off the Rally, SSP presided over the awareness programme in observance of "Road Safety Week", organised by RTO, Kashmir, Nehru Yuva Kendra and NSS unit at Polo View

Srinagar to create awareness among general public and transporters to improve the road safety measures and provide an opportunity to all the stakeholders to contribute to address the issue of immense concern.

Speaking on the occasion, the RTO Kashmir said that observing Road Safety Week provides an opportunity to all stakeholders including administration, transporters, commuters, pedestrians and public in general to contribute in reducing road accidents by strictly adhering to traffic safety measures to save precious human lives.

The RTO said road accidents have devastated many families and it is imperative for every citizen to follow traffic rules in letter and spirit for their own safety and for the safety of others.

The SSP Traffic Srinagar urged youngsters not to indulge in rash driving and always keep in mind that they have a family waiting for them to come home.

He stressed on spreading awareness on road safety and following the traffic rules. He said road safety awareness campaigns and precautionary measures should not be restricted to this week only but must continue to be followed throughout the year.

He also underlined the importance of seat belts that help to save lives during untoward accidents. He emphasized on ensuring fitness of vehicles as per guidelines for safe driving.

Yasha Mudgal reviews working of Tourism Dept, TDAs of Jammu Div

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Tourism Department, Yasha Mudgal, on Thursday chaired a meeting to review working of Tourism Department and Tourism Development Authorities of Jammu division here at Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

Director, Tourism Jammu, Vivekanand Rai; Special Secretary Tourism, Amarjeet Singh; Director Finance Tourism, Satnam Singh; Additional Secretary Tourism, Sachin Dev Singh; JD Planning, Yasir Lateef; JD Tourism, Sunaina Sharma; CEOs of Jammu division and other concerned officers of Tourism department attended the meeting.

Commissioner Secretary stressed upon the officers to ensure that visiting tourists have a comfortable and memorable stay in Jammu and



Comm Secy Tourism Department, Yasha Mudgal chairing a meeting.

Kashmir. While reviewing progress on ongoing projects being executed under different schemes, the Commissioner Secretary emphasized upon the officers to ensure that the works tendered/allotted under Capex, PMDP, PMRP Budget of the Directorate and Tourism Development Authorities should be completed in a time bound manner with proper planning and regular site visit by the executive agencies.

Yasha Mudgal exhorted upon

the officers to conduct grand musical concert at Jammu as per the event Calendar. She asked the officers to lay special focus on adventures tourism besides exploring more trekking routes to give wonderful experience to the tourists.

Commissioner Secretary also emphasised upon the officers to adopt innovative techniques to promote more and more tourist destinations. She also stressed upon them to set up hot air balloons at Katra and

other tourist destinations.

She emphasized upon the officers to work in coordination to ensure that the set targets are achieved in full and involve local youths towards utilising full potential of the tourist destinations.

She also stressed upon Chief Executive Officers to ensure proper upkeep of wayside amenities and necessary services at tourist destinations through effective liquid and Solid Waste Management Plans at the locations.

Commissioner Secretary highlighted the importance of better facilities and services to the tourists while improving the conditions of all the assets at tourist resorts. She said that the present government is committed to give further impetus to tourism industry in Jammu region by creating eco friendly assets at the tourist destinations and resorts in Jammu division.

Earlier, Director Tourism briefed the meeting about the overall functioning of the department besides highlighting development activities being carried out by the Tourism Development Authorities to promote tourism sector in Jammu division.

Director Tourism also informed the meeting about ongoing development activities, physical status of projects sanctioned under PMDP-I, infrastructure development

works completed under Capex Budget during last 2 years, development of water park in Jammu, physical and financial status of Tourist villages executed under PMDP scheme and other activities of the department through power point presentation.

Special Secretary Tourism and other concerned officers also apprised the meeting of various initiatives being taken up by the Tourism Department including guidelines issued under J&K Tourism Policy 2020, Film Policy 2021 and other initiatives like promotion of Niche Tourism Products, Border Tourism besides present status of Capex Budget 2023-24.

The CEOs of different Development Authorities of Jammu division also briefed the chair regarding major development activities besides physical and financial achievements.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To review the security arrangements/preparedness in connection with forthcoming Republic Day-2024 and other important religious festivals, Sunil Kumar, ADGP Railways Jammu on Thursday chaired a meeting in GRP Jammu.

The meeting was attended by Mohan Lal Kaith SSP Railway Jammu, Albeena Malik SDPO Railway Jammu, Naresh Kumar, Dysp GRP Lines Jammu, SHO GRP Jammu and other officers of GRP Jammu.

The main focus and thrust of the meeting was to strengthen the overall security setup at Railway Station Jammu and all other Railway Stations falling in the jurisdiction of Jammu & Vijaypur GRP sub-divisions.

The officers present in the meeting gave the valuable suggestions and feedback on the issues pertaining to the security of Railway Station Jammu.

ADGP Railways Jammu directed to all the officers present in the meeting to brief all the Nafri deployed on ground to remain alert and extra vigilant on assigned duties in order to thwart any nefarious designs of ANEs/ASEs in view of the present challenging security scenario and further directed to keep a close vigil on Railway Platforms, Tracks, Parking areas, Drone activities as well as Fidayeen attacks.

They were also directed to maintain close co-ordination with RPF and other security agencies.