

# Dr Jitendra inaugurates Kolkata International Conference, highlights India's technology driven rapid ascent

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KOLKATA: Inaugurating the "XXVII International Congress on Glass (ICG), 2025" at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre here on Monday, Union Minister of State (independent charge) for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh highlighted India's technology driven rapid ascent in the last one decade since Prime Minister took over in 2014.

The ICG 2025 is being organised from January 20-24, 2025 by CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CSIR-CGRI).

Dr Jitendra said these are better times for science in India



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh speaking after inaugurating the "XXVII International Congress on Glass (ICG), 2025" at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata.

as the country is on an ascent, for which Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been an enabler. The minister said that India, unlike in the past, is not following cues from other countries but is leading the way and

setting examples in science and technology and other sectors. He cited the notable example of ISRO's landing near the Moon's southern pole and the Bio E3 policy.

Dr Jitendra said that the

journey towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat in 2047 will be mostly technology driven. The Minister stressed on the importance of synergy across academia and the industry and said that the ultimate goal of science is to improve ease of living. To highlight initiatives to this end, Dr Jitendra spoke about the "one week, one theme" programmes for CSIRs in line with the "one week, on lab" theme in the past, which promoted such interactions and synergy. Highlighting the wide and pervasive use of glass in daily life, Dr Singh said that the sector is now taking off in a new way, with glass being an

important component for space, atomic energy, optics and defence sectors. He reiterated the significance of glass in this age, stating, "glass has indeed broken the glass ceiling". Dr Singh also spoke about the reusability and commercial potential of glass.

Eminent figures from the global glass community including the president of International Commission on Glass and professor at the University of Tokyo, Hiroyuki Inoue were present on the occasion, besides, Director, CSIR-CGRI, Professor Bikramjit Basu. The ICG 2025 will host over 550 delegates, including 150 international participants.



## Regional insensitivity is not acceptable: Arun Gupta 'Better to focus at emergency issues than coalition partners infighting'



Spokesperson J&K BJP, Arun Gupta talking to reporters.

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JAMMU: Spokesperson, J&K BJP, Arun Gupta alleged regional insensitivity and the infighting in coalition partners as the major causes for the failure of the NC government in saving the 17 lives in Rajouri.

Due to callous approach by NC government, MHA, Government of India had to intervene and depute a 11-member team from Centre to look into the alarming emergency situation at Badhal village on the request of J&K BJP, said Arun Gupta.

He accompanied by Balbir Ram Rattan, Spokesperson and Dr Pardeep Mahotra, Media Secretary was addressing a press conference at party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, here.

Arun Gupta said that since the first incident on December 7, 2024, after more than 43 days, deaths are still continuing in the most alarming situation taking the toll to 17.

The NC government has taken a non-serious view of this serious emergency only when BJP started raising concerns and inspite of that, no serious efforts have been made, he said.

"This regional insensitivity is not acceptable to BJP and under no circumstances would allow citizens of the area to suffer and be at the mercy of the NC government, which always has worked on regional whims. Now, MHA, Government of India had to intervene and depute a 11-member team

for investigation and put it to logical action on the request of J&K BJP", said Arun Gupta.

Inspite of huge and full-fledged medical departments having huge resources, J&K government is not able to handle this medical emergency, he said adding that the CM, who heads this government, has not visited once to oversee this medical emergency for more than 43 days now.

This lack of leadership by the head of UT, does not allow the team to see serious consequences of this emergency, which can spread like jungle fire and will be totally uncontrollable, if it spreads in nearby villages and NC government will be wholly responsible for this failure, said Gupta.

Arun said that the Coalition partners are busy in setting up a narrative of counter allegations on each other sidelining major issues like this medical emergency leaving administration clueless. If the coalition is not working, it cannot be settled at the cost of citizens, he added.

## Property worth Rs 2.2 crores attached in Criminal Case; will be auctioned within 14 days

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JAMMU: In a significant breakthrough, Court Jammu attached property worth approximately Rs 2.22 crores under the BNSS Act in connection with a high-profile fraud case through Tehsildar Bahu.

The accused, Harpreet Singh, impersonated a Lieutenant Colonel of the Indian Army to deceive innocent individuals by promising them jobs in MES, MOD, and DRDO.

On Nov 6, 2024, complainant namely Arun Sharma, son of Darshan Kumar, residence of Kandoli Nagrota, Tehsil Nagrota District Jammu lodged a written complaint with the allegations that accused Harpreet Singh, son of Late Surinder Paul Singh, resident of Chhani Dewano Pallanwala Tehsil Khour District Jammu impersonated himself as Lt. Colonel of Indian Army, have defrauded, cheated and committed forgery and duped money in crores from the complainant as well as other candidates on the pretext of providing Job to them in MES, MOD and DRDO. Most of the payments were credited in the bank accounts provided by the accused and some amount was paid as cash to the accused and caused wrongful loss to the applicant and other like-minded candidates and wrongful



gain to himself.

On this a case FIR No. 293/2024 under section 319(2), 318(4), 336(2), 336(3), 338, 340(2) BNS was registered at Police Station Nagrota, Jammu.

During the course of investigation, bank transaction details, email conversation detail and other allied documents produced by the complainant were seized in the instant case and statements of the complainant and other witnesses were recorded under section 180/BNSS.

On Nov 7, 2024, accused Harpreet Singh who had impersonated himself as Lt. Colonel of Indian Army involved in the commission of crime was arrested.

The bank account statements of the accused were obtained and thor-

oughly analysed. A total amount of Rs. 2,39,55,500 were received by the accused from the complainants.

During further investigation it came to fore that out the duped amount, accused Harpreet Singh has purchased property in the shape of double story duplex Building constructed over eight (08) Marlas of land falling under Khasara No.76 Min Khata No.41 Min Khewat No.01 ward No. 52, Channi Bija Tehsil Bahu District Jammu on agreement to the tune of Rs. 2,22,50,000 (Two crore and Twenty-Two Lakhs and fifty thousand only).

The agreement was executed between Paramjit Kour, wife of Late Surinder Paul Singh, resident of Chhani Dewano Pallanwala Tehsil Khour District Jammu i.e mother

of accused Harpreet Singh and Kamaljeet Kour daughter of Harbajan Singh, wife of Surinder Singh resident of H. No. 157-A Sec. No. 3 Sanjay Nagar, Jammu.

An amount of Rs. 1,93,50,000 were received by Surinder Singh and his wife. The amount paid by the accused is proceeds of crime and pertains to innocent complainants/peoples.

Approval in terms of section 107(1) BNSS was accorded by DPO Jammu and application for attachment of property in question was submitted before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Jammu with the prayer for issuing order in terms of section 107(5) BNSS in respect of the property in question so that after its auction the amount shall be distributed to the persons/victims who are affected by the crime.

Court vide order dated 18.01.2025, issued directions for the attachment of the property and the same executed today through Tehsildar Bahu,EMIC.

Court also issue show cause notice to the accused to explain his position within a period of 14 days as to why his house property in question so attached which prime facie appears to be a proceed of crime is not sold out by giving directions to District Magistrate.

## Jammu North constituency hosts Constitution pride campaign

### Sham Lal highlights Dr Ambedkar's vision of 'Equality and Justice'

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JAMMU: As part of the nationwide Samvidhan Gaurav Abhiyan (Constitution Pride Campaign) organized by the Bharatiya Janata Party, a program was held in Jammu North Constituency 's Mandal Raipur-Doman under the leadership of Mandal President Rohit Verma.

The event was graced by the presence of MLA Jammu North, Sham Lal Sharma, Sanjoyak Ajay Manhas, and other prominent dignitaries.

During the program, the life and contributions of Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar were remembered with reverence.

Sham Lal Sharma, while addressing the dignitaries, highlighted the pivotal role played by Dr. Ambedkar in framing the Constitution of India.

He stated, "Dr. Ambedkar envisioned a nation built on the principles of equality, justice, and democracy. His dedication to uplifting the



MLA Jammu North, Sham Lal Sharma speaking at a programme.

marginalized and ensuring a just society through the Constitution remains unmatched. Today, as we celebrate the Samvidhan Parv, it is our responsibility to uphold his legacy by promoting unity and inclusivity."

Sharma emphasized that the Constitution reflects the values of our great civilization while ensuring the principles of modern democracy.

"It is Dr. Ambedkar's

vision that guarantees the rights of every citizen, irrespective of caste, religion, or region. We are proud to celebrate his contributions, which have been instrumental in shaping our democratic fabric," he remarked.

Sham Lal further underscored the importance of educating the younger generation about the values enshrined in the Constitution.

He said, "Dr. Ambedkar

gave us a framework that is not just a document but a guide to building a just and equitable society. It is imperative that we instill these values in our youth so that they understand the sacrifices made by our leaders and work towards preserving the democratic ethos of our nation."

Ajay Manhas said, "Dr. Ambedkar's teachings inspire us to build a nation where every individual has equal rights and opportunities. Under the leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party, we are working tirelessly to ensure that these principles are implemented at every level of governance. The Samvidhan Parv reminds us of our duty to protect and uphold the sanctity of the Constitution."

Other dignitaries who spoke on the occasion included Rtd. Prof. OP Sharma, Sanjay Bhat, Rekha Manhas, and Neelam Virdhi. They expressed their commitment to Dr. Ambedkar's

vision and emphasized the need to work towards a unified and inclusive India.

Sharma also criticized the Congress Party for its divisive politics.

"For decades, Congress has divided people on the basis of caste, region, and religion. It has failed to nurture the true essence of democracy as envisioned by Dr. Ambedkar. Instead of promoting unity, their policies created rifts in society. It is only under the leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party that we see the realization of Dr. Ambedkar's vision of a united and strong India," he added.

Prominent dignitaries, including Janipur Mandal President Sahil Gupta, Muthi-Paloura Mandal President Pankaj Pada, former Mandal President Rakesh Singh, Suresh Khajuria, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan State Coordinator Dil Bahadur Singh, JD Singh, and others were also present at the event.

## Sukhnandan meets LG, submits memorandum for establishment of B.P.Ed. College in Jammu



Former Minister and Ex-MLA Marh, Sukhnandan Choudhary calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

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JAMMU: Former Minister and Ex-MLA Marh, Sukhnandan Choudhary, met with the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Manoj Sinha and submitted a memorandum demanding the establishment of a Bachelor of Physical Education (B.P.Ed.) College in Jammu.

In his memorandum, Sukhnandan highlighted the growing demand for a B.P.Ed. college in the region, citing the increasing importance of physical education in light of the Government of India's Fit India Movement. He emphasized that due to the lack of such an institution in Jammu, aspiring students are forced to seek admission in other states, causing financial strain and inconvenience. He further pointed out that while a College of Physical Education was established in Srinagar in 1976, Jammu continues to lack such a facility. Sukhnandan also proposed utilizing the existing government infrastructure, such as the vacant Girls Hostel

at Assarwan, Tehsil Bhalwal, which could be repurposed to house the B.P.Ed. College, thereby saving costs and ensuring efficient use of public resources. Additionally, he called attention to the underutilized sports stadium at Marh, which lacks permanent staff. He urged the deployment of trained personnel to manage and develop the stadium as a valuable training facility for students and budding athletes. The Lieutenant Governor gave a patient hearing to the demands presented and assured Sukhnandan that the matter would be examined thoroughly. He acknowledged the importance of promoting physical education and assured that necessary steps would be taken in the best interest of students and the region.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Sukhnandan expressed hope that the government would take prompt action to address the demand, which aligns with the vision of promoting health, fitness, and sports education in Jammu.

## 3-day Hands-on Training on cGMP commenced at IIM Jammu

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JAMMU: A three-day skill development training program under the theme "cGMP Pilot Plant for Extraction of Traditional (ISM) Herbal Plants" commenced at CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine here on Monday in which about 30 participants from diverse backgrounds of Chemical Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Life Sciences, Medicine and AYUSH enrolled for the workshop.

The programme was inaugurated by Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu.

Dr Ahmed, Chief Guest, during the inaugural session in his address, underscored the significance of merging

traditional medicinal knowledge with modern scientific methods and regulatory frameworks.

He emphasized that the program aims to advance the herbal medicine industry while preserving the rich heritage of the Indian System of Medicine. Dr Ahmed further said that the extraction process is the cornerstone of any herbal formulation.

However, he said, achieving optimal extraction requires a deep understanding of the plant material, the methods of extraction, quality control, quality assurance and the factors that can influence the stability of bioactive compounds.

He further described extraction, formulation, and



Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu, Dr Zabeer Ahmed posing with students and faculty members.

packaging of traditional herbal medicinal formulations are crucial steps in ensuring the efficacy, safety, and quality of herbal products.

Recognizing the significance of this discipline in the contemporary scientific landscape, CSIR-IIIM, fol-

lowing the NEP guidelines, has taken the initiative to introduce a specialized Skill Development programme aimed at equipping individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge in Extraction, Formulation and Packaging of Traditional Herbal

Medicinal Formulations.

Over the course of three days, distinguished speakers and subject matter experts will lead interactive sessions and hands-on training modules. Topics include advanced extraction technologies for herbal compounds and practical experi-

ments such as extraction, distillation, and evaporation. The program has drawn participants from diverse backgrounds, including pharmaceutical professionals, researchers, academicians, and students, fostering a collaborative environment for knowledge sharing and skill

development.

On day 1, after the inauguration, Er Anil Katare, Principal Scientist, gave an overview of the Role of GMP practices in herbal extraction processes. He also gave a lecture on the Introduction of GMP Principles & their application in Ayurvedic drugs.

Later, the participants were made to understand the Extraction Methods and Types of Extraction Processes. Hands-on Experimentation for grinding and sifting of plant material was performed under the guidance of Sumit Roy, Technical Officer and Gautam Dubey, Project Associate-I.

Pertinently these hands-on training and skill develop-

ment series have been launched by CSIR-IIIM Jammu as part of CSIR-Integrated skill initiatives.

The event was conducted under the overall supervision of Er Abdul Rahim, Chief Scientist & Head RMBD & IST. Dr Deepika Singh, Head of QMI Division & Principal Scientist, welcomed all dignitaries and participants. Er Anil Katare, Principal Scientist & Technical Coordinator of this Training program, gave an overview of the whole training program, while Dr Nasir Ul Rasheed, Senior Scientist, gave the formal vote of thanks.

The Inaugural session saw the participation of Heads of all scientific divisions and associated technical staff.