Maharaja Hari Singh Peace and Harmony Award conferred on Late Ram Sahai

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The prestigious Maharaja Hari Singh Peace and Harmony Award in the field of business and entrepreneurship was posthumously conferred on Late Shri Ram Sahai, a visionary leader and a towering figure in Jammu's trade and industry community by Gulistan Channel. The award was presented by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha in a ceremony that celebrated Ram Sahai's extraordinary contributions to the region. The award was received on his behalf by his son, Rahul Sahai Chairman of the Indian Chamber of Commerce Jammu. Late Ram Sahai was a dynamic leader whose efforts left an indelible mark on Jammu's industrial and economic landscape. He served as the President of the Chamber of Commerce & Industry Jammu many times and was the founder of several transformative institutions, including the Citizens Cooperative Bank Jammu, the J&K



Institute of Public Opinion, and the Tax Payers Association J&K. These establishments stand as enduring symbols of his commitment to public service and his vision for a progressive and united society. Among his many landmark achievements was the allotment and construction of the Jammu

Chamber of Commerce Bhawan at Bahu Plaza, a monumental step in providing a dedicated hub for trade and industry. Additionally, Ram Sahai was instrumental in the pioneering initiation of LOC trade between Jammu & Kashmir and POK, fostering economic ties and promoting peace through commerce. Known as the heartbeat of Jammu's trade and industry, his relentless efforts not only supported businesses but also improved the lives of countless individuals, earning him immense respect and admiration. Speaking on the occasion, Rahul Sahai expressed heartfelt gratitude for the honor bestowed on his late father and reaffirmed his commitment to carrying forward his father's vision of growth and harmony. He remarked, "This recognition is a testament to my father's unwavering dedication to the betterment of society. I am humbled to receive this on his behalf and will continue striv-



Dr Jitendra addresses Lucknow Toxicology Institute's Diamond Jubilee event, lauds milestone achievements



Golden Jubilee event of CSIR- IITR at Lucknow.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS LUCKNOW: Marking its

anniversary, the CSIR-Indian Institute of Research (CSIR-IITR) showcased its contributions and future ambitions at a celebratory event addressed by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Grievances and Pensions, wherein he lauded some of the institute's milestone achievements which have established its credibility trustworthiness across the country as possibly the only institution of

kind in the world.

Dr Jitendra Singh also placed on record the institute's appreciable contribution in investigating the cause of the mysterious disease currently making news from the Rajouri district of Jammu & Kashmir.

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The Minister lauded the institute's pivotal role in addressing public health challenges and called for its expanded reach to ensure a "toxin-free India" by 2047, aligning with the vision of Viksit Bharat.

The Minister emphasized the institute's support for startups and MSMEs through initiatives like the DSIR-CRTDH Environmental Monitoring Hub and BIRAC-BioNEST. With more than 30 startups and 55 MSMEs receiving support, CSIR-IITR is fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in sectors like environmental monitoring and pollution abatement.

The Minister stressed

the need for wider visibility of the institute's work, urging modern outreach strategies, including leveraging social media, to connect with stakeholders and the public. "Institutes like these don't often make headlines unless linked to a crisis. It's time for a proactive approach to showcase their contributions," he remarked. Underlining the significance of synergy, Dr. Jitendra proposed greater collaboration between CSIR-IITR and likeinstitutions, including IITs and medical research centres, to foster a holistic approach to science and innovation. He also celebrated the institute's support for over 30 startups and 50 MSMEs, highlighting its contribution to India's bio-economy. As part of the Jubilee Diamond Celebrations, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated several key facilities at CSIR-HTR, strengthening its research and innovation capabilities. These included the Diamond Jubilee Arches, the new Diamond

Jubilee Block, the NaMo-ATAL facility, and VV Sansa-an advanced refermaterial facility Additionally, the Minister inaugurated the third-floor TDIC, the operational hub of the BioNEST initiative, aimed at fostering biotech startups and research collaborations.The Minister toured the CSIR-IITR Exhibition, which showcased the institute's latest research breakthroughs and technological innova-

Dr. Jitendra Singh also unveiled a commemorative stamp highlighting the institute's remarkable journey. Among the major product launches were Apatkaleen AHAAR, a shelf-stable, high-nutrition food solution for disaster relief and emergency preparedness, and NFits Nutritious Food in Tablets, compact superfood designed for endurance and cognitive performance in extreme environments. including space travel. Another innovation, MIL-FiT: Millet-enriched All-in-One Tablets, offers a highfibre, protein-rich food solution for trekkers, adventurers, and field personnel operating in remote locations. Additionally, SenzSCAn: Point-of-Care Chromogenic Sensor for Sickle Cell Anaemia was and portable diagnostic tool enabling rapid detection of sickle cell anaemia, particularly in underserved

Further strengthening its knowledge-sharing efforts, the Minister released the CSIR-IITR Annual Report and Vish-Vigyan Sandesh Sankalan (Volume 1), documenting the institute's recent achievements and scientific contributions.

The event also witnessed the launch of the WARMEST and EARTH-25 conferences.

Dr. Jitendra Singh commended the institute's innovations in developing costeffective tools, such as onfield detection kits for haemoglobin content and sickle cell anaemia, which hold great potential for improving healthcare accessibility. He also lauded its role as the only CSIR laboratory with both NABL accreditation and GLP certification, ensuring adherence to international quality standards.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also appreciated the institute's efforts in promoting scientific temper among students through its Jigyasa programs and skill development initiatives. He encouraged the institute to continue its focus on creating affordable, accessible technologies, such as stripbased tests for food adulteration, which directly benefit citizens in their daily lives.

The Minister's address underscored a broader commitment to safeguarding public health as a cornerstone of India's developmental goals.

