

‘Aditya’ Sun mission reaching destination in Jan 1st week: Dr Jitendra

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NEW DELHI: "Aditya-L1", India's first Sun/Solar mission, will reach its destination, Lagrange Point 1 early next month, to be precise, around the first week of January 2024, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said on Monday.

Meanwhile, ISRO will conduct a series of tests related to India's maiden human Space mission, Gaganyaan, in the course of the next year, he said.

In an exclusive interview during "Samvad Exclusive" programme here, Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh said, this has been possible due to the courage and conviction of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who broke taboos of the past and provided an enabling milieu by opening up India's Space sector to private players, as a result of which there is an overwhelming response from Startups and Industry.

With the unlocking of Space Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the common masses of the country have been able to witness the launch of the mega space events like Chandrayaan-3 or Aditya. Over 10,000 people came to see the Aditya launch and some 1,000 media persons were there during the Chandrayaan-3 launching.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, this is also vindicated by the fact that India witnessed



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh in an interview during the "Samvad Exclusive" programme at Parliament House, New Delhi on Monday.

investment of over Rs.1,000 crore in Space Startups in the last nine months of the current financial year from April to December 2023.

"From just one Startup in the Space sector four years back, we have almost 190 private Space Startups after opening up of the sector and the earlier ones of them have now turned entrepreneurs," he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, although Indian Space programme started late, about the time when the leading Space faring nations were racing to the Moon, today the world is eagerly awaiting Chandrayaan-3 studies which landed on the virgin South Polar region of Moon. During PM Modi's visit to Washington, the NASA made a proposal to send an Indian astronaut to the International Space Station (ISS), that is likely to materialize next year, he said.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India is utilizing Space Applications in almost all sectors such as

Infrastructure Development, 'Svanitva' GPS land-mapping, Smart Cities etc.

"Space research now touches each and every person's life in one way or the other," he said, adding Atomic energy is today being used for Clean Energy and in food preservation and the medical field.

Pointing out that about 50-60% of NASA's projects come from private funding, Dr Jitendra Singh said the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (NRF), which will have about 70% funding from non-Government sources, will pave the way from PPP model in India's S&T goals.

"If we have to achieve global standards, our parameters and our yardstick have to be global," he said.

After the success of G20 and India's efforts towards mitigating climate change, Dr Jitendra Singh said, "the world is ready to be led by us."

Citing PM Modi's slogan "Vocal for Local", Dr Jitendra Singh said, there has been a spurt in sale of local products. "Khadi for faishon, Khadi for nation,"

has become the trend, he said, stating that India is now witnessing reverse brain drain.

"Experts in Space research who had migrated abroad are returning and setting up Startups," he said.

With PM Modi's policy of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance', Dr Jitendra Singh said, Government has today brought transparency and citizen participation towards achieving 'Ease of Living' for the common man.

J&K Tourism receives award of excellence at 15th ATOAI Convention, Gujarat

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GUJARAT: Adding yet another feather to its cap, Jammu and Kashmir Tourism received "Award of Excellence" at the 15th Annual Convention of Adventure Tour Operators Association of India (ATOAI) held at the Statue of Unity, Ektanagar, Gujarat from 16th to 18th December, 2023.

The event was graced by the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Tourism Minister Of Gujarat, Deputy Chief Of Army staff, leading personalities from tourism and glamour world. Besides, Tourism Departments and boards of more than fifteen states/UT's and industry leaders also participated. Multiple technical and knowledge sessions with



Special Secy Tourism, Amarjeet Singh and Joint Director Tourism Jammu Sunaina Sharma receiving award.

focus on various facets of adventure tourism were held during the event.

J&K Tourism, which is touching new highs under the visionary leadership of Lieutenant Governor; Manoj Sinha, has become w leading brand in Leisure, Heritage,

Adventure, Pilgrimage and MICE tourism. Furthermore, with hosting of G20 (Tourism) Working Group 2023 the Union Territory has garnered unprecedented recognition. The tourist influx has reached an all time high, surpassing 20 million figure, ending first week of December 2023. Notably,

Anti-corruption campaign gains public support

Women too join movement, assures to educate 500 households on harms of corruption in 70 days



Former Mayor Jammu, Rajinder Sharma at a programme in Jammu on Monday.

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JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Mayor of Jammu city, Rajinder Sharma on Monday expressed satisfaction for the positive impact on Jammu public for his ongoing anti-corruption campaign under the banner of 'Imaandar Jammu, Shandaar Jammu'.

While addressing a gathering during the campaign in Ward number 12, former Mayor said that people have expressed determination to eradicate money use in elections to have good system and to enjoy better facilities. Many women joined the campaign today and extended support assuring the former Mayor to visit at least 500 households in each ward for daily devoting one hour daily to visiting at least 6-7 houses to educate the people about harms and hazards of corruption.

They said that this will ultimately cover 500 houses in about 70 days.

The former Mayor asked them to download the commitment certificates and ask the household members wherever they visit during the campaign also to do so.

He appealed to the people to visit the link www.imaandarjammushaandarjammu.com to download commitment certificate by filling Ward number mobile phone number and name.

He said that people Jammu have assured him to start political reorientation aiming at honest and corruption free system in the country from Jammu itself which will be a sign of pride for all of us. Sharma stressed on following three cardinal principles in letter and spirit to end political corruption in the country which is the root cause of most of the wrong doings.

He said that to eradicate corruption from every nook and corner of Jammu Ward level committees have been constituted which will take the anti-corruption campaign to every corner of Jammu.

The former Mayor said that everyone of us should honestly stop supporting a candidate on caste basis for being elected as a public representative and make such considerations for an educated candidate having sound knowledge of administrative working and functioning.

He further said that we should also not fall prey to monetary considerations while voting a person as public representative.

He said that walking on the footsteps of PM Modi we in Jammu have started the campaign 'Imaandar-Jammu, Shandaar-Jammu' which will go a long way in bringing reorientation of the political system.

CCI Jammu delegation meets CS, discusses traders issues

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JAMMU: The delegation of Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) Jammu on Monday met the Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo. CCI President Arun Gupta urged the Chief Secretary to expedite the project of development and beautification of Tawi River banks and creating a fresh water lake, Mubarak Mandi Heritage complex and more such projects to attract pilgrims/tourists to the city of temples. He also requested to allow commercial activities at Patnitop on the pattern of Gulnarg and Pahalgam, renew the lease deeds of allottees of Sabzi Mandi and Fruit Mandi Narwal, Bahu Plaza commercial shops, reexamine and slash down GST structure in respect of Dhabas, Halwaies and Tea Stalls, enhance the limit of e-way bills from existing Rs 50 thousand to Rs. 1 lakh, formulate a scheme allowing ownership rights of leasehold Industrial land to local sons of soil/entrepreneurs after a period of 25 years of first/original allotment of land after charging a nominal amount as conversion fee. Other demands raised by him included a separate clause of land value / Stamp duty rates for Industrial land which is



CCI delegation during meeting with CS, Atal Dulloo.

to be registered for Industrial units; extension in the validity of provisional registration for units who could not commence production within stipulated time due to various reasons like lack of road connectivity, lack of water supply etc.

The other Office bearers who accompanied the delegation include Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President CCI, Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President CCI, Manish Gupta, Secretary General CCI and Rajesh Gupta, Secretary CCI.

Yasha Mudgal reviews physical, financial progress on HADP Projects



Mission Director HADP, Yasha Mudgal chairing a meeting at Jammu on Monday.

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JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Cooperatives, ARI & Trainings Departments, Mission Director, Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Yasha Mudgal, on Monday chaired a meeting of Chairpersons of Project Grounding and Monitoring Committees (PGMC) of HADP in Civil Secretariat here to review component wise physical and financial progress on the ongoing works besides assessing other issues related to their implementation.

Among others, Director, Horticulture Kashmir; Ghulam Rasool Mir; Managing Director, JKHPMC, Imam Din; Director Agriculture Kashmir; Choudary Mohammad Iqbal; scientists from SKUAST-K and Technical Officers of APD were present in the meeting in person and through virtual mode.

Threadbare discussions were held on various projects as conceived in HADP including development of seed and seed multiplication chain, promotion of Niche Crops in UT of J&K, promotion of vegetables/exotic vegetables under open & hi-tech/ protected cultivation, promotion of medicinal /aromatic plants on commercial

basis, farm mechanism and automation and production of designer plants for promotion of HD plants and rejuvenation of orchards.

The concerned Chairpersons of PGMCs and Technical Officers of APD briefed the chair about the action taken, so far, in line with implementation of HADP Projects in UT of Jammu and Kashmir. Yasha Mudgal directed chairpersons of PGMCs to adhere to the timelines fixed for completion of activities/ components included in all the projects without fail.

She reiterated the importance of achieving self sufficiency in production of high quality seeds, root stock, and fruit plants. He stressed upon the officers to address all issues for achieving the goal of Atmanirbharta as conceived in HADP for economic prosperity of farmers in JK.

Emphasizing on holistic approach among all stakeholders, Yasha Mudgal exhorted that short and long term goals should be identified to ensure a comprehensive and strategic roadmap for the projects. She emphasized upon the importance of synergy among stakeholders to ensure seamless execution and coordination between different project components and teams.

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JAMMU: CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (CSIR-IIIM), Jammu celebrated its 83rd Foundation Day here ON Monday.

Dr. Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director and CEO of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Jammu, was the Chief Guest on the occasion and delivered Foundation Day Lecture entitled, "Leveraging Technology for Enhancing Medical Research in Healthcare".

Dr. Shakti Gupta in his lecture talked about future technological innovation in the field of medical sciences, starting from Internet-of-Things (IoT) enabled Smart Hospitals, Patient self-check-in kiosks, Smart Operation Theatres, Remote monitoring, 3D printed bones, using AI and predictive medical technologies etc.

On sideline of the function, while talking to media persons, he appreciated the high end research carried out at CSIR-IIIM and emphasised for a close collaboration to

evolve a synergy in the working.

He also said the AIIMS, Jammu and CSIR-IIIM have already signed MoUs and in near future would be formulating the joined research Projects.

Earlier, Dr Zabeer Ahmed, Director of CSIR- IIIM, termed Dr. Shakti Kumar Gupta as an able administrator and institution builder and has been bestowed with the great responsibility as executive director and CEO of AIIMS, Jammu.

During the event, scientists and students who had patented various technologies and products, during the previous year, were also felicitated. Eight patents were filed in India, with the inventors: Utpal Nandi, Shashank Singh, Parvinder Pal Singh, and group; Zabeer Ahmed, Fayaz Ahmad Malik, Parvinder Pal Singh and group; Sanket K. Shukla, Ravi Shankar, Zabeer Ahmed and group; Qazi Naveed Ahmed, Dumbala Srinivasa Reddy, Zabeer Ahmed and group; Prem Narayan Gupta, Sundeeep Jaglan,



Dr. Shakti K Gupta, Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS Jammu speaking at a Foundation Day ceremony of CSIR-IIIM.

Zabeer Ahmed and group; Zabeer Ahmed, Vinod Kumar, Saurabh Saran, MK Verma, Nalli Yedukondala, Boobalan Gopu, Sanket Kumar Shukla, Deepika Singh, Rajendra Bhanwaria, Jasha Momo Hmuunghel, Sumeet Gairola, Rajendra Gochar and group; Vikash Babu, Prasoon Gupta, Fayaz Ahmad Malik, Parvinder Pal Singh and group; Sanket K. Shukla, Ravi Shankar, Zabeer Ahmed and group; Qazi Naveed Ahmed, Dumbala Srinivasa Reddy, Zabeer Ahmed and group; Prem Narayan Gupta, Sundeeep Jaglan,

11 patents were filed

abroad, with the inventors: Amit Kumar, Qazi Naveed Ahmed, Dumbala Srinivasa Reddy, Ravi Shankar, Parvinder Pal Singh and group; Rajkishore Rai, Anindya Goswami and group; Nalli Yedukondala, Riyaz-ul-Hassan Syed, Wani Zahoor Ahmed and group; Sumit Roy, Chandra Pal Singh, SR Meena, Ajay Kumar, MK Verma, VP Rahul, Utpal Nandi, Sumeet Gairola, Anil Katare, Deepika Singh, PL Sangwan, Dhiraj Vyas, Sanghapal Sawant, GD Singh, Ram Vishwakarma, DS Reddy, Parvinder Pal

Singh and group; Ajay Kumar, Utpal Nandi, Parvinder Pal Singh and group; Sonali Bharate, Sumit Gandhi, Sandip Bharate and group; Debaraj Mukherjee, Qazi Naveed Ahmed and group; Utpal Nandi, GD Singh, Bhawal Ali Shah, Qazi Naveed Ahmed, Fayaz Malik, Amit Kumar, Govind Yadav and group.

Students who deposited maximum numbers of cultures to Col. Sir RN Chopra Microbial repository at CSIR-IIIM were also felicitated. Highest number of cultures were deposited by

Mohd Murtaza, while Abid Bashir was at the second number. Javed Ahmed Tali deposited maximum number of compounds to the Institutional compound repository, while Ria Gupta was at the second position.

During the event today, prizes were distributed to the winners of various sports events. The team from QMI and Colony, captained by Er. Anil Katare won the cricket tournament, while NPMC team captained by Dr. Naveen Qazi was the runners-up. Junaidd, Ashak Hussain Paddar, Goutam Dubey, Fayaz, Dr. Kanchela

Prasad, Tushar, Saurabh Sharma, Mateen Noor and Wakas Ahmed won the Man-of-the-Match titles, while Tushar won the Man-of-the-Series title. Er. Anil Katare and Dr. Avisek Mahapa were the winners in Badminton Men's doubles, while Sarthak Sahdev and Ripul were runners-up. Tanushka and Ruby Bharti were winners in Badminton Women's doubles, while Manpreet Kaur and Kamakshi were the runners-up. In Badminton Men's Singles, Sarthak Sahdev was the winner and Parul was the runners-up. In Women's singles, Tanushka Bharti was the winner and Mamta Gochar was the runners-up. Team from Plant Sciences and Agrotechnology, captained by Dr. SR Meena, won the Volleyball tournament, while the Team from Colony captained by Tushar was the runners-up. Fermentation & Microbiology Team (FMB), captained by Varsha Sharma won the Tug-of-War (Females). Varsha Sharma secured the first position in race for females, while Vanshika Bhagat got the sec-

ond position. Tanushka got the first position in race for children, while Anvi Gupta got the second position. Anjali Negi got the first position in Musical Chairs Competition (females), while Smita Sawant and Anju Sirohiwal got the second and third prize.

Late in the evening, a colorful cultural programme was also performed by the students of RRL High School, Research Scholars and staff members of CSIR-IIIM.

Er. Abdul Rahim, Dr. Shashank Singh, Dr. Dhiraj Vyas, Dr. Sumit G. Gandhi, Dr. Naveed Qazi, Dr. Deepika Singh (HoDs), Dr. Saurabh Saran, Principal Scientist, Vikram Singh (Sr. COA), Ajay Kumar (CoFA) and Dilip Gehlot (SPO), were among the coordinators for the event which was organized under the patronage of Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director; CSIR-IIIM.

Dr. Gurleen Kour, Scientist conducted proceeding whileas Er. Abdul Rahim, Chief Scientist presented the formal vote of thanks.