

75 Start-Ups registered, ISRO encouraging private players: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Wednesday said that 75 Start-Ups have registered under space technology category in the StartUp India portal and after the Modi Government's recent path breaking decision to, for the first time since independence, open up the Space sector to private sector, ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) has been encouraging private players to participate in Space activities.

In a reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Dr. Jitendra said that there are many more Start-Ups registered under other categories that are also involved in the space domain.

The Minister said, to facilitate private sector participation in Space activities, ISRO and Department of Space (DoS) are revising the existing policies in Space domain and new policy framework is being drafted to address various space sectors such as SpaceCom, Remote Sensing, Technology Transfer, Navigation, Space Transportation, Space exploration and Space Situational Awareness.

Provisions are being factored in the above policy framework for the development of the private sector including MSMEs and startups in space sector.

In a related reply to another question in the Lok Sabha on the steps taken by the Government to bring private players on

board to get their participation in the Space activities of ISRO, Dr. Jitendra informed the House that Government of India announced reforms in June, 2020, in the Space sector towards enabling the private players to provide end to end services and subsequently the following steps were taken.

A national level autonomous Nodal Agency namely Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe) under DOS has been created for promoting, handholding, authorising and licensing private players to carry out Space Activities. Access to ISRO facilities and expertise are extended to private entities to support their space activities. Apart from this ISRO will also nurture Indian space industries by sharing its experiences on quality and reliability protocols, documentation, testing procedures etc.

Announcement of Opportunities are being done offering challenges in new domains of space technology. New Space India Ltd (NSIL), the CPSE under DOS will transfer the matured technologies developed by ISRO to Indian industries. To facilitate private sector participation in Space activities, the existing policies in the Space domain are being revised and new policies are being drafted to address policy frameworks for various areas such as SpaceCom, Remote Sensing, Technology Transfer, Navigation, Space

Transportation, Space exploration and Space Situational Awareness. In order to address the necessary legal framework, the department is also in the process of enacting a National legislation. The draft Space Activities Bill has completed Public and Legal consultations and will be processed for further approvals for inter-ministerial consultations.

The Minister also said that the Government plans to allow FDI to boost the investment in the space sector by the foreign players.

In response to yet another question, Dr. Jitendra said, a number of initiatives are taken to make India the global leader in space science and technology.

The Minister said, initiatives have been taken for the exploration of space weather, the sun, the moon and the other planets as well as astronomical sources. He said, a deadal plan is under preparation covering scientific and technological development for future space missions.

On the issue of ISRO's plan to develop an Indian Space Telescope, Dr. Jitendra Singh informed that ISRO has already realised X-ray and Visible/Ultraviolet telescopes. In the coming years ISRO has plans to develop space telescopes dedicated for UV and visible/IR astronomy. The planned UV telescope will be made up of a 1 metre mirror and will provide the deepest images in UV.

Youth Congress stages protest against cancellation of advertised PSC, SSB posts

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the direction of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Youth Congress President Uday Bhanu Chib, District Youth Congress Jammu Urban staged a strong protest against the decision of Jammu and Kashmir Govt for cancelling all the posts advertised by the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission (JKPSC) and Services Selection Board (SSB) prior to October 31, 2019.

Led by Happy Randhawa, the Youth Congress activists assembled near front of Bagh-e-Bahu, Park Gate in Bahu Fort area and raised vociferous slogans against Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for discriminating against the youth of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

Talking to reporters here, Happy Randhawa said that prior to abrogation of Art



Youth Congress activists raising slogans during a protest.

370 only J&K youth were eligible for State and Central government jobs in the erstwhile state but now the non-state subjects are also eligible for government job thus shrinking the space for the local youths.

He accused the BJP of bringing miseries to the people due to their wrong policies and particularly the people of J&K are the worst sufferers.

He accused the BJP of insulting Maharaja Hari Singh who introduced

State Subject law to keep land and jobs reserved for local youth and after promising the moon the saffron party ditched the people of J&K especially the youth.

Among those who joined the protest include Diwan Chand, Sahil, Balram Langeh, Durga Deep Singh, Rahul Manni, Akshay Kumar, Padam Deep Singh, Ashwani Nagotra, Pankaj Mehra, Narotom Deep Singh, Jony Randhawa, Diljeet Singh, Ravi Jatt and Tony Sarmal.

Women Commission would ensure justice, equality: Rekha

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The decision of the Union Territory Government to grant approval for constitution of Jammu and Kashmir Commission for Women will prove to be one more step towards safeguarding the interests more effectively and further empowerment of the women, said Rekha Mahajan, Secretary, J&K BJP.

Expressing gratitude to J&K Lieutenant Governor, on behalf of the daughters of the soil, Rekha Mahajan, said that the Commission would provide a platform to the women to raise their grievances and problems more comfortably, as they will have a team of same gender to approach, talk and sit with.

Rekha said that entrusting the Commission with powers to investigate and examine all matters related to safeguards provided for women under the

Constitution and other laws, review existing provisions of Constitution and take suo-moto notice of various issues related to their rights, will go a long way in inducing a sense of security among them and enable them work fearlessly to achieve success in life. "Setting up of high-powered Women Commission in Jammu and Kashmir reflects the commitment of the UT government to deliver justice to the women", she said and added that it will also achieve objective of equality and development in real sense.

The BJP leader also mentioned that although the society has advanced and progressed a lot but still there are reports of domestic violence against women and ill treatment in their work place and the Women Commission will prove to be a boon for them in Jammu and Kashmir.

along with this, an appeal for 4 years of age relaxation to the applicant applied against the cancelled post and immediate execution of all pending recruitments. Sahni also appealed to recruitment of constable posts in the Border Battalion Force at the level of Director General of Police.

On this occasion President

Women Wing Meenakshi Chhibber, General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Chairman

Rakesh Gupta, Vice President Balwant Singh, President Kamgar Wing Raj Singh, Secretary Surendra Kumar, Women Secretary Geeta Lakhota, President Youth Wing Binny Mahajan, President RS Pura Balveer Singh, Ajay Bhagat, Raj Kumar Meena Devi, Sanjeev Sudan, Nagina Khan, Balbir Singh, Rakesh Handa, Dimple and Prashan were present.

Sahni appealed to the

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha to extend a hand of relief to the youth of the state with minimum Rs. 5000 monthly unemployment allowance,



Shiv Sena activists raising slogans during a protest.

in terms of unemployment, he added.

Sahni said the government's claim for fast-track recruitment is seems to be a Jumla. The recruitment process of the posts referred to SSB in the year 2020 is also uncompleted.

"The Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board had issued an online notification pertaining to 8575 vacancies, which have to be filled for class IV posts in the year 2020. Even after the passage of several months, the process remains to be

completed," he said, adding that the same is the case with the posts of Junior Assistant, Junior Scale Stenographer, B

Keeper/Field Assistant, Election Assistant, Junior Statistical Assistant Junior Engineer, Junior Engineer and many others.

Sahni appealed to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha to extend a hand of relief to the youth of the state with minimum Rs. 5000 monthly unemployment allowance,

JKAHUC condemns false, frivolous statement of Prop Al Haram

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taking a strong note of a false statement issued by owner of Al Haram before one of the local media portals that only his agency is a registered Hajj and Umrah operator, Jammu Kashmir Association of Hajj & Umrah Companies (JKAHUC) has asked people not to get misled by false and frivolous statement of proprietor of Al Haram.

In a press statement issued here on Wednesday, Secretary JKAHUC, Asif Iqbal categorically condemned the statement of Al Haram owner, Sheikh Javid. He further said that when association was informed regarding such a misleading statement of Sheikh Javid, they got shocked. "It is quite intriguing and baffling as under which capacity Al Haram owner claimed that only he is the registered operator despite fact that there are several other operators, across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, who are too registered for the same," said Iqbal, adding that it is a brazen attempt on part of Al Haram owner Sheikh Javid to deceive gullible people who are aspiring to undertake the arduous journey.

Elaborating further, Iqbal said that earlier also Sheikh Javid used to issue such false and frivolous statements in order to lure people, desirous of performing Hajj and Umrah. Other members of the association namely Mohd Ashraf Mughal and Mohd Razaq Khan have also condemned such a cheap effort of owner of Al Haram just to mint money. "I request people, especially Muslim fraternity not to believe the false statement issued by owner of Al Haram owner as it is nothing but an attempt to hoodwink innocent people," Iqbal added.

The young founders seem to be on an active lookout of opportunities for their people in the journey of their empowerment and are set to cover other regions including the country's capital soon.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Expressing concern over the draft report submitted by Delimitation Commission to its associate member and suggestion made therein, All J&K 1947 PoJK Sharnarhi Intellectual Forum has urged the commission to reconsider their draft report and redraw sketch in respect of constituencies of Jammu besides retaining Suchetgarh constituency.

Speaking during a meeting of core-committed of forum, held on Wednesday under the leadership of its President Adv. Amrik Singh and Surjit Singh, Secretary expressed resentment over the draft report of J&K Delimitation Commission. "According to reports carried by print media, if the suggestions made in the draft report are correct, then forum

feels that it is a murder of democracy and will have adverse reaction on people because after 26 years of waiting, the agriculture hub constituency R S Pura, has been once again kept reserved for SC community, which shows biased attitude towards a particular section of society by Commission," asserted Singh, alleging that it seems that Commission members, without applying their mind, have destroyed demography of Jammu District, which is really intolerable. Moreover, merging of Suchetgarh constituency into R S Pura will be a great injustice to rural voters, he maintained.

The Forum President further said that delimitation commission had also ignored a big section of PoJK 1947 report are correct, then forum

Office bearers of NC Women Wing District Ramban nominated; NC assails police action against unemployed; demands safeguarding jobs for permanent residents

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: National Conference today assailed the police action against the aspirant of Border Police Battalion particularly the girls on Tawi Bridge, saying that instead of addressing the burgeoning unemployment problem the administration is resorting to suppression.

"The educated girls and boys

want jobs and deserve compassion, not the lathis", Provincial President Rattan Lal Gupta said while felicitating the new women functionaries of NC District Women Wing Ramban at Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan here this afternoon.

Provincial President Women

Wing Jammu Satwant Kour

Dogra

described politico-economic

empowerment of women as key

to harmonious growth of the

soil.

Referring to the problems

being faced by the people, especially the women, Dogra

expressed concern over the

unprecedented hike in fuel

prices and LPG gas cylinders,

saying this has hit the masses

the most. Inflation is staring at

the poor with house wives fac-

ing the brunt on account of

skyrocketing prices of the

essential commodities. She

said soaring prices and trans-

portation charges have broken

the backbone of the poor.

Those nominated included

Aruna Thakur

adv has been

nominated as District

President Ramban.

Shamim Akther will be

Executive Members.

Prominent among those

present on the occasion

include Sheikh Bashir

Ahmed Provincial Secretary,

Deepinder Kour Ex-MLC,

Pardeep Bali, Pranika Dogra,

Rita Gupta, Charanjeet

Kour, Dr. Sheikh Amina and

Ashu Rajput.

Fast Beetle stepped into Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: After a recent pre series A funding of \$100K, Srinagar based logistics company, FastBeetle, with Franchisees in different regions of the Valley, inaugurated their new office in Jammu.

The branch was inaugurated by Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary, Industries and commerce along with CCI Jammu President Arun Gupta and many other personalities including the founding team Sheikh Samiullah and Abid Rashid. To celebrate the extension of this footprint, veterans from various spheres were invited to be a part of the ceremony and bless the branch opening of this Kashmiri messenger brand. The benchmark, besides opening up to newer opportunities of employment generation serves as an inspirational blueprint for the youth of the region which is besieged by uncertainties and instabilities. While inaugurating the new office, the CEO of the company, Sheikh Samiullah said, "We are on a journey towards empowerment and this expansion plan after closing our pre series investment round will open up new gates towards employment generation."

Abid Rashid, the co-founder added, "With the aid of technology, we want to bring ease to the



Fast Beetle representative presenting memento to CCI Jammu President Arun Gupta.

doorsteps and bridge the gap between local businesses and the consumers"

"When we started in Srinagar, we were a team of 2 members operating from single hub, now we are operating across with around 100 team members in different cities of Kashmir. This opening will add to the job opportunities in Jammu region as well while setting an example for youth to create such platforms", Sami said.

The young founders seem to be on an active lookout of opportunities for their people in the journey of their empowerment and are set to cover other regions including the country's capital soon.

Surat airport in Gujarat gets CISF security cover

STATE TIMES NEWS

SURAT: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) on Wednesday took over the security of the Surat Airport in Gujarat with the induction of about 360 armed personnel for providing a counter-terrorist cover to the facility, officials said.

This is the 65th civil airport under the aviation security group (ASG) of the central force, that functions under the Union home ministry.

Surat, about 300 kms from state capital Gandhinagar, is the biggest diamond cutting and polishing hub of the country and as per officials, the airport handles over 1.25 lakh passengers per month.

The Centre had sanctioned the manpower for the airport in the middle of the year 2020 but the CISF induction at the facility, run by the Airports Authority of



Dignitaries handing over security key of Surat Airport to CISF officials.

India (AAI), kept getting delayed due to logistical issues, officials said.

The induction took place on Wednesday during a ceremonial event attended by officials and representatives of Gujarat government, AAI, and the CISF