

# J&K has opportunity to be torchbearer of 'Viksit Bharat': Dr Jitendra

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: "Jammu and Kashmir has an opportunity to be the torchbearer of Viksit Bharat", said Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday. The Minister was delivering the inaugural address at the first-ever 3-day International Conference on Traditional Medicine and Phytopharmaceuticals, and the 11th International Congress of the Society for Ethnopharmacology at CSIR-IIMM here.

The Conference is organised by CSIR-IIMM, in collaboration with the Society of Ethnopharmacology (SFE), Kolkata on the theme "Ethnopharmacology in Development of Phytopharmaceutical Drugs". A first-ever three-day international conference commenced with over 700 dignitaries, including 100 speakers from 20 countries in attendance.

Dr Jitendra said, it is for the first time since independence that J&K's unexplored



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh delivering inaugural address at the first-ever 3-day International Conference on Traditional Medicine and Phytopharmaceuticals at CSIR-IIMM, Jammu.

resources like Aroma and lithium are being tapped to boost India's economy. It is evidenced in the Aroma Mission and Purple Revolution which were born in J&K, with the cultivation of lavender in the townships of Bhaderwah in Doda and Gulmarg in the Kashmir Valley.

He said bio Himalayan resources like these will add hugely to the country's economy in the next two decades.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, India has earned recognition as a propagator and a brand

ambassador, with its traditional medicines and practices like Yoga becoming a panacea, adding that oriental methods of disease management and prevention are no more the only way for cure.

PM Modi is India's brand ambassador who has popularised Yoga, millets and traditional Indian remedies across the world, he said.

Calling for collaboration among the emerging agri-start-ups and the industry, Dr Jitendra said now is the time for greater integration, adding that the era of silos is

over.

He reasoned that India success stories, including Covid vaccine, Chandrayaan Mission and Aroma Mission, are the by-products of collaborative efforts between the StartUps and the industry, producers and the market.

The Union Minister said the government has created an enabling ecosystem which must be optimised, he suggested.

Complimenting the organisers of the conference, Director General CSIR Dr N Kalaiselvi said the present day need in health care systems and drug formulations demand an integrated approach wherein the manufacturing of the drugs should be in integration with utilisation of the natural sources of drug molecules derived from plants.

She emphasised that the conduct of the conference assumes much interest in light of the increased global alignment for use of phytopharmaceuticals.

Earlier, Director CSIR-IIMM, Jammu Dr Zabeer Ahmed said the institute has been spearheading the scientific study, validation, and legalisation of phytopharmaceuticals and organising a conference on the futuristic theme and Ethnopharmacology for Development of Phytopharmaceutical Drugs and represents collective aspiration to push the boundaries of knowledge and innovation in the realm of research on traditional methods of healthcare and drug development from phytopharmaceuticals.

"We reaffirm our determination to take a giant leap forward in our pursuit of transformative breakthroughs that will define the future of healthcare," he said.

He said more than 100 speakers from 20 different countries including the USA, United Kingdom, Australia, Italy, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Ghana and India would be delivering their talks during the conference.



# Mandeep Kaur inspects ongoing works, assets of JMC

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Housing and Urban Development Department, Mandeep Kaur, on Friday conducted an extensive tour of Jammu City visiting various locations to assess progress on ongoing works and assets of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC).

She was accompanied by Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation, Rahul Yadav and senior officers of Jammu Municipal Corporation.

During the visit, Mandeep Kaur inspected the Bandu-Rakh 5 TPD Material recovery facility (MRF) and upcoming 5 TPD Material Recovery Center (MRC) being managed by CEE. She was informed that the upcoming MRC will be first of its kind facility in Jammu and Kashmir with inhouse recycling. She instructed the officers to increase the capacity of MRF.

Emphasizing the importance and need of proper waste management, She asked the concerned officials to start composting at the earliest to manage wet waste as well.



Commissioner Secretary, HUDD Mandeep Kaur during tour of Jammu City.

The Commissioner Secretary visited the commercial complex at Jeevan Nagar, the first phase of which has been completed. She issued instructions to expedite pace of progress on the remaining work ensure its timely completion.

Mandeep Kaur also visited the slaughterhouse at Gujjar Nagar and Dogra Hall. She instructed the officials to prioritize completion of pending works there.

She directed the Commissioner JMC to study best operation model and ensure proper functioning of these facilities through outsourcing on a self-sustained model.

Lastly, the Commissioner Secretary visited the under construction cattle pound at

Bandhu-Rakh and JMC cattle pound at Dogra hall. She appreciated the work and maintenance at the cattle pound at Dogra Hall and instructed the concerned to utilize the cow dung compost from Dogra hall in JMC parks and garden through a proper system.

The Commissioner Secretary exhorted upon the officers to ensure that all ongoing development works are done expeditiously while maintaining set quality parameters and timeframe for completion.

Among others Joint Commissioner (H&S), Joint Commissioner (W), Executive Engineer (M), Municipal Veterinary Officer and others were present during the visit.

# LIC of India introduces LIC's Amritbaal (Plan 874)

## STATE TIMES NEWS

MUMBAI: LIC of India has introduced LIC's Amritbaal (Plan 874), an individual savings and life insurance plan designed to address the financial needs of a child's higher education and other expenses.

LIC of India launched a new product LIC's Amritbaal at the hands of Dr. Vivek Joshi, Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, GoI. The Plan will be available for sale from February 17, 2024. The Unique Identification Number (UIN) for LIC's Amritbaal is UIN: 512N365V01.

LIC's Amritbaal is an Individual, Savings, Life Insurance Plan. The plan is specifically designed to have an adequate corpus to meet the higher education and other needs of the child. It facilitates accumulation of corpus through Guaranteed additions at the rate of Rs 80 per thousand basic sum assured at the end of each policy



Dr. Vivek Joshi, Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, GoI and others launching LIC's new scheme.

year from the inception till the end of Policy term provided policy is in force.

"Minimum age at entry is 0 years (30 days completed), maximum age at entry is 13 years (last birthday) while minimum age at maturity is 18 years (last birthday) and maximum age at maturity is 25 years (last birthday)," read the statement issued by LIC.

"Short Premium payment Term of 5, 6 or 7 years available and

Minimum Policy Term for Limited Premium Payment-10 years and Single Premium Payment-5 years while Maximum Policy Term for Limited /Single Premium Payment is 25 years and for policies procured through POSP-LI/CPSC-SPV is 20 years," it stated and added, "Minimum Sum Assured is Rs. 2,00,000 and no limit for Maximum Basic Sum Assured (subject to conditions)." On date of Maturity, it stated,

sum assured on maturity along with Guaranteed additions will be payable for In-force policy.

"Maturity Amount can also be received through settlement options in installments over 5, 10 or 15 years. The Proposer shall have an option to choose "Sum Assured on Death" as per the two options available under each of Single Premium and Limited Premium Payment. During risk cover period, for In-force policy death benefit payable will be "Sum Assured on Death" along with accrued Guaranteed additions. LIC's Premium Waiver Benefit Rider is available by paying additional premium subject to the eligibility conditions," it further stated.

"There is Rebate for High Basic Sum Assured as well as for proposal completed under online Sale and loan shall be available during the policy term subject to the conditions," it stated and added, "The Plan is a Non-Linked, Non-Participating Plan."

# We are dedicated to nurturing prosperity, well-being of people in J&K: Bukhari

## STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, stated on Friday that his party is committed to nurturing prosperity and ensuring the well-being of the people throughout Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that the party has a clear vision and determination to elevate Jammu and Kashmir to new heights of peace, prosperity, and development.

He made these comments while addressing an event at the party office in Sheikh Bagh Srinagar.

The event was organised to greet prominent political and social figures from North Kashmir into the party fold.



Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari along with new entrants of party.

The new entrants included Engineer Saif Ali Kataria from north Kashmir's Uri constituency. Chairman of Gujjar Ithad Gulmarg Mushtaq Ahmad Bith from Gogaldara Tangmarg, and Mushtaq Ahmad Bith, Tangmarg were also present on this occasion.

The prominent party leaders who were present on this occasion included the General Secretary of the

party's ST Wing Khalid Badana, Provincial President of the party's ST Wing, Rafiq Balot, Corporator Rawalpura Mohammad Ashraf Dar, Youth Convenor Kashmir Province Shoaib Ahmad Dar, Zone President Aijaz Ahmad Khan, Senior Leader Mohammad Yaseen Paray, Ward President Chanapora Bilal Ahmad Shah, and others.

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Friday exuded confidence that the ensuing visit of Prime Minister Yashasvi Narendra Modi would give new wings to J&K which is already on a path of peace, progress and prosperity with equitable empowerment of all due to landmark decisions taken in last four years.

Interacting with deputations and delegations during weekly public hearing at the BJP headquarters here, he along with Veena Khanna BJP State Secretary Rana referred to the enthusiasm among the people about the visit, saying this reflects their confidence about things moving in right direction, given the track record of the BJP led government at the Centre in steering

India to new heights on the global landscape, be it serving the humanity with much needed assistance during pandemic and crisis like situations or bringing about economic stability on the face of slow down across the world.

"India graduated to fifth slot as economic prowess and Modi's guarantee to make the nation third economic power in the world during his third successive term is for real and not just a slogan", he said, adding that the Prime Minister has fulfilled all the promises of immense national importance during his two consecutive terms and the third term will be a game changer.

Devender Rana said peoples' trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Modi is a driving force for the BJP to devote and dedicate itself for realizing



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana listening grievances.

his vision of making India Vishwaguru. Not only Indians but the people in other countries are also looking towards him during contingencies and crises, making him the world leader.

The brass tacks in Bharat becoming the world leader are already in place, which is discernible by the warmth he is getting the world over, he said

towards progress and development with rapt attention.

This has become possible due to strong leadership, active support of the people in consonance with Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas, he added.

During the public hearing the delegations and deputations besides individuals flagged their collective and community issues, ranging from power and water supply to various utility services.

Rana said that all the issues raised will be taken up at appropriate levels for earnest redressal. He also referred to the initiatives taken by the BJP in getting the public issues resolved, which were projected during the public hearings and public outreach programmes from time to time.

# Empowering Women: AIIMS Jammu leads way with steps taken, initiatives shine, visionary display and unwavering commitment

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The evolving role of women in India is gradually moving towards equality, buoyed by governmental initiatives like 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' and 'Mission Shakti', necessitating that organizations, particularly Medical Institutions, offer equal opportunities and roles for women.

The "Government of India" under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has emphasized various programs (Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram JSSK, Janani Suraksha Yojna JSY, etc.) targeting women's health and well-being under the National Health Mission.

The Executive Director and CEO of AIIMS Jammu, Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, started his conversation saying, "I, being born and brought up in Jammu, a city renowned worldwide for the sacred Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, hold deep respect and gratitude

towards the women section, a sentiment that will always remain sincere and unwavering."

He emphasized the role of women at AIIMS Jammu and stated, "The imperative for women's empowerment is evident as approximately half of the country's population comprises women, yet a significant portion remain dependent due to limited educational and employment opportunities. AIIMS Jammu is taking a catalytic role in creating an ecosystem for women empowerment."

Prof Gupta added, "AIIMS Jammu, with nearly 55% of Doctors and 80% of nursing staff as women, has created a wealth of opportunities for women, both in terms of employment and representation."

This strategic approach is not only breaking traditional gender norms (Caregiving and Household responsibilities) but also ensures that women have equal opportunities to excel



Dignitaries along with officials and participants during the workshop.

in the field of medicine, he said.

He further elaborated that beyond mere representation; AIIMS Jammu has proven its commitment of promoting women's leadership by offering key administrative positions within the institute, serving as Principal, Associate Dean, Department Heads, and Chairpersons of various committees. They also play

leadership roles in research activities, contributing to the institute's academic and scientific achievements.

AIIMS Jammu organized "Healthcare Leadership Management Development Programmes", (Nov, 2022 and Sep, 2023), for female staff, ensuring their holistic development and empowerment. AIIMS Jammu had also conducted awareness sessions on Prevention of

Sexual Harassment (POSH) to promote a positive and safe workplace environment.

As part of community outreach programs focused on women's health initiatives, Prof Gupta remarked that AIIMS Jammu is actively engaged by organising Awareness sessions on Cervical and Breast Cancer (two leading causes of cancer-related deaths among

women), in schools and colleges across the region.

Moreover, sessions on Anaemia and Pre-conception Care (a prevalent health challenge for women), have also been organized to promote preventive care and well-being. Training in "Basic Life Support" skills and campaigns raising awareness about Burns will greatly empower women, equipping them with the ability to save lives and protect them from harm.

Moreover, AIIMS Jammu is actively utilizing Social Media platforms, Blogs and YouTube talks as avenues to disseminate information, thereby playing a vital role in enhancing awareness and women's well-being across various domains.

As a future action plan, he added, AIIMS Jammu plans to set up a creche facility to assist female staff in managing work and care giving duties, fostering a supportive environment for working mothers. AIIMS Jammu, through proactive integra-

tion of various initiatives taken Government of India under National Health Mission, is dedicated to playing a central role in advancing a healthier, more joyful, and economically prosperous India.

Dr Gupta concluded saying, "Dear Sisters and Daughters, in our shared journey of health and well-being, your vitality and happiness hold immense significance. Your health is not just your individual concern but a vital thread woven into the fabric of your family's well-being. We understand the pivotal role you play, not only as nurturers but as the very heartbeat of our communities. With unwavering commitment, we stand by you, advocating for your health and the well-being of your families. Your health is not a solitary endeavour but a collective responsibility, we are deeply committed to. Beyond ensuring your health, I strongly advocate for inclusive policies, fair wages, safe

spaces, and amplifying women's voices. These factors can drive systemic change towards gender equality and empowerment, fostering a more equitable society". On a personal level, he also expressed his appreciation for the women in his family, mentioning, "I'm deeply grateful for the unwavering support and love of my mother, wife, and daughter. Their encouragement and sacrifices have shaped my journey, bringing boundless joy and fulfillment. As a proud grandfather to two granddaughters, I'm humbled by the opportunity to see the world through their innocent eyes, filled with hope for an emerging New India, brimming with hope, equality, inclusivity and possibility."

It is worthwhile remembering the golden words of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam "Empowering women is a prerequisite for creating a Good Nation. When women are empowered, a society with stability is assured".