

Dr Jitendra inaugurates India's first 'Wall Museum' depicting IMD's 150 years

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated India's first "Open Air Art Wall Museum" a unique open-air art museum at "Mausam Bhawan" on Tuesday, depicting and celebrating the 150 years of milestone journey of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The initiative, developed in collaboration with "Delhi Street Art", transforms the walls of IMD's headquarters on Lodhi Road into a vibrant visual narrative of India's meteorological advancements, history, and the impact of weather science on society.

Dr. Jitendra Singh lauded the IMD's enduring contribution to India's socio-economic development by providing timely and accurate weather forecasts. "For 150 years, the India Meteorological Department has stood at the forefront of meteorological research, leveraging cutting-edge technology to address the challenges of a dynamic cli-



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh walking around after inaugurating India's first "Open Air Art Wall Museum" at Mausam Bhawan, New Delhi on Tuesday.

mate. This artistic endeavor further extends IMD's outreach by visually engaging the public with the story of weather science," he said.

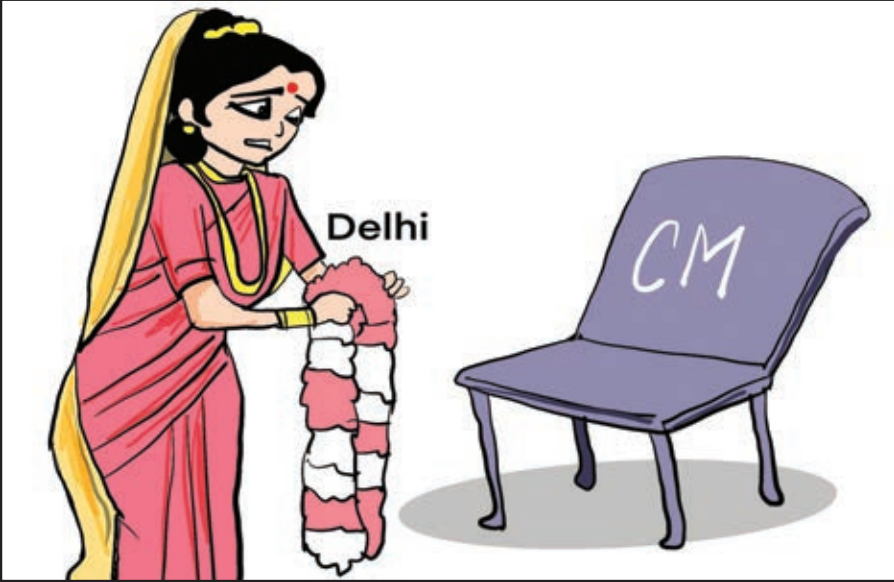
The "Mausam Bhawan" special art showcase features 38 unique murals depicting India's meteorological history, the evolution of weather forecasting, and its impact on agriculture, disaster management, and everyday life. The artwork illustrates crucial meteorological events, advancements in technology such as satellites and radars, and

the role of IMD in safeguarding lives through early warnings for cyclones, monsoons, and extreme weather conditions.

Dr. Jitendra commended the creativity of Delhi Street Art and its founder Late Yogesh Saini, whose vision transformed public spaces into artistic expressions. "Art is a powerful medium, and this project beautifully bridges science and creativity to communicate complex meteorological phenomena in a way that resonates with people of all

ages," he added. Dr. Jitendra emphasized that IMD's pioneering efforts in meteorology have not only contributed to disaster risk reduction but have also played a crucial role in enhancing economic activities, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, aviation, and marine industries. "The accuracy and timeliness of IMD's forecasts have empowered farmers, fishermen, and policy-makers to make informed

decisions, reinforcing India's resilience against climate uncertainties," he noted. Dr. Jitendra Singh reiterated that the government remains committed to strengthening India's meteorological capabilities with continued investments in research, technology, and infrastructure. He acknowledged the efforts of IMD's scientists and the artistic team in creating an initiative that not only educates but also inspires.



IGP Jammu Zone reviews security at key locations in Reasi, Ramban

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti, on Tuesday conducted a comprehensive security review at key strategic locations, including Railway stations Katra, Reasi and Sangaldhan and Kori Bridge.

He was accompanied by DIG Udhampur-Reasi Range, Rayees Mohammad Bhat; DIG Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban Range, Shridhar Patil; SSP Railways Katra, Sanjay Kumar Kotwal; SSP Ramban, Kulbir Singh; SSP Reasi,



Paramvir Singh; along with other senior police officers. The visit focused on assessing

the existing security measures, law enforcement deployment, surveillance systems, anti-sab-

otage preparedness to counter any potential threats. The IGP interacted with officers and personnel on the ground, reviewing security protocols, surveillance systems, and coordination mechanisms among different agencies.

At the Railway stations and the Chenab Railway Bridge in Kori, the IGP reviewed the security arrangements for passengers and the vital infrastructure.

He directed officers to enhance security measures and to coordinate effectively with

Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel.

Emphasizing the importance of proactive policing and intelligence gathering, the IGP directed officials to enhance vigilance, strengthen security checks, and ensure seamless coordination between police, railway authorities, and other security forces.

"Continuous monitoring and enhanced security measures will remain a priority to ensure the safety of passengers, residents, and critical infrastructure", added the IGP.

LIC introduces Smart Pension Plan



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: LIC of India has introduced a new product called "LIC's Smart Pension Plan (Plan No. 879)" on Tuesday.

The plan was launched by M. Nagaraju, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, in the presence of Dr. M.P. Tangirala, A.S., DFS, Parshant Kumar Goyal, JS, DFS, and Siddhartha Mohanty, CEO & MD of LIC, along with other MDs of LIC, in New Delhi.

LIC's Smart Pension Plan is a non-participating, non-linked, individual and group savings plan that offers a variety of immediate annuity options for both single life and joint life annuities.

The plan offers flexibility, with a minimum entry age of 18 years and a maximum age at entry ranging from 65 to 100 years, depending on the chosen annuity option.

The plan requires a single premium payment and offers multiple modes of annuity payments, such as yearly, half-yearly, quarterly, or monthly.

The minimum purchase price is set at Rs. 1,00,000, with incentives for higher purchase amounts. Policyholders can also opt for a special feature

that allows immediate annuity for National Pension System (NPS) subscribers, as well as for individuals with disabilities (Divyangjan).

Policyholders can choose from a range of annuity options that suit their needs, including options for enhanced annuity rates for existing policyholders and nominees/beneficiaries of deceased policyholders.

In addition, the plan allows flexibility for partial or full withdrawal as per the terms and conditions of the policy. The plan also offers the ability to take a policy loan after three months from issuance or after the expiry of the free look period, depending on the annuity option.

Benefits under the plan include varying options on survival benefits and death benefits. The death benefit can be paid as a lump sum, through annuitization, in installments, or as an advanced annuity option, depending on the choice made by the annuitant at the time of proposal.

The Smart Pension Plan can be purchased offline through LIC agents, Point of Sales Persons-Life Insurance (POSP-LI), Common Public Service Centers (CPSC-SPV), or online via LIC's official website, www.licindia.in.

Pendency of challan cannot lead to weeding out from service prematurely: DB DB upholds quashment of premature retirement of Dy Director Forest

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice Puneet Gupta while upholding the quashment of premature retirement of Noor Mohammad Bhat Deputy Director Forest Protection Force, observed that Mere registration of a case and pendency of challan cannot lead to the conclusion that the integrity of the respondent is so doubtful as would necessitate his weeding out from service prematurely. The Writ Court has, thus, rightly concluded that formulation of opinion by the Government, on the basis of recommendation of the Review Committee, is not based on any relevant material.

Mere registration of FIR in a corruption case without there being any other adverse material is not sufficient to formulate opinion by the Government in terms of Article 226(2) of the CSR that retention of Government servant under scrutiny is no longer in public interest.


The relevant parameters which have been indicated hereinabove and which are required to be considered for formulating such opinion have not been kept in view.




The Review Committee was completely swayed by the fact that the respondent had been caught red handed taking bribe from his subordinate in lieu of reinstatement from suspension and, therefore, was a person of doubtful integrity.

Needless to say, that registration of FIR and even presentation of Challan after investigation is merely an allegation against the respondent and is not conclusive proof of the fact that he has actually indulged in corrupt practice.

Besides, the Government has violated the mandate of Article 226(2) of CSR, 1956 by ignoring to consider all the relevant material, which must form bedrock of the Government decision to retire a public servant prematurely in public interest.

With these observations, the Division Bench dismissed the appeal filed by the Govt of J&K.






Accurate Data For Informed Policy Decisions


Let us strengthen the National Statistical System

Every month National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation(MoSPI) releases Consumer Price Index(CPI) and Inflation rate

To Estimate CPI/ Inflation Rate




Every month NSO enumerators collect retail prices from over 50,000 retail shops across 2295 markets in India




CPI's item basket and weights are based on the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (HCES) of NSO

Importance of CPI/ Inflation Rate



One of the key inputs for the Monetary Policy decisions







Provides insights on the movement of the retail prices in the country

Retailers/Shopkeepers are requested to cooperate with the enumerators of NSO and provide accurate data

Identity of the retail shops participating in the survey is kept confidential in all reports/microdata of MoSPI

For CPI data of NSO, MoSPI, please visit cpi.mospi.gov.in, <https://www.mospi.gov.in/>

www.mospi.gov.in  @GoIStats  /GoIStats  GoIStats  Ministry of Statistics & PI