

It is the Higher Power which does everything, and the man is only a tool. If he accepts that position, he is free from troubles; otherwise, he courts them. -Ramana Maharshi

MAKE IN INDIA Importance and Scope of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Farming in J&K

DR. BANARSI LAL

India has emerged as the world's second-largest mobile phone manufacturer, marking a significant milestone in its manufacturing and industrial landscape.

India's journey to becoming the second-largest mobile manufacturer began in the 2010s when the country was largely dependent on imports for its mobile phones.

At the start of the initiative, India's mobile phone industry was primarily focused on assembling devices with limited domestic component manufacturing.

The Indian government's role has been crucial in this success. In addition to the 'Make in India' initiative, the government has rolled out various schemes, such as the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme.

Furthermore, the government's efforts to improve infrastructure, reduce trade barriers, and enhance ease of doing business have played a critical role in attracting investments from major mobile brands.

The collaboration between global brands and local suppliers has led to the creation of a robust mobile phone manufacturing ecosystem in India.

India's rise to being the second-largest mobile phone manufacturer is also being driven by the growth of domestic players. Companies like Lava, Micromax, and Intex have witnessed a resurgence in recent years.

The mobile manufacturing sector's growth has had a positive impact on India's economy. The industry has created millions of jobs across manufacturing, assembly, logistics, retail, and after-sales services.

MSMEs of Jammu & Kashmir stands to gain from Budget 2025-26

G. VELLADURAI

As per data available from 01st July 2020 to 01st February 2025 a total of 486102 MSMEs are registered in Udyam registration portal launched for registration of MSMEs which are classified on the composite criteria of investment in Plant & Machinery or Equipment as per the notification of Ministry of MSME.

Reference Budget 2025-26

Presently out of the total MSMEs registered in Jammu & Kashmir 98% are classified as Micro units and now as per the revised classification this may further increase the registered Micro units percentage to around 99% which in turn useful to avail the various schemes and benefits of Government departments including the benefits under Public Procurement Policy which reserves 25% of purchase of Good & Services by various Government Departments & Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) among other schemes.

The MSMEs of Jammu & Kashmir provides employment to considerable percentage of population next only to agriculture and hence the sector needs focused approach for reaping the benefit of demographic dividend.

The credit Guarantee Cover extended to Micro & Small Enterprises has been increased from 5 Crores to 10 Crores is a much welcomed step and this increase the flow of credit to the sector which is of prime importance.

This will be added advantage for both local investors who can start new enterprises and also the existing entrepreneurs who can expand their business to greater heights, also this move will be useful to attract new investors in to Jammu & Kashmir for increasing the employment opportunities of our youth.

Addressing the credit requirements of the MSME Sector is need of the hour and this budget has taken care of this requirement by providing 10 Lakh credit cards for the units registered in the Udyam Portal for accessing 5 lakhs credit for their enterprises. This budget also provides a New Fund of Funds of Rs.1000 Crores for the Startups of the Union

which is also of Prime Importance. One more commitment for the sector includes providing Loans up to 2 Crores for 5 Lakh Women, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes first time entrepreneurs. This budget has focused the export based MSMEs by providing term Loans up to 20 Crores. This budget also addresses Footwear & Leather Sector, Toy Sector and Food Processing Sector; Skilling for the MSME Sector; Clean Tech Manufacturing and Make in India initiatives among other areas.

The Jammu & Kashmir stands to gain from this budget to greater extent as our industries are concentrated in Food processing Sector which includes Apple and Walnut and the units in Pulwama district for example which are making Leather for Footwear & other allied Leather types which provides maximum employment opportunities for our youth.

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Celebrate National Weatherperson's Day

O.N KOUL

National Weatherperson's Day is observed annually on February 5. The day commemorates the birth of John Jeffries in 1744, one of the America's first weather observers, began taking daily weather observations in Boston in 1774 and he took the first balloon observation in 1784. This is a day to recognize the men and women who collectively provide Americans with best weather, water and climate forecasts and warning services of any nation.

weather .Even with the most state -of-the-art technology ,predicting "Mother Nature "and what path she may choose is a very daunting task. Knowing the weather forecast is valuable to us in so many ways. We often look at the forecast to plan our activities for the upcoming days. It affects what we do ,how we dress ,where we go, or even if we go at all. Being prepared for impending storms ,hurricanes ,or tornadoes saves lives. Thank your local weatherperson ,it may be the person you turn to on the news to keep you up to date on the latest weather and storms. Or it may also be the storm spotters who report to the National Weather Service .Their warnings alert us to more imminent dangers .Weather changes often impact our lives and livelihoods, so their dedication is valuable. Consider how weather affects our daily lives and how much you appreciate an accurate forecast whenever possible. Share your experiences doing an outstanding job in your area. The day also recognizes volunteer storm spotters ,observers ,and others who work in the weather field. It recognizes individuals in the field of meteorology, weather forecasting and broadcast meteorology ,as well as volunteer storm spotters and observers. The day has been celebrated for more than four decades. The day commemorates the birth of Dr.Johan Jeffrie ,one of America's first weather observer. The national weatherpersons day has its origin in America and it is also celebrated in India because the weather forecasts and warnings and constantly changing weather conditions impact our daily lives and so forecasting and predicting weather conditions accurately is very important to all of us and it impacts our lives. So we attach much needed importance to observe the National weatherpersons day and regard those people who are doing challenging task of predicting weather for all of us as predicting and forecasting weather conditions is very much important to us as on the basis of accurate weather forecasts we plan our work and daily chorus. So people often watch TV and radio and in modern day watch internet and social media to be abreast of the weather so that they plan their work accordingly. In India the government, NGO's and the people at large attach much importance to celebrating national Weatherperson's Day and celebrate the day with great enthusiasm and fanfare.

This is a solemn occasion to honor weatherpersons such as meteorologists, weather forecasters and weather observers as their services are of much valuable importance to us as we plan our future days work accordingly. So all of us should observe National Weatherpersons day so that all those experts who are engaged in forecasting and predicting weather conditions are given due honor and respect because it is their forecasts and warnings which save our precious lives.

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Sonia Gandhi insults President Murmu: Saddest day in Democracy....!!!!

MANMOHAN DHAR

They say everything is fair in love and war. But, everything is not fair in democracy and the democratic set up when you intend to uproot the basic ethos and the deep rooted essence of democracy by using unfair means and abusive language, that too for someone who sits on the highest chair in the country.

A storm of controversy has erupted after allegations surfaced that Sonia Gandhi, the former President of the Indian National Congress (INC), used offensive language towards the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, during a private meeting earlier this week. The reported incident has ignited fierce debates within political and social circles, with both political leaders and citizens reacting strongly to this incident.

The Congress leader allegedly used inappropriate language while discussing the role of the President in recent political developments. While the exact details of the conversation remain unclear, the nature of the remarks has sparked outrage, especially among supporters of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and President Murmu's supporters.

The Congress party has so far remained tight-lipped, neither confirming nor denying the accusations. However, party spokespersons have expressed concern over the unfortunate situation.

Meanwhile, BJP leaders have swiftly condemned the alleged remarks. "Sonia Gandhi's language and actions are an insult to the office of the President and to the dignity of our nation. Such disrespect from a senior political leader is unfortunate, unacceptable and calls for immediate accountability.

The allegations have sparked a divided public reaction, with some expressing outrage over the supposed disrespect shown towards the nation's highest office, while others are skeptical about the authenticity of the claims. A few political analysts have questioned whether the accusations are part of a broader political strategy to discredit the Congress party and its leaders ahead of the upcoming elections or May be this was just a deliberate attempt to disrespect and demean the Dalits of the entire nation.

Social media platforms have to play a very responsible role in dealing with this precarious situation that has arisen out of the Sonia Gandhi statement controversy .

Many political commentators are urging a thorough investigation into the matter to ensure transparency and justice.

In response to the growing controversy, Congress leader

Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi's son, took to social media to express his "unequivocal support" for the President of India. "My family and I have always stood by the dignity of our constitutional institutions, and the respect we hold for the office of the President is unwavering. Although he did not directly address the allegations against his mother, which he could have very easily made a mention of and reacted according to the social and political ethics. But, as and when opportunities knocked at Rahul's door, he always missed the bus.

As the investigation into the matter continues, the incident underscores the growing polarization within Indian politics. Every move and comment by political figures seems to be magnified under the public's watchful eye. Political analysts suggest that this controversy may have lasting implications on the Congress party's image in the coming days.

For now, all eyes are on both the Congress party and President Murmu, as the fallout from the allegations continues to unfold in India's ever-charged political landscape.

On a very responsible note it can very well be envisaged that a political stalwart will have to be responsible while deliberating on very sensitive questions especially for the highest constitutional position .

A party which advocates for safeguarding the constitutional values in the country has to be responsible and reasonably decent in making statements that directly impact the image of the highest position in the country.

It has almost become a habit with the INC Leaders to abuse and disrespect the Govt. Positions which is very very dangerous for the parliamentary democracy.

It is really wondrous as to who in fact directs these INC leaders to stoop so low in abusing and insulting the Government , Government bodies , constitutional positions and posts. They have shown it to the people of India that they can go to any extent in not even sparing the president and the prime minister of the greatest and biggest democracy of the world. Well, whosoever it may be, on whose directions the democratic roots in India are being infringed, it should go loud and clear that these roots are so strong and everlasting that whatever they pump in, to destabilise the democratic values is going waste and all their nefarious designs and desires will get shattered to ground.

Last but not the least, it was very befitting when president Murmu gave it back in a very decent and appropriate manner keeping the dignity of the highest position intact.