

# ‘400 Paar’ is common people’s demand: Dr Jitendra

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: "400 Paar" for Modi is common people's demand, Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh today said.  
At the same time, "Udhampur 4 lakh Paar" is common people's demand in Udhampur-Kathua-Doda Lok Sabha constituency which is all set to beat its own victory margin record, he said.

It is not only the BJP worker appealing for 400 plus mandate, but the common citizen of India who wants a third term for Narendra Modi to lead India on the path to "Viksit Bharat", he said.  
The Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh was interacting with media on the sidelines of a series of meetings with groups of citizens from all walks of life at his parliamentary office here.  
In the last two terms Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emerged as the tallest leader today, his word is heard with respect and awe by Heads of



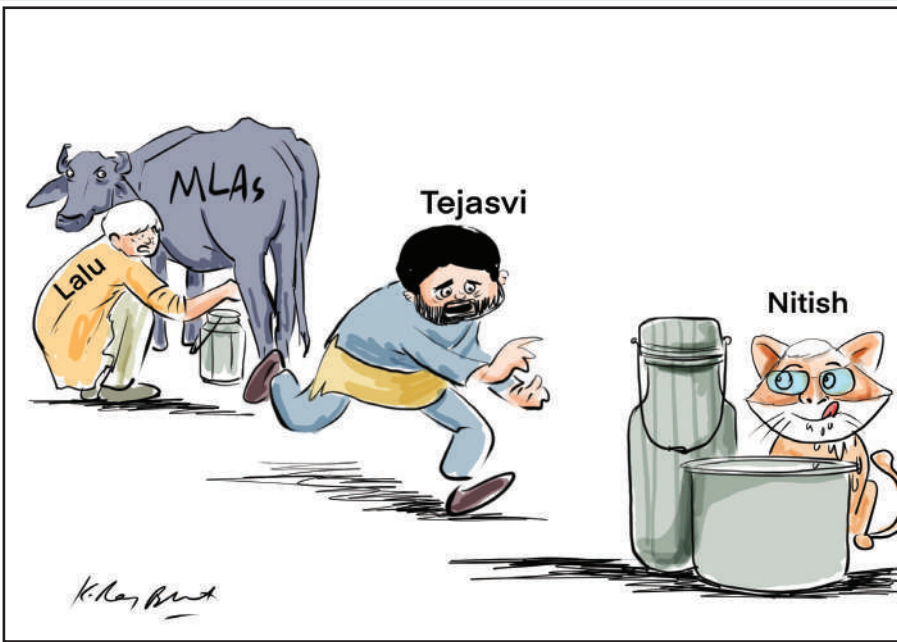
Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh with different groups of citizens calling at his parliamentary office at Jammu.

State across the world and because of him India's stature has grown and India's word is being taken seriously at the high table in all international fora, said Dr Jitendra Singh.  
PM Modi's out-of-the-box decisions have given a push to different sectors including Space, Railways, Roads, Infrastructure and Electronics-Communication, and which has posted India's economy from 11th rank to 5th largest economy and is now on the verge of occupy-

ing 3rd rank, the Union Minister said.  
"In 2014, when PM Modi took over, India stood as the world's tenth largest economy. In less than ten years, we jumped to 5th position. Hopefully this year it will emerge as the 4th largest economy and during PM Modi's 3rd term, India will be the world's 3rd largest economy, marching on to become the No.1 economy by 2047," he said.  
During Financial Year 2023-24, Indian economy

grew at 6 percent plus for the third successive year even as the global economy struggles to grow at around 3 percent. We are the third-largest fin-tech economy in the world after the USA and the UK, he said.  
Dr Jitendra said, India has the 3rd largest Start-up Ecosystem globally and is home to the fastest-growing unicorns. "From just about 350 StartUps in the year 2014, StartUps in India grew over 300 times in over ten years.  
Dr Singh said, PM Modi unleashed India's Space research by opening up the hitherto conservative and secluded sector. India has literally reached for the moon and beyond with the twin feats of Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya L1 solar mission in the last year alone.  
"India of 2024 is ready to take a giant leap, backed by its scientific acumen and technological prowess," he said.  
As India entered the Amrit

Kaal marking the 75th year of Independence, the Youth is the centre of focus of the Modi Government by empowering the Amrit-Peethi, he said.  
Dr Jitendra further said, a recruitment drive for 10 lakh Central government jobs was fulfilled by the Modi Government under the Rozgar Mela.  
Dr Jitendra emphasised the need to effectively convey to the common masses, particularly youth and women, the enormous development that has taken place in Udhampur constituency in the last 10 years under the patronage of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.  
"Therefore, the common citizen believes that India can become the world's leading economy under the leadership of PM Modi because of the outreach he commands across the world and the common people also feel confident under the Government headed by Narendra Modi," he said.



## Directorate of Tourism Jammu, Wild Sapiens team up for thrilling mountaineering workshop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: The Directorate of Tourism, Jammu in collaboration with Wild Sapiens (OPC) Pvt. Ltd., an adventure tour operator based in Jammu, successfully organized an exhilarating one-day mountaineering workshop at the picturesque Jhajjar Kotli.  
This collaborative effort aimed to invigorate adventure tourism in Jammu and its surrounding areas.



The event witnessed an impressive turnout, with approximately 30 individuals from diverse age groups, spanning from 14 to 40 years old, eagerly participating. Noteworthy was the representation from various regions, including Jammu, Katra, Udhampur, Himachal, and even Dehradun, adding a dynamic flair to the workshop.  
The workshop commenced with an insightful session on mountaineering equipment, followed by hands-on activities such as tent pitching, knot tying, ziplining, rappelling, and jumaring. These interactive sessions were interspersed with enjoyable activities, ensuring a fulfilling experience for all attendees.  
"Directorate of Tourism,

Jammu shall continue to support such endeavors for promotion of Tourism in Jammu region under the visionary guidance of Yasha Mudgal, Commissioner/Secretary, Tourism Department, J&K and the comprehensive supervision of Vivekananda Rai, Director Tourism, Jammu" said Sunaina Sharma Mehta, Joint Director Tourism Jammu, while detailing about the event.  
A participant from Dehradun expressed heartfelt gratitude for the meticulous organization of the event and

highlighted the commendable efforts of the Tourism Department. Monika Mitter, Director of Wild Sapiens, while appreciating the support from Directorate of Tourism, Jammu pledged to continue bringing similar initiatives to the city with the active support of the Tourism Department.  
The workshop concluded on a high note with the distribution of souvenirs, symbolizing the successful collaboration between the Directorate of Jammu Tourism and Wild Sapiens in fostering adventure tourism in the region.

## Govt should revoke eviction process against permanently registered Industrial Units: CCI Jammu



President CCI, Arun Gupta chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: Arun Gupta, President CCI expressed serious concern and strong resentment over the move of the J&K UT Government (Industries and Commerce Department) to initiate the eviction process against the permanently registered Industrial Units for the leased out premises by SIDCO and SICOP who are operating since last about five decades but were forced to suspend their production and close their units due to various reasons including withdrawal of market support as well as purchase preference and timely disbursement of already declared incentives mainly turnover incentive and also due to Covid, when all the activities were disturbed. Arun Gupta said that the existing Industry is really under stress because of market dynamics and also change in new product range. The existing Industry under substantial expansion by way of change in line of activity or additional line of activity is barred from all the incentives as it does not fall under the central incentive package or the J&K UT package. He said that instead of providing healing touch to the existing ailing Industry the government is bent upon to snatch the land from the sick / closed units who mostly fall under Micro and Small Sector. Arun Gupta also said that the government should come forward for the rescue of existing ailing industry by restoring the incentives of market support, purchase preference and also provide in time the already declared incentives mainly turnover incentives, the problem of Industry becoming sick shall be solved. Arun Gupta further said that before initiating the eviction process the government should have taken all the stakeholders into confidence to resolve the issue. Arun Gupta demanded the immediate withdrawal of the said notice/order and also pleaded that the government must constitute a high powered committee to formulate the revival / rehabilitation policy for such units.

## Ladakh Transport Deptt organises workshop to promote EV Freight Vehicles

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
LEH: In yet another first-of-its-kind initiative in Union Territory of Ladakh, UT Transport Department led by Secretary-cum-Transport Commissioner Amit Sharma, organised a Half-Day Workshop today to deliberate upon and brainstorm amongst all the stakeholders of Transport Sector towards promoting the usage of freight vehicles on EV (Zero Emission Vehicles) in the Union Territory of Ladakh with the objective to make it first carbon neutral state/UT of the nation.



Secretary-cum-Transport Commissioner Amit Sharma speaking in a workshop.

operations are feasible in Ladakh UT and would result in substantial operating cost reductions for the owners/drivers.  
Amit further shared that Ladakh is relentlessly working towards its carbon neutrality mission and its initiatives last year were chosen from India for presentation in the United Nation top environment awareness initiative COP-28 held in Dubai last

year.  
He further mentioned that a Memorandum of Understanding is going to be inked soon between NTPC and the Transport Department to dedicate five hydrogen-cell fuel buses to the public of Ladakh which is first such initiative in the nation.  
Apart from this, a detailed presentation by the International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC)

was made before the Secretary Transport Amit Sharma and all stakeholders to share the course of trails, merits and need of Zero Emission Vehicles in the UT of Ladakh. It was followed by detailed brainstorming sessions during this Workshop on establish EV Charging stations here alongwith actively involving Defence institutions which are present in a good number in the UT of Ladakh.  
Secretary Transport also talked about the UT Administration's role in encouraging Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and the Corporates, especially financial institutions active in the UT to establish EV Charging Stations in UT Ladakh as part of their respective Corporate Social Responsibility.  
The organisers were requested by Transport

Secretary Amit Sharma to organise a EV/ZEV Himalayan Two-Wheel and Four-Wheel Rally here in Ladakh, which shall a novel initiative, in coming peak summer season this year alongwith Investors' Meet so as to highlight Ladakh initiatives and steps being taken towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals. In concluding remarks, Amit Sharma and his team complimented organisers for this Workshop while stating that these initiative mark an important step towards sustainable and eco-friendly transportation solutions in Ladakh and a perfect trend-setter in the entire nation.  
This Workshop was attended by ARTO Leh, members of the Transport Association, driving community and leading media persons of UT of Ladakh.

## IIM Jammu fostering a safe and inclusive environment by conductive POSH workshop

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu marked a significant stride in its dedication to creating a safe and inclusive environment by hosting the Prevention Of Sexual Harassment (POSH) workshop. The workshop, tailored for the faculty members, staff, officers, and students of the institute, was inaugurated on 18th March, 2024. The second half of this essential session is scheduled to continue on the following day, the 19th of March 2024, further reinforcing the institute's commitment to fostering a culture of respect and awareness.



Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu felicitating Mahalakshmi Rajagopal.

officers, and staff of IIM Jammu. Following its success, the workshop reconvened in the afternoon, where it was actively participated in by the vibrant student body of the institute.  
The morning session of the workshop began with a warm welcome address by Dr.Yashoda Devi, Chairperson of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) at IIM Jammu. She said, "Today, we take a crucial step towards fostering a culture of respect and safety within our institute. I invite

you all to engage in open, enlightening discussions, because it is through understanding and awareness that we can create a truly inclusive community."  
During her session, Mahalakshmi Rajagopal shed light on the critical need for organizations and higher education institutions to have robust Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) guidelines in place. She emphasized that such measures are essential to prevent any form of harassment from occurring within the work-

place or academic environment.  
Rajagopal also underlined the importance of creating a supportive atmosphere where both male and female members feel empowered to speak up and report incidents of harassment.  
On this issue, she spoke, "Even when no one speaks up, sexual harassment could still be happening quietly. It's up to us to be the voices in our circles, standing up against it and supporting those who need us."  
The success of the initial session paved the way for an equally impactful second leg, which unfolded within the newly inaugurated Auditorium of IIM Jammu, Mandapam. The second session of the workshop began with a student at the institute warmly welcoming Mahalakshmi Rajagopal onto the stage. The Auditorium of IIM Jammu, Mandapam was filled with the students from MBA Batch 07, Batch 08, and PhD scholars.  
Mahalakshmi Rajagopal

said, "I extend my sincere appreciation to the esteemed Director and the administration of IIM Jammu for organizing this crucial session. It holds immense importance for each of us, especially all the students present here, as each of you are going to be stepping into the corporate world in the near future."  
She highlighted that POSH compliance is mandatory for organizations with 10 or more employees as per the Government of India mandate, with penalties and license cancellation for non-compliance. The discussion differentiated POSH implementation in organizations and higher education institutions, emphasizing the various possible relationships between complainants and respondents. The session also covered key terms such as body language, boundaries, unequal opportunities, gender-based harassment, and creating hostile environments. Additionally, it outlined the supportive meas-

ures necessary, including the role and composition of the Internal Committee, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all.  
During the workshop, Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director of IIM Jammu, emphasized the importance of creating an environment where students feel empowered to freely ask questions, express their thoughts, and contribute ideas on how to effectively address and prevent sexual harassment.  
In his words, "It is vital that our students feel empowered to voice their questions, thoughts, and ideas, as we collectively work towards curbing sexual harassment and fostering a safe and inclusive environment and I feel immensely happy to see that the students are taking part in this discussion without any inhibitions."  
The event also saw the presence of Cmdr Kesavan Baskaran, CAO of IIM Jammu, and Dr. Yashoda Devi, Chairperson of the ICC.

## Discussion on book ‘Modi Consensus: The Rediscovery of Bharat’ PM Modi crafted Naya Bharat to make it Vishwa Guru: Rana

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Tuesday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has crafted the idea of Naya Bharat rooted in assertive nationalism, decisive growth and development, global prominence with resolve to make Viksit Bharat as Vishwa Guru.  
"Yashasvi Prime Minister has led the country to a renaissance based on national pride, cultural and civilizational revivalism based on integral humanism and the traditional ethos of Vasudeva Kutamkam", Devender Rana said in his keynote address at the discussion on book 'Modi Consensus:

The Rediscovery of Bharat', organized by the Public Relations Society of India, Jammu Chapter at the Press Club here.  
Author of the book, Dr. Swadesh Singh dwelt in length on the subject.  
Reflecting on the book discussion, Devender Singh Rana said that Prime Minister Modi has indeed shown the path of development to the country.  
"Patriotism has always existed among the people of India, but today, people not only talk about patriotism but also take pride in it", he said, adding that after becoming Prime Minister in 2014, Narendra Modi worked on the concept of 'My India is great', and



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana and others at a programme at Press Club Jammu on Tuesday.

now, every citizen of the country feels proud of 'My Bharat, Our Bharat, Proud Bharat'.  
Rana emphasized that he is a Hindu, and he takes pride in being a Hindu while respecting the great diversity of the nation.

Everyone should take pride in their respective religions in true consonance of the glorious ethos of this great nation, he added.  
More than 50 educators, researchers, journalists, and social workers from Jammu participated in this

discussion.  
The programme commenced with the lighting of the traditional lamp and inauguration with a welcome speech by the Vice Chairman of PRSI, Jammu Chapter Opinder Sharma.  
Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Swadesh Kumar said that this book is important for understanding current politics.  
He highlighted the work done by Prime Minister Modi on issues like politics and policy-making in the past 5-10 years and the changes seen in international politics as a result.  
Referring to the current political situation, he emphasized that any political party aiming to stay

mainstream must focus on social issues, which is evident under Prime Minister Modi's leadership. He illustrated that when he speaks, it reflects the history of five thousand years. In today's political scenario, politicians have started bringing their personal spaces in the public domain, which is also the demand of the day. Merely slogans like 'eradicate poverty' won't work anymore; rather, actions for the poor and needy are necessary, he added.  
On the occasion, Secretary of the Public Relations Society of India, Jammu Chapter, initiated a campaign to raise awareness among voters for the upcoming Lok Sabha elec-

tions in 2024. The slogan of this campaign is, 'Value your vote, Vote for Values.'  
In the book discussion, students from the Indian Institute of Mass Communication, Jammu region, Kashish Saxena, Shubhra, and Harshita, presented a book review.  
A vote of thanks was presented by senior journalist and Secretary of Jammu Press Club, Dinesh Manhotra.  
The program was anchored by Komal Shangloo and Yashi Navya.  
The discussion was attended by Regional Director, IIMC Jammu Prof. (Dr.) Anil Saumitra, Associate Professor, Center for Media

Studies, JNU Dr. Archana Kumari, senior journalist Tejendra Singh Sodhi, senior journalist Sant Kumar Sharma, former director, Doordarshan Sanjeet Khajuria, retired Sq. Ldr. Anil Sehgal, Senior Journalist OP Sharma, Senior Journalist Pradeep Dutta, Senior Journalist Zorawar Singh, Associate Professor, Jammu Central University, Dr. Umesh Kumar, Assistant Professor Dr. Bachecha Babu, Assistant Professor Manish Prakash, Assistant Professor Dr. Ajay Singh, PRSI members Kamal Sharma, Dr. Gopal Parthasarathi, among other participants participated in the book discussion.