

AIC- IIIM inks MoUs with Startups

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a significant step to advance and support the innovation ecosystem in the Jammu and Kashmir region, Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) of CSIR - Indian Institute Integrative Medicine on Saturday signed four Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with four promising start-ups of Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh.

The four start-ups - Mama Agro of Leh, Arsh Mushrooms of Kathua, Gulmarg Mushroom Farms of Baramulla and Khorasan Hi-Tech Food Processing of Pulwama are involved in the cultivation of medicinal mushrooms and fermentation products. Through this, AIC-IIIM has connected with various regions of J&K as well as Ladakh to promote entrepreneurship, thereby taking the total number of its incubatees to five. The MoUs were signed



Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM and Rinchen Angchok of Mama Agro of Leh and other officers, during signing of MoU at Srinagar on Saturday.

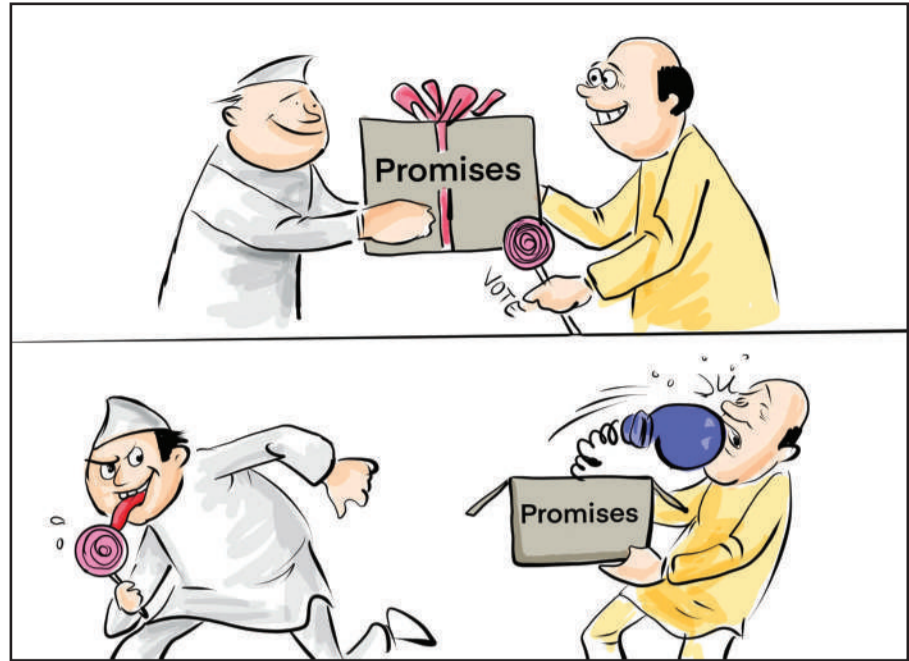
by Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM and Chairman of AIC-IIIM Bio-Innovation Foundation with Arun Sharma of Arsh Mushrooms, Rinchen Angchok of Mama Agro, Gowhar Lone of Gulmarg Mushroom Farms and Dr. Javid Ahmad Dar of Khorasan Hi-Tech Food Processing.

Director CSIR-IIIM said that the twin Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh are bestowed with huge natural resources coupled with the rich brains. There are ample opportunities for young startup and entrepre-

neurs of this region to develop and commercialise their products with the incubation support being extended by Atal Incubation Centre (AIC-IIIM), he added. Dr. Ahmed was very optimistic over enrolling of start-ups by AIC and emphasised that the signing of MoUs marked the beginning of mutually beneficial partnerships fostering innovation, economic development and societal impact. From AIC-IIIM, he assured the start-ups of all possible support including R&D, mentoring and market linkages for ensuring their suc-

cess. The four Startups who entered into agreement with AIC-IIIM were M/S Arsh Mushrooms of Kathua which started working on mushrooms in 2019. Its main focus is on producing high quality compost for increasing yield and reducing crop failure by employing scientific methods. M/S Mama Agro of Leh, the other Startup was established in 2022 and is primarily involved in mushroom cultivation and spawn production. It is currently working on producing medicinal mushrooms like cordyceps, reishi and shiitake. M/S Gulmarg Mushroom Farms is trying to replicate their success in commercial mushroom production by diversifying into

medicinal mushrooms as well and extending the growing season through microclimate management under indoor conditions. The fourth Startup was M/S Khorasan Hi-Tech Food Processing which developed specialized food preservation techniques eliminating the use of sodium benzoate. It is working on developing new products involving traditional and exotic mushrooms. Prominent among others present were Er. Abdul Rahim, Head CSIR-IIIM (Br) Srinagar and Vice Chairman, AIC-IIIM Bio-innovation Foundation, Dr. Syed Muzamil Ahmad, Principal Investigator, Atal Incubation Centre and Syed Abdul Basit Andrabi, Coordinator AIC-IIIM.



Shiv Sena demands check on overcharging in wine shops

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shiv Sena. (UBT) Jammu Kashmir unit head Manish Sahni in a press conference on Saturday demanded check on the reports of overcharging in wine shops in J&K.

"Some liquor sellers of Jammu and Kashmir are charging prices higher than the MRP," Sahni said, demanding from the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Secretary to com-

pletely curb this scam with a strict vigil and thorough checking by concerned departments.

Sahni has also appealed to the general public not to pay more than the MRP printed in the bottles.

Sahni said that despite the provision of imposing a heavy fine of up to Rs 40,000 and cancellation of license for charging more than the fixed price, this illegal collection is being



Shiv Sena J&K unit head Manish Sahni along with others addressing media in Jammu on Saturday.

done rampantly in J&K. "A strong action in this regard is required from the J&K administration to completely stop the practice of over-charging," said Manish Sahni.

Besides, Sahni, others who spoke to media include Shiv Sena General Secretary Vikas Bakshi, Vice President Balwant Singh, Kamghar Raj Singh and Secretary Rakesh Handa.

Strong undercurrent in favour of INDI Alliance in country: Bhalla



Congress candidate from Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary seat, Raman Bhalla during public rally at Reasi.

STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: JKPC Working President and Congress candidate from Jammu-Reasi Parliamentary seat, Raman Bhalla appealed to people to exercise their universal franchise without any fear and elect Congress candidates which work for the downtrodden.

Bhalla addressing election meetings and road shows in District Reasi at Karkyal, Panthal, Baghta, Nalaya, Katra, Serbad, Ghar Jitto, Karua/Bagha, Sool/Pnasa, Baradari, Irp Chowk, Reasi Stadium, Gran Morh, Salal, Arnas, Dharmadi, Thuru, Budhan and Mohar.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Ex NC Ministers Abdul Ghani Malik, Babu Jag Jeevan, District President Bopinder Singh Jamwal, Rajesh Sadotra General Secretary JKPC, Rajesh Wazir General Secretary JKPC, DDC Shameema Bagam, Tariq Bhatt, Munchi Ram Salalia, Ajay Salaria, Sanjeev Katal, Maninder Sharma, Sarpanch

Balbir Thapa, Khurshid Ahmed, Zaida Khan, Madan Dogra and others.

"Voters should use their constitutional rights fearlessly to elect a government of the poor and deprived," he said.

"The right to vote, without any discrimination, under the Constitution given to us by the Babasaheb Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar, is a crucial democratic power through which the poor, weak and the neglected, can acquire the master key of power and become capable of liberating themselves to end their lives of poverty and helplessness," he said.

"The right to vote has to be protected at all costs... be careful of elements scheming to buy your votes. No one should be left out of voting and your vote should not be misused in the name of money, power, temple-mosque etc. This is the biggest duty and tribute to Baba Saheb," Bhalla added.

He said there is a strong undercurrent in the country in favour of the opposition's lead

alliance of the INDIA bloc including J&K and that the BJP will find it difficult to cross 150 seats in the Lok Sabha elections.

Vision of Modi for economic development of women through technology is progressive: Priya Sethi



Priya Sethi, National Executive Member BJP during poll campaign.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Priya Sethi, National Executive Member BJP and former minister, on Saturday championed the transformative vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in leveraging technology for the economic empowerment of women. She emphasized the pivotal role that technology-driven initiatives play in fostering gender equality and enhancing opportunities for women across the nation.

Speaking at the programme held, the former minister underscored the Modi government's unwavering commitment to leveraging technology as a catalyst for socio-economic transformation. She highlighted the array of innovative schemes and programs initiated under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, designed specifically to uplift and empower women from all walks of life.

Priya Sethi emphasized that technology has emerged as a powerful tool for driving inclusive growth and narrowing gender disparities in various sectors. By harnessing the potential of digital platforms, women are not only gaining access to new avenues of employment and entrepreneurship but also breaking barriers and shattering stereotypes in traditionally male-dominated

fields. "The vision of Prime Minister Modi for the economic development of women through technology is both progressive and empowering," she said, adding "By leveraging digital innovations, we are creating a conducive environment where women can thrive and contribute meaningfully to the nation's growth trajectory."

She emphasized that "Lakshmi Didi" embodies the spirit of self-reliance and prosperity envisioned by Prime Minister Modi, empowering women to become job creators and leaders in their communities. By providing access to financial resources, training, and mentorship, this initiative not only transforms individual lives but also contributes to the overall socio-economic development of the nation.

Priya Sethi, in a heartfelt appeal to the women of the country, particularly those in Jammu and Kashmir, urged them to step forward and lend their support to Prime Minister Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) candidates in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

She emphasized that their participation is crucial in shaping the future of the nation and advancing the vision of prosperity and progress envisioned by Prime Minister Modi.

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2550TH BHAGWAN MAHAVEER NIRVAN MAHOTSAV

Chief Guest
Prime Minister of India

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Acharya Shri Jin Piyush Sagar Surishvar ji M.Sa.'s Agyanuvarti Sadhvi Shri Sulakshna Shri ji M.Sa (Maharaj Sahab)	Yugpradhan Acharya Shri Mahashraman ji's Vidushi Shishya Sadhvi Shri Annima Shri ji M.Sa. (Maharaj Sahab)

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All are invited!

Watch the live telecast of the program on DD News