

# India, Germany to launch 'AI' initiative on healthcare: Dr Jitendra

■ **AGENCY**  
BERLIN: India and Germany, through Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (IGSTC), are all set to propose and launch a joint "Artificial Intelligence" ('AI') initiative on healthcare and sustainability. This was stated here by Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, during the luncheon meeting hosted by President, German Research Foundation, Prof. (Dr) Katja Becker, who also happens to be a veteran Medical professional cum researcher.

Dr Jitendra expressed satisfaction that India and Germany science and technology relations have made great strides in recent years and have become truly multidimensional, spurred by a significant convergence of interests, mutual goodwill and high level exchanges. The German Research Foundation has been playing an important role and we value longstanding partnership with it.

The Minister talked about the



Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh being received by Prof. (Dr) Katja Becker, President, German Research Foundation, for the luncheon meeting hosted by her, at Berlin.

recently concluded MoU to support the International Research Training Groups (IRTG) program towards capacity building targeting the training of Indian and German students for pursuing the PhD programme. A call for inviting proposals from Indian and German research groups has been launched. Both of them agreed that this agreement is truly remarkable for achieving greater objectives in the projects and addressing larger problems.

Dr Jitendra mentioned that under the visionary leadership

of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Government of India in recent time has initiated several new mission mode programs like Cyber Physical System, Quantum Technologies, Future Manufacturing, Green Hydrogen Fuel, Deep Ocean Mining etc. Govt. of India and DFG can explore working together in solving such issues of societal challenges.

Both of them agreed to explore opportunities for bilateral cooperation between India and DFG in the form of funding research projects and to initiate and intensify long-term

Indo-German cooperative relationships in research. They also agreed to consider initiating International Research Training Groups (IRTG) programs with other scientific departments.

Both of them expressed happiness that a joint call for proposals in toxicology would be coming up in September 2022.

Dr Jitendra mentioned that India has taken several steps to harness the power of Quantum computing for societal benefit. The Govt. of India has launched the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-

Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) to make India a leading player in the Cyber-Physical System.

Both of them discussed the new initiatives taken by their respective governments at gender equality and the programs to address the inequalities.

Both the leaders expressed optimism that a common mechanism can be worked out to harmonise the Data protection regulations for scientific research funding between the countries.

Dr Jitendra expressed optimism at the suggestion of starting the Collaborative Research Centres between the research communities of both countries, with a special focus on urgent and high-end science topics.



## Rana hails voluntary efforts to uplift living standard of marginalized people

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Wednesday lauded the role of non-governmental and philanthropic organizations in generating awareness about issues of immense importance and securing public participation towards social empowerment and upliftment.



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana visiting Apnavan Sure Chak to attend function.

Unveiling the statue of late RC Gupta, Founder of Tavi Welfare Society, Jammu, an NGO, at an impressive function at Apnavan Sure Chak here, Devender Rana said a discernible turnaround is visible in various sectors like afforestation, ecological balance, health and hygiene, socio economic upliftment of marginalized segments, boarding lodging and other related facilities for needy persons etc.

"It is heartening to note that the Tavi Welfare Society has contributed immensely in the development of over 50 villages in terms of improving the living standard of the people

ple on the pattern of model villages across the country", Rana said while appreciating the report card of the organisation in lending pro-active support to poor and the meritorious students in pursuing higher education.

Equally appreciable is holding of medical camps, Yoga sessions, and events of targeted sections of people by rural development and social welfare departments, he added.

He said the spirit behind carrying forward voluntary and philanthropic efforts by various private and non-gov-

ernmental organisations in mitigating the sufferings of people and helping them in the hour of need must be enunciated for harmonious growth of the society.

Rana paid tribute to the dedicated social reformer Late R C Gupta, who demonstrated a strong commitment to serve disadvantaged, unprivileged, widows, youth, aged, homeless and other specially-abled population.

Prominent among those who spoke on the occasion included ID Soni, Padma Shri, Dr. Jatinder

Udhampuri, Geetu Alukh DDC member, Madan Lal BDC Chairman, Choudhary Jagar Singh, President of the Society Kavi Raj, Dinesh Gupta, Arun Kumar Tikku and Gopal Sharma.

Yash Paul Mangotra General Secretary Tavi Welfare Society briefed the participants about Late R C Gupta and the various activities of The Society.

Rana also released a brochure depicting the contribution of Late R.C Gupta and activities of the Society.

Those present on the occasion included Advocate, Subash Singh, Block Medical Officer Dr Sumir Koul, BDO; Tilak Raj Sharma, Surinder Gupta, Chief Organizer, Ashok Kumar, Treasurer, Dinesh Gupta, Chief Patron, ML Choudhary, Patron, Prabha Gupta, Sarpanch Amarjeet Kour; Sarpanch Col (Retd) Som Nath, Sarpanch Balbir Singh, Sarpanch Bishan Dass, Nand Kishore and others.

## Kavinder meets MoS Finance, discusses ongoing development spree in J&K

Sehyog Cells should be established in all districts of J&K

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday called on Union MoS Finance Dr Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad and discussed in detail the ongoing development process in J&K.

The BJP stalwart from J&K met MoS Karad here at Sehyog Cell in BJP's central office. Naveen Sinha, CA, Incharge Sehyog Cell was also present.

Kavinder discussed in detail the measures taken to strengthen BJP in J&K and revealed about the achievements and policies being undertaken by local BJP in the UT to connect more and more



Former Dy CM J&K, Kavinder Gupta calling on Union MoS Finance Dr Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad.

people with this biggest political outfit of the world.

He also divulged about the ongoing development spree which is currently transforming the UT of J&K from a subtle unit into vibrant place offering all the facilities and amenities

which the big metro cities and developed states used to offer to their residents.

It is pertinent to mention that on a daily basis different Union Ministers meet party cadre and the general public at the Sehyog Cell of Party's

Central Office in New Delhi to address their issues on priority.

Meanwhile, Kavinder Gupta asserted that the same Sehyog Cells should be established in all districts of J&K to help sort out issues of party cadre and the people on the lines of the Central Sehyog Cell in Delhi.

He said that earlier a similar provision was made in Party's Jammu Headquarter where partymen and general masses used to come and divulged about the issues which they were confronting.

He said that the concept is quite innovative and helpful therefore the party should set up similar cells all across the UT to develop connect with the people in a more rational way.

## Will change J&K's 'taqdeer aur tasweer' if voted to power for 5-year term: Ravinder Raina

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Hoping the delimitation panel will submit its final report to the Centre soon paving the way for assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, BJP leader Ravinder Raina on Wednesday said if voted to power, the party would change the Union Territory's fate and image.

The BJP's Jammu and Kashmir unit president also said Kashmiri migrant Pandits will surely return to their homes in the Valley with dignity and on their own conditions.

"We hope the delimitation commission will submit its final report to the Union Law Ministry before May 6 which will be followed by assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir,"



BJP J&K chief Ravinder Raina along with newly joined members and other leaders.

Raina told reporters on the sidelines of an event at the party headquarters here.

Many prominent Kashmiri migrant pandits, including Jammu and Kashmir Vichar Manch member Hira Lal Bhat, Ashok Kangan, advocate S K Bhat and Moti Lal Bhat were welcomed into the BJP by

Raina and the party's General Secretary (Organisation) Ashok Koul.

Raina said the delimitation panel, an autonomous body headed by Justice (Retd) Ranjana Desai, worked hard to fulfil its task of redrawing the boundaries of assembly and parliament constituencies in

Jammu and Kashmir:

"We are sure the final report of the commission will address all concerns of the people and their representatives who have put forth their suggestions and objections to the draft proposal," he said.

Addressing the gathering, Raina asked BJP activists to reach out to every household in Jammu and Kashmir and highlight the steps taken by the Narendra Modi government for the welfare of the people of the Union Territory.

"Article 370 was the biggest roadblock for the overall development of Jammu and Kashmir and its people..."

"The National Conference, Congress and PDP are the only beneficiaries of the special status (under Article 370) which otherwise deprived people of the benefits of over 200 central laws and discriminated with every section, including the Muslims belonging to Gujjars, Bakewals and Paharis," he said.

After the abrogation of Article 370 provisions in August 2019 by the BJP government, the deprived communities, as well as other sections of the society, have started enjoying the benefits of the various

public welfare policies of the Centre, Raina said.

"We have seen the rule of National Conference, Congress and PDP over the past decades. If the BJP is given a chance to rule Jammu and Kashmir for five years, we will change the 'Taqdeer aur Tasweer (fate and image)' of Jammu and Kashmir with the mantra of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabka vishwas'," Raina said.

He said the winds of change are visible and the BJP is getting stronger with each passing day in both the divisions of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The responsibility is on our shoulders to meet every individual and I am sure we will fulfil our responsibility and strengthen the nationalist movement in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

The Jammu and Kashmir BJP chief expressed confidence that the party will win over 50 seats in the next assembly election and form the government with its own chief minister.

Welcoming the new members into the BJP, Raina said, "Kashmiri pandits were forced out of their homeland in the early 1990s at gun-point. They will return with dignity, respect and on their own conditions."

## 'Manomay' & 'Jadooz' to bring 50 screens to J&K



CCI President Arun Gupta and other dignitaries during a press conference at Jammu.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The first four mini-theaters with a capacity of 80 seats and a VR Cafe have set the scene for the 50 screens in 24 months, a 'Vision J&K' of 'Manomay' and 'Jadooz'.

In a launching ceremony held at the Press Club of Jammu here on Wednesday, Padma Shree Shobana & Actor Ramvijay did a virtual inauguration of this venture.

The Chief Guest on the occasion was Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce and Industry Jammu, while Zorawar Singh, Vice President Press Club of Jammu, was the Guest of Honour. This was a historic moment not only for Jammu and Kashmir, but also for India given the importance of the place, and it will bring back cinema where it groomed with the film makers like Raj Kapoor, Yash Chopra and actors like Shammi Kapoor, Amitabh

Bachchan and others, who went on to bring joy through the various blockbusters from time to time.

This has been made possible by an entertainment company 'Jadooz' and young entrepreneur Sushant Sharma led 'Manomay' from Jammu who will also operate it, bring smiles to the 2 crore strong diaspora of the Union Territory of J&K.

It is perhaps also a testament to the young entrepreneurs are defining most spaces and cinema is no different with young Turks like Sushant Sharma and Rahul Nehra setting pace of putting 50 cinema halls in Jammu and Kashmir.

'Jadooz' is a start up founded by Padmashree Shobana, Actor Ramvijay and Rahul Nehra with an intent of bringing Cinema and VR to 'Bharat' and the announcement of its first four screens in Katra, Jammu, Nagrota and Kathua. This project is a very

fulfilling step for us in more ways than one.

In a unique first one screen can be completed in 3 months in 30 lakhs and has a payback period of 3 years. This unit economics will help increase the screen density in Jammu and Kashmir to a screen of every 1 lakh people and bring the joys of 'First Day First Show' to the whole diaspora. Rahul Nehram Managing Director of 'Jadooz' said, "It is a moment of joy and pride to bring small and state of the art screens to the land which gave us many a movies since the 50s and we hope that this will help entertain the whole Union Territory of J&K".

Sushant Sharma, Founder of 'Manomay' said, "We are a proud partner of Jadooz and are committed to bring 50 screens to Jammu and Kashmir in two years and eventually one screen in every tehsil of this Union Territory".

## Social organizations intensify preparations for Punyabhoomi memorial function

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As countdown for Punyabhoomi memorial function going to be organized on May 8, 2022 at Govt Women College Gandhi Nagar begins, various social organizations representing the POJK refugee has intensified the preparation of the function for making it a grand success.

After independence, a memorial function is going to be organized by Jammu and Kashmir People Forum (JKPF) to pay tributes to the saviour of Jammu and Kashmir and to those who lost their lives to save their families.

Preparations for the said function have been intensified as many meetings have been organised in the city and surrounding areas, motivating the people of the society to come to this public meeting.



JKPF members visiting door to door to invite people in Punyabhoomi memorial function.

illegally occupied thousands of square kilometers of Jammu and Kashmir, including the areas of Mirpur, Bhimber, Kotli, Bagh, Pulandari, Sadanoti, Muzaffarabad, Gilgit, Baltistan and Poonch.

At that time, thousands of Hindus, Sikhs were brutally murdered in the attack and their families were burnt alive in their homes and thousands of mothers and sisters were insulted, he added.

Other members present in the meeting told how at that time thousands of displaced people of POJK were forced to wander outside the state of Jammu and Kashmir due to the planned policy of the then government of Jammu and Kashmir and unfortunately the state governments gave them seven days. Denied various rights for decades.

Under the weak policies of the then governments and the Shimla Agreement, the Chhamb displaced could never return to their village and were forced to live in different areas of the state.

In the end, once again the people present in the meeting were called upon to bow down to those who sacrificed their lives for the motherland by reaching the Women's College Gandhi Nagar on Sunday 8th May at 10:30 AM.

## Apparently Irrigation Deptt's de-silting work remains futile as ever

Helmsmen seems to consider desilting as opportunity to siphon funds

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Every year, the network of canals set up by the erstwhile Maharajas of the state of J&K requires to be de-silted as the water coming from River Chenab has silt in huge proportions thus affecting the flow and acting as hurdle for water to reach the tail ends of the manmade water body.

This necessity allegedly was used by the corrupt as an opportunity to siphon funds because once the water is released in the canal no one can probe that desilting was complete or not. The incumbent government was critical about the past corrupt practices and assured that the corruption in the whole gamut will be stopped under its realms but on ground things remained same as ever as can be witnessed on various stretches.

In this context, residents of Bhagwati Nagar raised serious concern over callous attitude of the Irrigation Department as the aforesaid canal has not de-silted properly and today the water was released in the canal so that remaining silt may flow with the water. The residents are alleging that the Irrigation



Department has carried out desilting half-heartedly as there were vast stretches of canal which were filled with tons of silt and whatever has been removed from the canal were placed on the road-side showing callousness of the concerned department. People are complaining that Bhagwati Nagar area is worst as far

as indifferent attitude of the concerned department is concerned.

Sanjay Gupta, a resident of the area, said it's a matter of every year. He said that people were expecting that LG's administration will act differently but to no avail as things have even gone worse under UT Administration. "The

desilting work has not been carried out properly. It is a big scam and needs to be probed at the highest level", he maintained.

Local Corporator Suchha Singh held Irrigation Department responsible for this mess. He said that whenever the matter is taken up with officials they give lame excuses. It's a matter of every year whenever the de-silting work was carried out in the canal the officials concerned never bothered to take serious note of people's issues and preferred to sit in the air-conditioned offices instead of visiting the site and take stock of desilting work. He demanded that a thorough probe is the need of the hour to unearth the mystery and book the culprits.