

Dr Jitendra proposes mechanism to follow up progress of StartUps

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Thursday said that a mechanism needs to be put in place to follow up the progress of Startups as their number have risen to more than a lakh.

"Such a mechanism is sought to be developed that will closely follow up the growth of these Startups, see how to sustain them so as to ensure that they are not lost out, especially those Startups that have received technical and financial support from the Government," the Minister said, chairing a high-level joint meeting of different Science Ministries



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh chairing a high-level joint meeting of Science Ministries and Departments, at New Delhi on Thursday.

and Departments, including Science & Technology, Biotechnology, CSIR, Earth Sciences, Space and Atomic Energy.

A presentation was made at today's meeting by Chintan Vaishnav from the NITI Aayog.

The Minister proposed that an exercise could be undertaken to assess whether the Startups could be identified by a "Unique id" for effective monitoring across all sectors.

The meeting was held as part of the monthly review meetings of Science

Secretaries, initiated by Dr Jitendra Singh in order to break the silos and evolve a synergistic integrated approach among different scientific streams.

Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India, Prof Ajay Kumar Sood and CEO,

Atal Innovation Mission, Dr Chintan Vaishnav also addressed the meeting.

Secretary, DSIR & DG, CSIR, Dr N Kalaiselvi; Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Dr. Srivari Chandrasekhar; Secretary, DBT, Dr Rajesh Gokhale; Secretary (Earth Sciences), Dr M Ravichandran; and Chairman, AEC & Secretary, DAE, Dr AK Mohanty attended the deliberations.

Senior Officers of the Science Ministries and Departments, including Science & Technology, Biotechnology, CSIR, Earth Sciences and Atomic Energy were also present.



Bukhari urges Home Minister to announce CBMs for peace and strengthening democracy in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Emphasising the need for confidence-building measures (CBMs) to enhance prevailing peace and strengthen democracy in Jammu and Kashmir, Apni Party chief Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari on Thursday appealed to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, to take necessary action and announce the required CBMs to facilitate the ongoing transformation towards a more peaceful and harmonious environment in the region.

In his statement issued here, Bukhari, while urging the Union Home Minister to announce CBMs, said, "One of the major CBMs would be the announcement of assembly elections in J&K in order to enable the people to exercise their constitutional right to choose their own representatives, thereby promoting a stronger democratic process in the region."



Even, those who earlier would believe in boycott politics are now eagerly waiting for the upcoming assembly polls so that the democratically elected representatives could take charge of the affairs here. Thus, this is the ripe time to take the required actions for fostering peace and strengthening democracy in J&K, which has been grappling with the un conducive environment for quite the past several decades. Holding assembly elections would help in fostering an inclusive and participatory environment where the aspirations of the people could be addressed effectively." He added.

Welcoming the Amarnath Yatra, which is commencing soon, Bukhari said that "the sprite of this traditional yatra has always played a pivotal role in fostering religious harmony, strengthening cultural bonds, and yielding significant economic benefits."

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DG I&C inaugurates 1-month exhibition cum sale at Jammu Haat

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A one month Exhibition-cum-Sale was on Thursday inaugurated by Director General Industries & Commerce, Anu Malhotra, here in the Jammu Haat, Exhibition Ground. Managing Director, SIDCO, SICOP, Inderjeet; Director Handicraft Department, Vikas Gupta and General Manager, District Industries Centre, Virender Kumar Manyal were also present at the inaugural function.

In her address, the Director General Industries & Commerce said that the main aim of such exhibitions was to provide a platform to the local manufacturers, artisans, craftsmen and service providers to promote and sell their products. She further elaborated that such exhibitions are being conducted by



DG I&C, Anu Malhotra inaugurating Exhibition-cum-Sale at Jammu Haat.

the department on regular intervals to promote local production under one roof. The main attractions of the exhibition were the different products manufactured by PMEGP units, Entrepreneurs, weavers,

associated with Handlooms, Handicrafts and Industries and Commerce Department, stalls of Horticulture, Information department and Department of Archives, besides a

scintillating cultural and folk music presentation by the artists of Information Department and local artists.

Taking the round of the stalls, the Director General was apprised about the success stories of the entrepreneurs who availed the benefits of the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme [PMEGP] and Women Entrepreneurs financed through the Industries & Commerce Department.

Such entrepreneurs are inspiring other youth to become entrepreneurs and concentrate on becoming 'Job Provider' instead of 'Job Seeker' for which the interested candidates shall also be extended financial assistance under the Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme [PMEGP].

Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust releases Dogra song 'Kunjua' KPS Jammu asks Home Minister Amit Shah to meet KPs during visit

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: The Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust released 'Kunjua- A love saga' a groundbreaking musical composition that re-imagines Dogra music with a fresh perspective, written by the renowned poet and Sahitya Akademi award recipient, Kunwar Viyogi.

Under the music direction of acclaimed singer Jitender Singh Jamwal, this unique creation showcases the talents of the Dogra Girls band, including Kriti Singh, Cherish Banhotra, and Kashika Bassi.

Talking about his first venture as a video director, Jitender Singh Jamwal expressed his enthusiasm in creating an audio visual feast like 'Kunjua' and conveyed his interest in working on more songs like these.



The song, an initiative of the trust, was unveiled on June 10, 2023, during a grand screening event held in Delhi.

Kunjua presents a fusion version of typical Dogri music, seamlessly blending traditional elements with modern influences.

The 'Dogra Girls' band brings their exceptional vocal prowess to the forefront, breathing new life into this cherished musical genre. The song incorporates Western techniques of singing, infusing a fresh vibrancy and energy into the traditional Dogra melodies. Poonam Singh Jamwal, the founder of the Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust, expressed her excitement

about the release, stating, "We are thrilled to present 'Kunjua,' a musical journey that pays homage to our rich Dogra heritage while embracing innovation and creativity. Through this project, we aim to introduce Dogra music to a wider audience and ensure its preservation for generations to come." The release event in Delhi was attended by esteemed guests like Ayushman Jamwal, senior news editor, news18 and Anmol Jamwal, founder of Tried and Refused productions youtube channel and other music enthusiasts and members of the media.

The screening showcased the music video, providing an immersive experience of the mesmerizing fusion of sounds and visuals. The response from the audience was overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the efforts to

revive and re-imagine Dogra music in such a unique manner.

The Kunwar Viyogi Memorial Trust is honored for its dedication to honoring the legacy of Kunwar Viyogi and ensuring that the vibrant traditions of the Dogra art.

This latest initiative, 'Kunjua,' exemplifies the trust's commitment to innovation and its mission to ensure that the vibrant traditions of Dogra music continue to thrive. The trust is proud to be at the forefront of supporting and nurturing emerging artists and performers within the Dogra community.

The song 'Kunjua' is now available for streaming on various digital platforms, allowing music enthusiasts from around the world to experience the beauty and uniqueness of Dogra music in its contemporary form.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: President, Kashmiri Pandit Sabha (KPS) Jammu, K K Khosa has appealed to the Union Home Minister Amit Shah to extend an invitation to the Kashmiri Pandits during his two days visit to the UT beginning on 23rd of June 2023.

"The community is facing multiple issues which need to be thrashed out to mitigate their suffering during their forced exile from the land of their forefathers," Khosa said in a statement, here.

He added that the Kashmiri Pandits are facing an existential threat as they are away from Kashmir and in exile it is difficult to preserve their distinct ethnic culture and

identity. They left Kashmir 33 years ago only to save their lives and honor which had come under threat from the demonic forces of terrorism and antinational radicalism, he said adding that the government of the day had miserably failed to secure their lives and properties, becoming mute spectators to the drama of death and destruction that played out in the Valley in 1989-90.

The Kashmiri Pandits have been longing for their dignified return and resettlement in the Valley for the past three decades and have remained hopeful especially after the Narendra Modi government took over in 2014, he said adding that after the abrogation of Articles 370 & 35A the

hopes soared further especially since near normalcy and peace have been established in the Valley.

The Kashmiri Pandit community wishes to interact with the Home Minister in order to impress upon him that for complete normalcy to return back to Kashmir it is imperative that Kashmiri Pandits are resettled there in large numbers in order to restore the syncretic culture which prevailed in the valley before their exodus.

Engagement with the community leadership will go a long way in assuaging their feelings of hurt and despondency which have crept in due to their complete marginalization from the social cultural and political fabric of the union territory, Khosa said.

Voter cards being provided to Kashmiri Migrants at their doorsteps

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a first, Relief Organisation (M) J&K is providing EPICs to the Kashmiri migrant voters at Jammu who filled their voter forms during the Special Summary Revision held in the month of September 2022.

Before this, the EPICs, after final printing, were placed at the disposal of local BLOs of Kashmir Valley for further distribution.

Kashmiri Migrants being out of valley were not able to collect their EPICs owing to the fact that they are residing at various places in Jammu and other parts of the country.

The Relief Organisation, in collaboration with office of Chief Electoral, J&K, in a first of its kind initiative, are facilitating distribution of EPICs to Kashmiri Migrant voters to their convenience and for the purpose a Special Campaign has been launched from June 19, 2023 to July 1, 2023 in migrant camps and non camp areas in Jammu. Continuing with the Campaign, EPICs were distributed among the Kashmiri Migrant voters today at Migrant Camp Jagti where a large number of migrant voters availed this facility and collected their EPICs.

MASROOR AHMAD
BUDGAM: As Kashmir Valley is under severe heat wave from past few days and temperature is recorded above the normal, the Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has issued guidelines for schools to ensure the well-being and safety of students amid the prevailing heat wave across Kashmir.

The DSEK stated that the scorching temperatures during the summer season can pose health risks to school-going children.

To tackle the adverse effects of the heat wave

Kashmir under severe heat wave DSEK issues guidelines for schools to combat effects of heat wave on students

the directorate issued guidelines for school heads.

Both government and private educational institutions are urged to disseminate these guidelines among parents, students, and teachers to maximize their benefits, the DSEK guidelines read.

The key recommendations outlined in the guidelines are Modifications in Daily Routines: The morning assembly should be conducted in a brief manner and in an area or classrooms where students are not exposed to direct sunlight. Sports and outdoor activities should be scheduled during the early hours of the day.

Transportation: Schools are advised to strictly avoid overcrowding in school buses, ensuring that students are carried according to the seating capacity of the vehicles. Drinking water and first aid kits must be readily available.

Parents are also encouraged to personally pick up their children whenever possible.

Hydration: To combat dehydration, schools are instructed to provide sufficient potable water at multiple locations, preferably through the use of water coolers or earthen

pot. Students should be educated about the importance of proper hydration and advised to sip water at regular intervals.

Food and Meals: Meals served to students under the PM POSHAN (Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nutrition) initiative should be served hot and fresh.

Students carrying food in their lunchboxes (tiffins) are advised to be checked before consumption to ensure its quality.

Dos and Don'ts Display: Prominent display areas within schools should feature a list of do's and don'ts for students to fol-

low during the heat wave. The do's include drinking sufficient water even if not thirsty, using oral rehydration solutions (ORS) or homemade drinks like lassi and lemon water to stay hydrated, covering one's head with a hat, umbrella, or scarf, staying indoors as much as possible, and seeking immediate medical attention in case of illness or faintness.

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Advocate General holds interactive session with State Taxes Department

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Advocate General, D.C Raina, on Thursday conducted an interactive session with State Taxes Department, Srinagar.

Commissioner State Taxes, Dr. Rashmi Singh, Additional Commissioner, Tax Planning, Ankita Kar, Additional Commissioner (Administration and Enforcement) Kashmir, Shakeel Maqbool and Additional Commissioner (Administration and Enforcement) Jammu, Namrita Dogra along with Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and State Tax Officers from both Jammu and Kashmir divisions were present on the occasion.

D C Raina is the first Advocate General of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and remained Counsel for the Sales Taxes Department in 1980s in the High Court as well as Supreme Court of India. He has in-depth legal acumen not only in constitutional laws but is known for his taxation legal



expertise throughout the country.

The purpose of the session was to provide the STOs with a facilitative and interactive forum for advice on various legal aspects related to taxes.

Addressing the session, Advocate General stated that since GST is a fairly new law, it is critical for officers to ensure that the orders they issue are not only in accordance with the principle of natural justice but also vividly clear in their reasoning with adherence to letter and spirit of the law. He impressed upon the officers to upload speaking orders whenever such orders

for assessment, cancellation, refund etc. are required to be passed.

Meanwhile, an interactive question and answer session was also held where in several queries of STOs and other officers were addressed by the Advocate General who was flanked by Govt Advocate Sajad Ashraf.

Additional Commissioner (Administration and Enforcement), Jammu, provided some key takeaways whereas Additional Commissioner (Administration and Enforcement) Kashmir offered vote of gratitude.

Crisis like situation in J&K due to unavailability of basic amenities: Bhalla

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Thursday expressed dismay over the paucity of essentials in J&K saying the administration seems to have turned blind eye to the woes of people.

Former Minister was interacting with people of Rajiv Nagar, New Plot, Janipur, Bhour Pind on Thursday.

Bhalla said that there was a crisis like situation in J&K due to unavailability of the basic essentials and the administration has failed to live up to its obligation of



JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla interacting with people.

ensuring people all basic civic amenities and essentials.

He said the curtailment of water and power supply has compounded the woes of people across Jammu and Kashmir in ongoing summer season.

"Administration has also failed to have an anticipatory price control mechanism in its strategy to deal with the exorbitant price rise of basic commodities. The

absence of administration on ground has emboldened the willfulness of wrongdoers, he added.

Bhalla said secularism is one of the philosophical pillars of our party and in contemporary times the idea of secularism is of utmost relevance as new clouds of fears, apprehensions and uncertainties are gathering over the nation's social horizon.

Bhalla said, "The need of the hour is to strengthen this heirloom of brotherhood and unity, which we have inherited from our ancestors."