

# South Australia Governor calls on Dr Jitendra, seeks deeper Space collaboration

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: South Australia Governor Frances Adamson AC, currently on India visit, called on Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology here on Wednesday to seek deeper Space Technology collaboration between the two countries.

Frances Adamson also joined Dr Jitendra Singh in watching the special screening of the launch of the Axiom-4 mission, marking a historic moment for India as Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, the Mission Pilot, became the latest Indian astronaut to join a global space crew en route to the International Space Station.

Dr. Jitendra Singh remarked, "It is a proud and defining moment for India, and we are honoured that H.E. Frances Adamson witnessed this milestone as a reflection of the growing India-Australia partnership in frontier technologies."

Dr. Jitendra traced the evolution of India-Australia space cooperation, recalling



South Australia Governor Frances Adamson AC calling on Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh at New Delhi.

the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) signed in October 2012, and how the formation of the Australian Space Agency (ASA) in 2018, followed by an amendment agreement in 2021, significantly accelerated bilateral ties in the space sector.

"India deeply appreciates the consistent support extended by Australia, particularly in advancing ISRO's flagship Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission," said Dr.

Jitendra.

He referred to the recent April 2025 visit of Indian technical teams to Canberra for discussions on Crew Module Recovery operations. "These face-to-face deliberations with multiple Australian ministries and agencies have added fresh momentum to our expanding cooperation," he noted.

Highlighting India's strides in space biotechnology, Dr. Jitendra informed

nations and sectors, and we see Australia as a key and trusted partner," the Minister said.

Recognizing the vast marine resources both nations share, the two sides also deliberated on initiating an extended framework of India-Australia Marine Cooperation, aimed at sustainable exploration, conservation, and innovation in ocean sciences.

Governor Frances Adamson AC expressed deep admiration for India's space achievements and conveyed her good wishes for the Gaganyaan mission and other upcoming milestones. She emphasized that cultural connections and scientific collaborations would go a long way in strengthening mutual ties.

"Australia deeply values its scientific and strategic partnership with India and looks forward to advancing joint initiatives in space, marine research, and innovation," she added.

She was accompanied by Philip Green, Australian High Commissioner to India.



## JKHCB AJ felicitates MLA North Sham Sharma for announcing Rs 15 Lakh annual grant for welfare of legal community

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir High Court Bar Association Jammu felicitated MLA Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma, at an event organised by the association at Court complex, Jammu, on Wednesday.



JKHCB AJ office bearers felicitating MLA North Sham Lal Sharma on Wednesday.

The event was held at the High Court Complex, Jammu, and witnessed the participation of a large number of advocates and distinguished guests.

On this occasion, State Awardee Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Jammu & Kashmir, also marked his gracious presence.

In his address, MLA Sham Lal Sharma appreciated the efforts of office bearers of the J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu and described advocates as the backbone of democracy and stated that the Bar Association is a vital pillar for justice and legal services in society.

He made a significant announcement that he will

allocate Rs 15 lakh every year from his MLA fund to the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu. This amount will support infrastructure development and welfare initiatives for advocates. Mahant Rohit Shastri also shared his thoughts, appreciating the active and dynamic leadership of the current Bar Association executive body. He specifically praised the office bearers, stating that advocates are the voice of society and deserve support at all levels for their welfare. President of the Association, K. Nirmal Kotwal, also addressed the members of the Bar during the event, and on his and on behalf

of his team including vice president Baldev Singh, General Secretary Pradeep Majotra, Joint Secretary Anshu Mahajan, and Treasurer Rahul Aggarwal expressed his gratitude to the MLA for announcing fund for the development of bar.

Battery of senior and young advocates were also present at the event. All attendees appreciated the constructive initiative taken by MLA Sham Lal Sharma and thanked him for his continued support.

The event was conducted in a dignified manner and is being regarded as a new milestone in strengthening cooperation between the legislature and judiciary.

## CS chairs 2nd SEC meeting of DMRRR

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, on Wednesday chaired the 2nd State Executive Committee (SEC) meeting of the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR) to review the status of disaster preparedness and assess the allocation and utilization of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF).

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary Home, Chandraker Bharti, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Suresh Kumar Gupta and other senior officers.

For strengthening of Civil Defence, SEC approved the release of Rs 1.72 crore under preparedness and capacity building to Commandant General,



Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo chairing 2nd State Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday.

Civil Defence for procurement of sirens and generators in all the districts.

As an initiative of community based disaster management, the SEC also considered to approve the release of Rs 4 lakh to NCC units of Degree

Colleges of Jammu, Reasi, Srinagar and Anantnag districts in the first phase for conduct of trainings on disaster preparedness and response.

The SEC also considered the nomination of Director General of Police as member of SEC (ex-officio) to

make necessary amendments in the JK disaster management, rules 2007.

The Chief Secretary stressed the importance of utilising the existing resources efficiently which is critical towards saving lives, reducing response times and minimizing overall damage in case of a disaster.

The SEC also highlighted the significance of each agenda item for augmenting the capacity of the UT to be better prepared against the disasters the region is prone to.

The SEC reaffirmed its commitment to transparent and accountable use of SDRF resources. It also resolved to hold periodic reviews to monitor progress and address any emerging gaps in the disaster management framework.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

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