

Dr Jitendra launches India's first AI based 'Large Language Model' for Indian languages

STATE TIMES NEWS
NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh, on Monday launched 'Bharat Gen', India's first-of-its-kind, indigenously developed, Artificial Intelligence (AI) based, government-funded Multimodal "Large Language Model" (LLM) for Indian languages, at the prestigious "BharatGen Summit"-India's largest Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and LLM summit and hackathon.

Developed under the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) and implemented through TII Foundation for IoT and IoE at IIT Bombay, BharatGen aims to revolutionize AI development across India's linguistic and cultural spectrum. The initiative is supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and brings together a robust consortium of leading academic institutions, experts, and innovators.

Speaking at the Summit, Dr. Jitendra, described BharatGen as a "national mission to create AI that is ethical, inclusive, multilingual, and deeply rooted in Indian values and ethos."



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh delivering keynote address after inaugurating "BharatGen Summit" and "Hackathon 2025", at Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

The platform integrates text, speech, and image modalities, offering seamless AI solutions in 22 Indian languages.

"This initiative will empower critical sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture, and governance, delivering region-specific AI solutions that understand and serve every Indian," said Dr. Singh.

Recalling a success story from his own constituency, Dr. Singh spoke about AI-powered telemedicine services where an AI doctor communicates fluently in the patient's native language. "It not only builds trust but has a placebo-like psychological effect, enabling better care in remote regions connected with superspecialty hospitals across India," he noted.

Dr. Jitendra emphasized that BharatGen aligns with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "India's Tehade"-not just for innovation but for inclusion. He hailed India's AI progress as a global benchmark, including CPGRAMS, now studied by several countries as a model grievance redressal system.

The Minister reiterated that Anusandhan NRF will further boost India's R&D and innovation ecosystem, and highlighted the ongoing transformation through flagship schemes like PM MUDRA Yojana, PM SVANidhi, and PM Vishwakarma Yojana, which uplift street vendors, artisans, and micro-entrepreneurs.

Dr. Jitendra highlighted the transformative role of Generative AI in grassroots governance, citing the integration of multilingual feedback systems into platforms like CPGRAMS to enhance citizen engagement and grievance redressal. He underscored the inclusive vision of NEP 2020, which promotes interdisciplinary learning by enabling students to combine technical and humanities disciplines, thus enhancing their employability and innovation potential.

Dr. Singh celebrated the success of over 3,000 Agri-tech StartUps, particularly those pioneering initiatives like lavender cultivation in Jammu & Kashmir, as evidence that innovation thrives beyond metros and IT sectors. The summit also witnessed a significant MoU exchange ceremony aimed at deepening collaboration across government departments and research hubs.

The BharatGen Summit witnessed the esteemed presence of key dignitaries including Prof. Abhay Karandikar,

Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DST); V. Srinivas, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG); Rajit Punhani, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship; and Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and IT (MEITY). The event also featured industry stalwart Kris Gopalakrishnan, Co-founder of Infosys, and Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan, Principal Investigator of BharatGen.



Sukhnandan leads citizens for National Security march; Tiranga Rally applauds Op Sindoor

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a resounding display of patriotism and solidarity, thousands of villagers from the Marh Constituency came together for a grand Tiranga Rally organized by Citizens for National Security under the leadership of former Minister and senior BJP leader Ch Sukhnandan Kumar. The rally was a spirited tribute to Operation Sindoor, a recent decisive military action hailed as a major strategic success for India.

As the participants marched through various routes of the constituency, waving the Tricolour and chanting anti-Pakistan slogans, the air was charged with emotion, national pride, and gratitude toward the security forces. The rally drew men, women, elderly citizens, and youth in massive numbers, turning into a spontaneous celebration of India's growing assertiveness under the strong and visionary leadership of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Addressing the rally at the culmination point, Ch. Sukhnandan Kumar delivered a powerful speech, emphasizing that Operation Sindoor is Modi's bold approach to national security. "This operation reflects a new India-an India that does not stay silent in the face of provocation. Under the fearless leadership of Narendra Modi, our brave soldiers have been given a free hand to respond to enemies in the language they understand best,"



Senior BJP leader Ch. Sukhnandan Kumar leading Tiranga rally in Jammu on Monday.

The rally was also attended by a number of prominent BJP leaders and local elected representatives, who echoed similar sentiments and lauded both the government and the security forces. Among those present were: Vikas Choudhary, BJP State Secretary, Balbir Lal, DDC Member Marh, Jatinder Singh, Ex Chairman, Municipal Council, Deepak Pandey, BJP District Spokesperson, Anita Langleh, State Secretary, Kisan Morecha, Sarpanch: Parshotam Sharma, Daljeet Singh, Narinder Singh, Bandana Kumari, Deepak Jalotra, Balbir Singh, Ashok Mahajan and Balbir Lal.

In their brief remarks, these leaders collectively praised PM Modi's commitment to safeguarding India's sovereignty, enhancing defence capabilities, and promoting national pride. They pointed out how, under his leadership, India has seen the implementation of path breaking reforms in both the civil and military sectors.

"From abrogation of Article 370 to strengthening our border infrastructure and defence arsenal, Modi has taken historic decisions that others only hesitated to even talk about," said one of the speakers.

The entire Marh constituency turned into a sea of saffron, white, and green as villagers marched in unison with chants of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," "Modi Hai Toh Mumkin Hai," and "Pakistani Murdabad." The rally concluded with the singing of the national anthem and a collective pledge to uphold the spirit of nationalism and support every initiative of the government that aims at strengthening India's security and sovereignty. This rally not only reaffirmed the people's trust in the Indian Armed Forces but also underscored the deep faith rural India places in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In the words of Ch. Sukhnandan Kumar, "The people of Marh stand united in saluting our soldiers and our Prime Minister. Jai Hind. Jai Bharat."

Dr Andrabi takes stock of Eid-Adha arrangements at Srinagar. All arrangements for Eid festival are in place at all major sites in whole of Kashmir division: Darakhshan

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi took stock of the Eid-Adha preparations during a meeting with the government representatives from different departments at Srinagar on Monday.

In addition to the government officers, the meeting was attended by the Board officers and prominent religious scholars. The role of Power Department, Jal Shakti Department, Health Services Department, police, traffic police, Consumer Affairs Department, Legal Meteorology Department, Lakes & Water Ways Department etc was discussed.

Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi instructed the government representatives and Waqf



Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi chairing a meeting.

Board management to adhere to a coordinated plan to ensure all required arrangements for the festival prayers and the holy sacrifice.

"All the requisite arrangements for the Eid festival are in place at all major sites in whole of Kashmir division", said Dr. Darakhshan after the meeting.

She thanked the administration for all help in the proper management of festival arrangements & requested the people to cooperate with the Board management during the festival celebrations.

Different government departments were represented by SDM East in Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Office, Commissioner Srinagar Municipality, ADC Srinagar, Superintendent Engineer LAWDA, Representative of Director Health Services Kashmir,

Representative of Director FCS&CA, SSP Srinagar ASP Security Kashmir, Dy DP Traffic Kashmir, Joint Director, Legal Metrology Department Kashmir, Assistant Executive Engineer Jal Sakti, AEE KPDC, Deputy Director Fire & Emergency Services Kashmir, District Animal Husbandry Officer Srinagar & Poultry Development Officer Srinagar and others.

Gaurav Gupta calls on LG Manoj Sinha, discusses present scenario



BJP Spokesperson Gaurav Gupta calling on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: BJP Spokesperson Gaurav Gupta met Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhavan Srinagar and discussed the current political and developmental scenario of Jammu and Kashmir.

He highlighted public concerns, recent ground-level developments across various regions, and stressed the need to strengthen peace, accelerate ongoing projects, and ensure inclusive governance.

Gaurav also appreciated the administration's transparent and people-centric approach under LG Sinha's leadership.

The LG acknowledged the feedback and reiterated the administration's commitment to public welfare and inclusive development.

Div Com, IGP Jammu review arrangements for Shri Amarnathji Yatra

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police Bhim Sen Tuti on Monday convened a meeting to review the arrangements for Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2025.

The meeting, attended by officers from civil and police administration, CAPF, Deputy Commissioners, Commissioner JMC, Transport Commissioner, Director Information, HODs, representatives of line departments, Traffic, NHAL, Telecom agencies, included a detailed discussion on the action plan for smooth conduct of the holy annual pilgrimage.

At the outset, the Divisional Commissioner directed the concerned District Administrations to start the process of setting up of RFID counters and Registration centers from Lakhampur to Jammu to Ramban. He asked them to initiate the training of



Div Com Jammu Ramesh Kumar, IGP Bhim Sen Tuti chairing a joint meeting at Jammu on Monday.

staff for manning RFID counters at the earliest.

The Div Com and IGP sought the details from stakeholder departments on different aspects of the arrangements to be put in place from Lakhampur to Bhagwati Nagar Jammu and upto Lambar in Ramban -the route of holy pilgrimage passing through Jammu Division.

The arrangements reviewed included provision of civic amenities, sanitation and security at lodgment centres, traffic management, Transport and transit facilities, Healthcare facilities, illumination, provision of power generators, fire extinguishers, installation of CCTV cameras, parking and Cloak room facility at Bhagwati Nagar.

The meeting was apprised about the status of ongoing works being executed by different departments at Bhagwati Nagar- the Jammu base camp and at different lodgment centres in the districts en-route the holy pilgrimage.

The Div Com directed the Deputy Commissioners to personally visit lodgment centres to ensure the quality of work and timely completion of the same.

The Inspector General of Police reviewed arrangements for security forces and their deployment along the route, lodgment centres and yatra camps. He exhorted the officials for dispatch of the yatra caravan at the fixed time in the morning. He stressed on wide publicity of the starting and cutoff timing of Yatra from Jammu via print, electronic and social media to keep the pilgrims updated about the same to avoid confusion.

The Div Com directed the concerned executing agencies to complete all works by June 20. He asked the concerned departments to deploy Nodal officers to monitor daily progress of the works. He also asked for setting up of a Control room at Bhagwati Nagar camp with representatives from all stakeholder departments.

The Divisional Commissioners further directed for making ample stock of LPG cylinders for Langars, besides sufficient counters for Mobile sim cards and public transports for the convenience of the devotees. He further asked the Transport Commissioner to keep a check on overcharging by auto rickshaws and e-rickshaws from pilgrims. The CEO Jammu Smart City Limited was asked to promote the availability of e-buses for visiting tourist places in Jammu like Beating Retreat at Suchetgarh and others.

The Divisional Commissioner emphasized inter-agency coordination and timely execution of responsibilities to ensure a safe and smooth yatra. All departments were instructed to maintain a close liaison and complete the tasks well in advance.

Ratnakar Patnaik takes charge as Managing Director of LIC of India

STATE TIMES NEWS
MUMBAI: Ratnakar Patnaik has been elevated to the rank of Managing Director of LIC of India on 1st June 2025. He was appointed as Managing Director vide Government of India notification dated 14th May 2025.

Patnaik born in 1968 joined LIC of India in March 1990 as a Direct Recruit Officer. He is a Graduate with Physics (Honours) and holds Master Degree in Public Administration. He is Fellow of Insurance Institute of India and



also holds a Diploma in Health Insurance.

Prior to taking charge as Managing Director of LIC, Patnaik was Executive Director (Investment-Front Office)

and Chief Investment Officer of the Corporation.

In a career span of 35 years in the Corporation, Patnaik has occupied important positions across many geographies. He was the Senior Divisional Manager of Indore and Jamshedpur Divisions and also worked as Regional Manager (Mktg/CLIA) in Eastern Zone.

He has made his mark in the areas of Marketing, Customer Servicing and Investment in various capacities over the years.

Khatana slams Pakistan's 'Peace Facade', calls it global exporter of terrorism

STATE TIMES NEWS
LONDON: In a powerful address to the Indian diaspora at India House in London, senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Rajya Sabha Member, Gulam Ali Khatana, strongly condemned Pakistan's duplicity on peace and its continued role as a sponsor of cross-border terrorism.

Khatana categorically stated that India requires no external mediation to address its internal matters, asserting that the country is fully capable of combating terrorism-militarily, diplomatically, and



digitally.

"Pakistan begs on one side and spreads terrorism on the other. That time has gone," Khatana said, emphasizing that Indian representatives and diaspora around the

world are united in conveying India's resolve to crush terrorism without foreign intervention.

"You are our ambassadors. Our army will fight on the ground, but we must also fight diplomatically and on social media. We must present our viewpoint with clarity and conviction," he added.

Highlighting the democratic resurgence in Jammu and Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370, Khatana pointed to the record-breaking influx of nearly 20 million tourists to the region, along with ongo-

ing development and rising public happiness as key indicators of peace and prosperity.

He attributed the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam, where 26 innocent civilians were barbarically massacred, to Pakistan's deep frustration with the region's progress and normalization.

"The Islamic Republic of Pakistan has done the greatest disservice to Islam by making it synonymous with terrorism," Khatana asserted. "Islam is a religion of peace. What Pakistan represents today is a satanic distortion of those values."

Khatana also raised the issue of India's continued generosity in sharing water from three rivers with Pakistan, despite receiving terrorism, drugs, and infiltration in return-a stark contrast to Pakistan's hostile policies.

Asserting India's sovereign authority and self-reliance in matters of security, Khatana reiterated that the nation stands firm against terrorism in all its forms and urges the global community to recognize Pakistan's role in destabilizing peace in the region.