

Dr Jitendra addresses International Ministerial meet, calls for affordable Clean Energy solutions

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GOA: Addressing the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM -14) 8th Mission Innovation (MI-8) meeting, being attended by representatives of over 40 countries, here on Wednesday, Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh called for affordable Clean Energy solutions and said, in order to achieve this goal, strong Public Private Partnership is the need of the hour.

The Minister representing India, the host country, said, Clean Energy International Incubation Centre known as CEIIC set up in 2018 CEIIC has incubated 45 StartUps and they have already filed 35 patents.

He informed that 10 StartUps have commercialized their products and a few StartUps have raised more than Rs. 20 crore funds, while 20 of these startups are now commercially available in the market.

Dr Jitendra recalled that the Clean Energy International Incubation Centre known as CEIIC is a first of its kind International Incubation Centre jointly established by DBT/BIRAC, Tata Trust &



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the International Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM-14) 8th Mission Innovation (MI-8) meet being held at Goa, on Tuesday.

Tata Power in 2018 under Mission Innovation multilateral program. He said, this reflects strong Public Private Partnership commitment from Govt of India for promoting clean energy solutions.

Dr Jitendra also announced that CEIIC incubated StartUp 'Takachar' was named the GBP 1 million Earth shot prize winner for its technology innovation.

Dr Jitendra said, the Clean Energy Incubator has launched 3 Tectonic calls for applications to identify and create a pipeline of entrepreneurs & StartUps.

He said, it is evidence of the Government of India's commitment and contribution to work together with Industry and International partners to encourage innovations in the area of clean energy. The Minister concluded that this successful PPP model can serve for tackling global challenges in the other fields to create environment friendly, affordable, scalable solutions for a sustainable future. He said, India is looking forward to connecting with other partners for scaling up innovations by StartUps.

Dozens of villages cutoff as road washed away near Gajansoo Nai Basti 125 mtr long embankment at Tawi Island broken, many villages under threat of flash floods: Sukhnandan

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JAMMU: Seeking prompt action from the administration for repair of damaged road which connects dozens of villages at Nai Basti Gajansoo and re-construction of embankment along Tawi Island at Marh, wherein over 125 meters of embankment with three layers washed away in flash floods, former Minister and senior BJP leader, Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar on Wednesday appealed for immediate start of construction work on these two sites so that problems faced by villagers can be sorted out.

Many villagers used this Gajansoo Nai Basti Pangrod Chardgali road for supply of vegetables to various parts of the J&K UT, said Sukhnanda Kumar, who personally visited the spot, adding, "The 600 meters embankments was



Former Minister, Ch Sukhnandan Kumar inspecting damages being caused by heavy rain.

constructed during my tenure as PHE, flood & Irrigation Minister and today in flash flood this 125 metres embankments having three layers has been washed away causing serious threat to the adjoining villages particularly Channi and Nandani."

"If this work is not started at an earliest, this will cause major damages," said Sukhnandan Kumar.

"As far as the road at Gajansoo Nai Basti is concerned, this road connects many villages upto the border area, I appeal to the government to restore this road so that people may not suffer. This road is the only option to move out from over two dozen villages including Pangol, Chagradhu, Gujjar Basti Belli Pakaya and Mata Di Talli in Marh area," said

the former minister.

Others who visited Tawi Island with the former minister include AEEs Gopal Krishan and Rahul Kotwal, Tehsildar Pankaj Bahu and Kuldeep Singh, Nambardar Vikram Singh, Daljeet Singh, Swaran Singh and others.

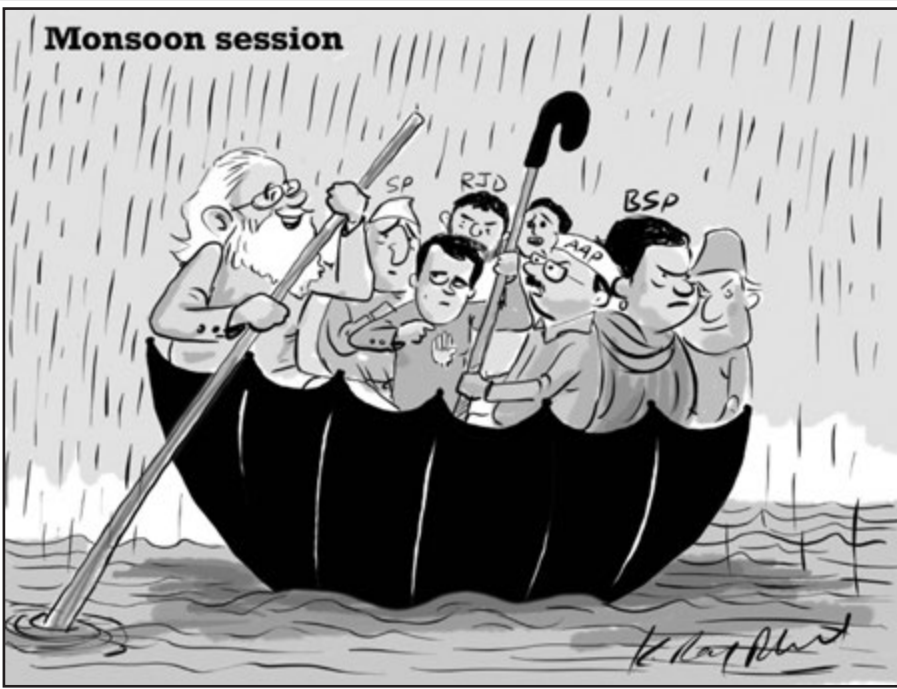
Sukhnandan also appealed to the government to stop the working of stone crushers

along the Tawi river banks which causes more damage.

"Even the mining from these areas should also been banned as the week embankments are always a threat to the villagers during monsoon season, suggested the former minister Sukhnandan Kumar, adding "even the licensed mining must be only from the beds of the rivers not from the embankments."

Sukhnandan advised all the concerned engineers and the senior officers to implement the mining rules and conditions so that we can save human lives, cattle and crops from damages in flash floods in near future."

"Along with the senior officers of rural development and revenue department I am again visiting these spots on Thursday to apprise them of the problems of locals," Sukhnandan said.



MP Rajya Sabha Khatana calls on LG Manoj Sinha



BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

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SRINAGAR: BJP MP Rajya Sabha Er. Gulam Ali Khatana on Wednesday met LG Manoj Sinha and demanded strict action against the disruptive forces who are hell bent to disturb peace and tranquility in Jammu and Kashmir while acting as the Over ground worker of the enemy countries.

He said that the recent spurt in targeted attacks in Kashmir is directly supported by such elements who indulge in rumour mongering about any welfare measure taken by the UT Government.

Appreciating LG Manoj

Sinha for formulating a policy for allotment of 5 marla housing plots for landless and homeless citizens of Jammu and Kashmir, MP Gulam Ali said that those who kept such marginalized sections of society deprived of basic facilities are creating a hoax of 'outsiders' settleme3nt in J&K. Such elements need to be exposed, he said, emphasizing the need for better coordination between the bureaucracy and public representatives. He further said, that there is another category besides landless, which is "paperless" people who only have a 'Motto' certifying their movement to and fro issued by Forest department, who also

need to be included in the list of beneficiaries of recent government policy and other social welfare schemes.

MP Gulam Ali also highlighted the issue of new guidelines for pensioners including old age, widows, disabled and others besides unemployment among youth, DRDO contractuals, SBM, tribal welfare. He demanded compensation for tribal families uprooted in Kathua and Ramban district.

He also shared his observations during the recent tour across length and breadth of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. He demanded Cold storage facility in district Kupwara.

Sufi tradition of Kashmir is a beacon of light: Dr Andrabi



Chairperson JKWB, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi laying foundation stone for Utility Complex.

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CHRRAR-E-SHARIEF: Minister of State and Chairperson J&K Waqf Board Dr Darakhshan Andrabi laid foundation stone for Utility Complex and the new Main Gate at the shrine campus of Hazrat Nooruddin Noorani (RA) at Chrar-e-Sharief during her visit on Wednesday.

She also issued instructions to the Engineering Wing of the Waqf Board to ensure the completion of the works

before the Annual Urs Sharief at the shrine. Later in her address at a brief function held in the Campus, Dr Andrabi said that Waqf Board has taken up a mega shrines development programme for the first time on its own despite the limited resources available.

"We are committed to develop our shrines by undertaking renovation and construction works as per the demand at all major shrines in the first phase and during the

past few months we have started work or completed work on many projects throughout J&K", said Waqf Chairperson.

She said that the transformation of the Waqf Management has re-established the importance of our spiritual places which had suffered a lot due to anti-spiritual campaigns which flourished during decades of violence in J&K.

'Sufi tradition of Kashmir is a beacon of light which represents our great spiritual past. This tradition is the way of inclusiveness, compassion and peace. It is our collective responsibility to restore our positive traditions now in these hard earned peace times', said Dr Andrabi.

The Imam of this great sufi shrine also addressed the gathering. He thanked Dr Andrabi for her reformative steps in the shrine management.

Switching from digital to smart, now prepaid meters, Govt unnecessary harassing honest consumers: CCI Jammu

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JAMMU: It is highly obnoxious and unwarranted that the Government in J&K is unnecessarily harassing thousands of honest electricity consumers by frequently switching from digital to smart and now prepaid meters, without initiating consultation with civil society and representative of the people. This was said by Arun Gupta, President Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) in a statement issued to media in presence of Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President CCI, Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President CCI, Rajesh Gupta, Secretary CCI and Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer CCI.

Expressing grave concern over the frequent moves of the government in the name of putting an end to the power theft in J&K, the CCI President said that switching over from one type of meter to another will not serve the pur-



CCI President Arun Gupta interacting with office barears.

pose because the highest rate of transmission losses are the real culprits.

Decrying the government's move of changing the power meters from one technology to another in a short span of time, Arun Gupta said that such kind of harassment amounts to mental agony to PDD consumers and in a way is an attack on fundamental rights. He said that Jammu Power Development Corporation Ltd (JPDCL) is

torturing people by adopting new methods to collect revenue, which is unacceptable and illogical because the people in J&K are already paying income tax, GST, water bills, power bills, etc without fail despite absence of any prepaid methodology then why government needs advance payment (prepaid system) from consumers to provide electricity,

which is an essential service and the government is bound to ensure power supply to each and every household and business establishments. CCI President castigated the policy makers of the J&K Government for taking such drastic steps to tackle the simple problem of non-payment of power bills. He said that people in Jammu and Kashmir are respectable citizens of the country and not traitors, therefore the government should not persecute or torment them in such a manner which snatches away their peace of mind.

Arun Gupta also said that the consumers are complaining that smart meters are running very fast as compared to digital meters installed earlier. We asked the government whether the digital meters are

showing wrong reading or the smart meters are wrong.

The areas where the smart meters are installed are also not being spared from the unscheduled power cuts. We are of the firm view that the smart meters should not be installed to harass the honest consumers unless and until the things are set right.

Further Arun Gupta also highlighted that as per the communication from the Industrialists of R S Pura there is no separate feeder for Industries as such they are facing lot of hardships in running their Industrial units but there is no one to listen or solve their problems even after so many representations. We request the electric department to listen to their genuine grievances and act accordingly to minimize their suffering.

After removal of Article 370, J&K witnesses lot of change in investment ecosystem: Sham Lal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Health Minister and BJP leader, Sham Lal Sharma, along with DIG Jammu, Samba & Kathua Range Shakti Pathak and other dignitaries on Wednesday made their visit at state-of-the-art HexaMed Diagnostics and Speciality Clinic, situated at main Bypass Road Channi Himmat Jammu.

In order to provide quality health facilities to the people of Jammu and Kashmir at affordable prices in their own city, Shri Kailakh Jyotish Avim Vedic Sanathan Trust in association with Hexamed Diagnostics and Speciality Clinic on Wednesday conducted a health medical camp at newly built Clinic and invited chief guest of the programme former Health Minister Sham Lal Sharma, special guest Shakti Pathak DIG Jammu Samba and Kathua Range, Guests of



Former Health Minister, Sham Lal Sharma after inaugurating HexaMed Diagnostics and Speciality Clinic.

Honour Rajinder Sharma DDC Sundarbani, KK Sharma Director Agriculture Jammu, RK Chhibber former interim chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Bank, SP Raj Bhavan Srinagar Brijesh Sharma.

The head of the trust, Mahant Rohit Shastri, said that along with treatment, various types of checkup facilities were also provided free of cost to the people coming to

the camp, around 120 people got their checkups done.

Speaking on the occasion, Sham Lal Sharma said that this medical camp has been organized with the view of health awareness and providing good health facilities, everyone talks about good health and there has been a lot of awareness about it. Still, there are many such cases which force us to think. Many congratulations and

best wishes to the organizer of this camp, Nigam Gupta, trustee of Mahant Rohit Shastri Trust, who always strives to organize such events and provide world-class and reliable facilities in the city.

Sham Lal said that after the efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the removal of Article 370, there has been a lot of change in the investment ecosystem of this Union Territory. Thousands of new entrepreneurs are setting up their units here and emerging as role models in the field of investment.

Sham Lal said that the days of struggle for the entrepreneurs are sounding as if over now and the youths who want to set up their own ventures are getting help from various schemes of the government and all kinds of help are provided to fulfill their dreams. In such a situation, there are possibility of including people from

the country as well as investors from abroad among the private investors investing in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sham said that due to the new industrial development policy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Jammu and Kashmir, the golden era of industrial development has started in Jammu and Kashmir. Because of this, the opportunities for starting industrial and business companies in various fields have increased, employment opportunities are also being created for the youth and appealed to all government and private sector organizations as well as common cloves to participate in this scheme.

Sharma assured that he'll take up this issue with LG Manoj Sinha so that single window system to avail facilities strengthened and cooperation should be given so that our healthcare segment should moves towards progress in coming days.

Our youth have vital role to play in shaping better future for J&K: Bukhari

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JAMMU: Apni Party President, Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari, on Wednesday, said that Jammu and Kashmir's youth have both the potential and the will to play a significant role in leading this region towards peace and prosperity. He assured that the Apni Party would ensure ample opportunities for the young generation to showcase their talents and contribute to a better future for Jammu and Kashmir. Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari made these remarks today at an event organised by the party's youth wing at the party office in Gandhi Nagar, Jammu. The programme was organised by the Provincial President of the Youth Wing, Vipul Bali. On this occasion, a prominent businessman, Shakti Dutta, along with scores of his supporters, mostly youngsters, joined the party. Bukhari welcomed the new members into the party fold and expressed hope that their joining would further fortify the party's presence in the rural areas of Jammu.

He assured the new members that they would be provided ample opportunities to effec-



Apni Party President, S.M.A Bukhari addressing party workers.

tively serve the people in their respective areas.

Speaking at the event, the Apni Party President emphasised the vital role of the young generation in taking Jammu and Kashmir towards a better future marked by peace, prosperity, and overall development in the region.

He said, "Our youth is our future, and they hold the key to a peaceful and prosperous J&K. Today, I assure you that the Apni Party will do everything needed to ensure our young generation gets platforms and opportunities to unleash their tremendous talents, elevating this region to exceptional heights of peace and prosperity."

Apart from the prominent

businessman Shakti Dutta, those who joined the party during this extraordinary event included Manoj Bali (Rtd Executive Engineer), Keshav Bali, Namish Singh, Sachin Sant, Suresh Dutta, Parvinder Lehria, Vishal Bogel, Laqsh Manhas, Shivansh, Sandeep Langer, Damanjoot Singh, Gotam Narina, Arjun Jammwal, Arbas, and others.

The prominent party leaders present included the Senior Provincial President, Faqir Nath; Provincial Vice President, Prem Lal; Additional General Secretary, Arun Chibber; State President for the party's SC Wing, Bodhraj Kazmi; State President for the party's Trade Wing, Ajaz Kazmi and others.