StartUps require strong industry linkage to sustain: Dr Jitendra

JAMMU: "StartUps require strong industry management linkage for sustainability", said Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh here on Monday.

He said institutions like ΠM have an important role to play

Addressing the inaugural session of the Orientation Programme for the fresh batch of MBA students of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Jagti on the outskirts of Jammu city, Dr Jitendra said, the most of the successful startup stories have been possible due to strong industry linkages. "For example, in Aroma mission, Government became an enabler by ensuring capacity building of those engaged in agri start-ups in lavender and facilitating the market access to spur sale of Himalayan products like lavender-made perfumes and other products", he

The Minister said, tapping the Himalavan bio- resources and unexplored minerals along coastal areas can make great value addition to India's economy and boost 'AtmaNirbharta'. "India's Coastal States and Himalayan States/UTs like



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the inaugural session of the Orientation Programme for fresh batch of MBA students at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jagti, Jammu.

J&K have a lot to offer to the country's future economy"

Talking about the aspirational generation, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it is better times happening under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said Start-Ups are booming, and, as a result, new opportunities are opening. "Technology has been a great leveller so that everybody from every region has an opportunity", he stated.

The Union Minister said the youth must harness the technology which has created a level-playing field for societal good. Earlier, technology was a privilege of a few, he pointed

Dr Jitendra Singh called upon the students to gear themselves up in order to take the leadership role of India of 2047. "Youth will be the architects of a developed India when it completes the centenary of its Independence in 2027", he said, adding that the government is making tireless efforts to equip its younger generation with new skills and training and world- class education to mould them into architects of a developed India. "NEP 2020 brought by Prime Minister

Modi will contribute to this

goal", he said. On IIIM-Jammu's progress, Dr Jitendra Singh said, that in just a few years of its establishment, it has risen to become one of the better ones among the new lot of such premiere institutions of higher learning in the country. "Beginning from infancy, when we were finding difficulty even to find faculty, it has come a long way in its small journey", the Minister said. "The establishment of IIM Jammu is a significant step towards realizing his dream of providing quality education and producing leaders who will drive the nation towards unprecedented growth and

development to achieve the tar-

Dr Jitendra Singh advocated for forging collaboration and synergy among institutions for

get of Viksit Bharat by 2047",

dents. "The age of working in silos is over: the era of collaboration is here", the Minister declared, encouraging IIM-Jammu, AIIMS-Jammu, IIT-Jammu and Central University of Jammu to enter into partnership by inking MoUs on Research and Development and Artificial Intelligence.

Earlier upon his arrival, Dr Jitendra Singh took a tour of the state-of-the-art campus of IIM-Jammu alongside its Director Prof. B.S. Sahav and Director, AIIMS, Jammu, Dr Shakti Kumar Gupta. On the occasion, he planted a sapling.



Prof Hari Om's new book 'Buddhists Playing With Fire' hits stands

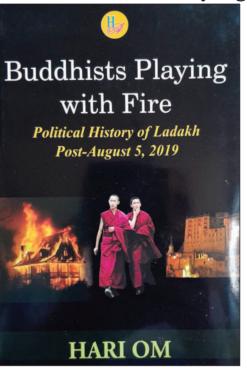
JAMMU: New book of Prof Hari Om, former Dean of Jammu University's Faculty of Social Sciences and member Indian Council of Historical Research, "Buddhists Playing with Fire: Political History of Ladakh post-August 5, 2019" has hit the stands.

The book - apart from throwing light on the history of Buddhists' struggle (1947-2019) for separation of trans-Himalayan Ladakh from Kashmir and Central rule for the region -- deals with the contradictory and mutually exclusive response the abrogation of Article 370 and reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir or creation of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh on August 5, 2019 out of the erstwhile State evoked in the Buddhist-dominated Leh and Muslim dominated Kargil.

Leh celebrated August 5 as a day of thanks-giving and Kargil observed the eventful day as a black day.

The sudden and mind-boggling change in the political attitude of the Buddhist leadership in Ladakh in 2020 forms an important part of the book. That year, the non-BJP Buddhist leadership in Leh changed their goal post. So much so, they and the otherwise highly hostile Kargil's leadership joined hands to first demand Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution so that the Ladakhis could control the entire land and all jobs and then put forth a demand seeking full State status for Ladakh, coupled with an elected Legislative Assembly.

The book, in addition, throws light on the parleys between the agitating Ladakhi leadership and Union Home Ministry aimed at restoring peace -



parleys which failed to break the impasse The reason: While the former insisted on Sixth Schedule and statehood status, the Home Ministry said no taking into consideration the region's geo-political significance.

results which would follow on the conversion of Union Territory into State of Ladakh. The results: one, the otherwise powerful institution of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) would become a story of the past. Two, everything would be controlled by the Kargil-dominated State Government and the Buddhists, who today are a majority in Leh district and play all shots there as well as in Kargil district's Zanskar tehsil, would lose the political status they enjoy in their own district and in Zanskar tehsil. Since they constitute less than 40 per cent of Ladakh's population, they will always remain a minority in the Assembly, which discusses and decides questions of supreme importance to the happiness and well-being of

That full state status would also negate what the great Buddhist leaders like Chhewang Rigzin and Head Lama of Ladakh, Kushok Bakula Rinpoche, did after 1947 for the Buddhists would be yet another immediate fallout if the Ladakh Union Territory given the status of a full-fledged State. This, and the manner in which opponents of the Narendra Modi Government and certain vested interests tried to fish in the troubled waters, also forms the core of the book. The book also throws light on the political status the Kargil would enjoy in the State of Ladakh, in the State Government, in the elected Legislative Assembly and in the Civil Secretariat. They would exercise veto power like the Kashmiri leadership enjoyed veto power between October 1947 and August 2018.

People are fed up with anti-people policies: Tara Chand STATE TIMES NEWS

KHOUR: The Congress on Monday claimed that the INDI Alliance will win the upcoming assembly elections in J&K.

This was stated by former

Deputy Chief Minister, Tara Chand while addressing massive public gathering in Maira Mandrian of Chaamb Prominent Constituency. among those present on the occasion include Senior Vice President, Thakur Balwan Singh, General Secretary Adv Bhardwaj, Mohinder Secretaries Bushan Dogra Sahil Sharma and others. "To elect their own representatives to place them at the helm of affairs is a democratic right of the people and they cannot be deprived of this right for so long without any plausible reason". Tara Chand said. He said that there is no place for politics of exploitation and negative politics, as people of the erstwhile state appreciate and participate in the vibrant democracy of this great nation for a better future and good governance. However until the status of statehood with all consequential rights and the popular government is restored people's unrest will not end, he said adding that people feel cheated, divided, deprived, downgraded with loss of dignity, status and genuine rights which was never expected by them even in dream.

Tara Chand criticized the government's failure to resolve the issue of daily wagers, need based workers in PHE, irrigation and flood control besides in several other Departments who are rendering their services for decades and large number of



Former Dy CM, Tara Chand addressing public meeting.

them have even retired without regularization.

He said that he fully supported their cause and demanded to regularise all such category of daily wagers in different Departments.

Tara Chand denounced the government for installation of smart meters. He vehemently objected to the installation of Smart meters and claimed that people are dejected over the power bills, which are contrary to their monthly consumption.

He said that people are getting hefty bills after installation of the smart meters. He demanded from the government that electricity should be provided to the people at lower rates so that people get relief from huge bills.

He said that Congress feels duty bound to work for the wellbeing of the people. Congress is an instrument of service to the people and will continue to remain at the forefront to highlight the genuine needs concerning the people for their res-

Adv Mohinder Bhardwaj said that fundamentalism, cronv capitalism are threat to the very vitals of the nation and we

should rise to safeguard our Constitution, democracy and freedom

> Bhagat Bhushan Dogra aid that the Dalit community has fully supported the Congress in these elections.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Vijay Chib, Nirmal Mehta, Madan lal Senior VP District Santosh Manhas, Rural, Bodhraj Sharma, Rashpal Singh, Pt Somnath, Anudeep Sharma, Capt Kali Dass, Vinod Sharma Block President Akhnoor, Daljeet Singh Block President Pargwal, Jagdish Rai Block President Samwah Kewal Sharma Block President Chowki Chouran, Rajkumar Sharma Block President Kharah Balli, Ganga Sagar Youth Assembly President, Rashi Pawar, Hansraj Bhagat Block President, Vipin Lachotra, Deep Bhagat, Sham Lal Radhay President Barwala Biradri, Anil Manhas, Sanjeev Bhagat, Baldev Raj Bhagat retired ZEO, Gafoor Ahmad, Hazara Singh, Jaswant Singh, DySP Dayal Singh, Capt Santokh Singh, Capt Bajan Singh, Sharmeet Singh and Harbans Singh Jatt.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jammu recently held an enlightening awareness session on the "Safe Use of Elevator and Escalator," aimed at educating its staff on the efficient and secure use of these essential facilities. The session was conducted in collaboration with ACIL (Ahluwalia Contracts Limited) and (India) Johnson Lifts Escalators

Recognizing that the use of lifts can be daunting for some individuals due to ious reasons such as lack of prior experience, past incidents of being stuck due to power failures, or distressing news stories, AHMS Jammu took proactive steps to address these concerns. With a workforce of nearly 1,000 supporting staff, many of whom are not entirely comfortable using elevators in the institution's multistoreyed towers, this initiative aimed to mitigate their fears and enhance operational efficiency.

featured The session



Balwinder Kumar, Senior Engineer at Johnson Lifts and Escalators speaking at awareness session at AIIMS Jammu.

Balwinder Kumar, Senior Engineer at Johnson Lifts and Escalators, who shared his vast experience and expertise with hospital attendants, security staff, and other supporting personnel. His comprehensive address covered crucial aspects of elevator safety, including practical guidance on rescue operations in the unlikely event of a lift malfunction. He reas-

sured participants that the lifts installed at AIIMS Jammu are designed to automatically reach the nearest floor and open the doors in case of power failure or other operational faults. Additionally, he emphasized the importance of remaining calm and managing oneself and others during such situations

The key points on the safe

use of elevators highlighted during the session included supervise children and do not leave them unattended. They may use the lift as a joyride, which is inappropriate and should be avoided. Always pay attention to signage by following posted instructions and warnings in and around the elevator. Allow passengers to exit before entering, and keep hands, feet, and belongings clear of closing doors. Press the desired floor button once, as repeated pressing does not speed up the process. In case of emerbutton or phone inside the elevator to call for help and remain calm. Avoid overcrowding by not exceeding the maximum capacity of the elevator to ensure safe opera-

Prof (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu, highlighted the significance of this program, stating, "Ensuring the safety and comfort of our staff is paramount. This awareness session is a critical step towards creating a safe and efficient

edge and confidence to use these facilities without hesitation. It is through such initiatives that we uphold our commitment to the wellbeing and holistic development of our staff." The ED & CEO commented. "I've noticed people using lifts to travel just one floor, which is detrimental to health. An inactive lifestyle, such as this, is linked to various diseases. While the con-

venience of lifts is undeni-

able, it is important to use

them judiciously to promote

working environment. By

addressing the common fears

associated with using eleva-

tors, we aim to empower our

workforce with the knowl-

a more active and healthier lifestyle. The event was well-received by the participants, who appreciated the practical advice and reassurance provided. AIIMS Jammu remains committed to fostering a safe and supportive environment for all its employees, ensuring that they can perform their duties with utmost efficiency and

confidence.

Will spike in terror acts across Jammu impact economy, pilgrim tourism?



First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the security forces. Their tireless efforts and unwavering dedication have played a crucial role in ensuring our safety and security. It is because of their immense contribution that we continue to live in a safe environment. Secondly, it is important to acknowledge that while terror attacks are deeply tragic and concerning,

they do not possess the power to significantly affect our economy The resilience and strength of our economic systems, coupled with the swift and effective response of our security forces and governing bodies, ensure that our economic activities remain stable and continue to progress despite such challenges.



Terrorists are indeed attempting to create disturbances in Jammu and Kashmir, but they will never succeed in their malicious intentions. The spirit and resilience of the people of this region remain unshaken. The ongoing Amarnath Yatra is a testament to this resilience, with devotees coming from various parts of the country, show ing their unwavering faith and determination. Jammu, often referred to as the "City of

Temples," embodies a deep sense of spirituality and devotion. Despite the threats, there is no palpable fear among the residents or the visitors. This is because they firmly believe that the divine presence protects them. The countless temples and holy sites stand as symbols of this faith, reinforcing the community's strength and unity.



Since the abrogation of Article 370 and with Prime Minister Narendra Modi assuming office for the third time, Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed significant strides toward normalcy and development. This progress, however, has not been well-received by neighbouring Pakistan, which has been trying to disrupt the peace by activating terrorist elements in the region. Despite these attempts, the region remains steadfast, largely due to the exceptional efforts of our security forces. The Amarnath Yatra, a significant annual pilgrimage, serves as a testament to the dedica-

tion and efficiency of our security personnel. Despite the increased threats, the Yatra has continued smoothly, providing safety and reassurance to the thousands of pilgrims, who come to pay their respects. The seamless conduct of this pilgrimage amidst heightened security challenges underscores the competence and commitment of our security



Vardan Sharma, Student

The sense of security, despite the occasional disturbances, is a testament to the effective measures and dedication of our security forces Terrorism, while a grave issue, does not have the power to significantly derail the economic progress of the region. The increase in tourist numbers is a clear indication of this. Tourists are drawn to the natural beauty, cultural heritage, and the unique experiences that Jammu and Kashmir offer. Their continued and grow-

ing presence is a strong signal that the region is perceived as safe and



Sukriti Kapoor, Student

It is indeed unfortunate that Jammu and Kashmir has faced such challenging times. The recent events are troubling, but people's faith in the security forces and hope for a better future are inspiring. It is this resilience and unwavering spirit that keeps the community strong. Terrorists may try to instill fear and disrupt peace, but they will never succeed in breaking the resolve of the people. The collective faith in God and the trust in our security forces forms the foundation of this strength. The brave men and women of the

security forces are tirelessly working to ensure the safety and security of the region, allowing life to continue with a sense of normalcy and hope.



Parmod Kapahi, BJP leader

The Modi government has indeed made significant strides in curbing terrorism in the Kashmir Valley. I firmly believe in the capabilities of our army and security forces are well-placed, as they have demonstrated remarkable dedication and effectiveness in maintaining peace and security in the region. The progress made in recent years is a testament to their relentless efforts. It is widely believed that Pakistan's strategy to foment unrest in Jammu and Kashmir is a tactic to distract from its own internal crises, including financial instability and political turmoil. By attempting to create disturbances across the border, Pakistan seeks to divert attention from its

lomestic issues. However, the robust response from our government and security forces has consistently thwarted these attempts.