

# Dr Jitendra chairs joint meeting of union Secretaries, emphasises Industry-led innovation

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Government's flagship BioE3 Policy-Biotechnology for Economy, Environment & Employment-took centre stage during a high-level joint review meeting of union Secretaries from Science Ministries, chaired by Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh who emphasised Industry-led innovation. The meeting, held here, assessed cross-sectoral scientific initiatives and called for outcome-based coordination across departments in line with India's Vision 2047 goals. Dr. Jitendra was briefed on progress under the policy's first round of DBT-BIRAC joint calls, which received over 2,000 proposals. He described the initiative as "a national mission to power green growth, bioeconomic expansion, and employment generation."  
The BioE3 framework focuses on five key domains: Carbon Capture & Utilization, Precision Biotherapeutics, Smart



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh holding a joint meeting of union Secretaries at Parliament House, New Delhi on Monday.

Proteins, Enzymes, and Climate-Resilient Agriculture. About 40% of selected projects are led by startups and industry through PPP models, while academic institutions are driving agri-biotech innovations. Supporting this effort is the national MoolankurBioEnabler Network-a grid of Bio-AI Hubs, biofoundries, and biomufacturing centres.  
Dr. Jitendra also reviewed a proposal to launch post-doctoral fellowships for Indian scientists abroad - a programme which aims to reverse brain drain and build domestic research capacity. "We must offer

miss during an international satellite launch, where a crack in a fuel line was swiftly resolved, preventing a potential disaster. Dr. Jitendra Singh commended the swift response and technical preparedness of the teams involved.  
The upcoming National Space Day will highlight private sector contributions, with more than 300 startups expected to participate in exhibitions and live demonstrations. "Startups are now integral to our space innovation ecosystem," an official said, noting that startup-led exhibits will anchor this year's celebrations.  
Educational outreach also drew attention. Science engagement programmes like Vigyan Jyoti have seen increased participation from schoolgirls across the country. With growing demand from younger students-including those in Classes 6 to 10-the Ministry is exploring ways to scale early science mentorship and innovation exposure.  
Dr. Jitendra also stressed the need for better inter-ministerial alignment,

instructing departments to route key proposals through the Principal Scientific Adviser for strategic prioritisation. "We must avoid overlaps and work in unison to achieve national outcomes," he said. As the meeting concluded, the Minister called on Ministries to finalise pending deliverables and align projects with long-term scientific goals. "We are not just coordinating programmes-we are laying the foundation of India's scientific leadership for decades to come," he said.

## JU launches 5 year integrated UG programme in Mathematical Sciences Initiative a step toward creating future-ready, skilled graduates aligned with NEP 2020: VC

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Stressing the importance of skill-based education aligned with evolving market demands, the University of Jammu has launched a pioneering Five-Year Integrated Undergraduate Programme in Mathematical Sciences, bringing together the core disciplines of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science under a single academic framework.

Announcing the initiative at a press conference, Vice Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai stated, "With this integrated programme, we are not just offering another academic pathway-we are equipping our students with the essential tools of the future: data literacy, analytical thinking, and computational skills, all grounded in an interdisciplinary framework envisioned by NEP 2020."  
Elaborating on the programme's vision, Prof. Rai said the initiative reflects the University's academic pledge of "Dissolving Boundaries, Evolving Education".  
"By bringing together Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science under a single, integrated academic framework, we are collapsing traditional subject boundaries and building a programme that reflects both academic depth and market relevance," he said.



## JU launches 5 year integrated UG programme in Mathematical Sciences

## Initiative a step toward creating future-ready, skilled graduates aligned with NEP 2020: VC



Vice Chancellor, Jammu University Prof Umesh Rai addressing a press conference.

Prof. Rai emphasised that the course goes beyond conventional teaching and aims to nurture innovation, creativity, and adaptability among students through training in problem-solving, coding, AI, and domain-specific data analysis.  
He further highlighted the academic flexibility built into the programme, which allows students to explore a broad spectrum of disciplines in the initial phase and choose their specialisation in the fourth semester (second year) whether in Mathematical Sciences or in Humanities, Social Sciences, or Commerce.  
"This freedom to design one's own academic journey is at the heart of NEP 2020-and this programme reflects that spirit fully," he noted. Students who have passed Class 12 in Arts, Commerce, or Science streams are eligible for admission to the program, he added.  
Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, while interacting with media persons called the programme a forward-looking response to evolving industry needs.  
"Mathematics is no longer limited to traditional fields-it is becoming central to law, humanities, social sciences, and business, especially with the rise of AI and data," she said.  
Prof. Bhasin described the programme as a rigorous yet flexible learning model that empowers students to think critically and apply skills across contexts. "It's not just about knowledge. It's about developing the capacity to adapt, solve problems, and lead in an interdisciplinary world," she added.  
Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies, said the programme was conceived in response to the mismatch between higher education outcomes and employability.  
Providing structural details of the programme, Prof. J.P. Singh Joorel, Head, Department of Statistics, shared that the course will be delivered by the faculty members from all the three departments, ensuring that each subject is taught by experts.  
"This is not a symbolic merger. The academic integrity of each discipline will be maintained, while creating meaningful crossovers for students," he said. The intake for the first batch is limited to 60 seats, and the online application portal is live. "This is the first time such a programme is being offered in Jammu and Kashmir, and we hope it becomes a model for integrated, future-ready education in India," he added.  
Also present at the press briefing were Prof. Sangeeta Gupta, Dean Planning and Development Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Registrar, Prof. Pawanesh Abrol, Prof. Vibhakar Mansotra, Head Department of Computer Science and IT, Prof. Romesh Kumar, Head Department of Mathematics, Prof. Rahul Gupta and Prof. Parmil Kumar.

# LG Sinha honours Dr Satya Priya for his contribution to Sanskrit, Vedic culture

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: On the auspicious occasion of the 200th birth anniversary of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati and the 150th anniversary of the Arya Samaj, the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha, Jammu & Kashmir, organized a grand Religious and Cultural Awareness Program on July 19-20, 2025, at Sher-e-Kashmir Agricultural University (SKUAST), Chatha, Jammu.



Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha felicitating Dr Satya Priya.

politicians, and distinguished guests from various sections of society across the country.  
On this special occasion, Dr. Satya Priya, Associate Professor in the Department of Sanskrit, University of Jammu, and Director of Vedic Vidya Niketan, Jammu, was honoured by the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha with a Special Certificate of Appreciation for his notable contributions in the fields of Sanskrit language, Indian culture and

heritage, and Vedic promotion.  
This ceremony stood as a remarkable initiative for the promotion of Indian cultural values, inspiring youth and the general public to connect with Vedic principles and way of life.

## Soulful Bhajan Sandhya by Rakesh Kalotra, Harsh elevates Sawan celebrations

## Reviving Roots Panjaktra Mandir offers Stage for Devotion and Culture

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As part of the ongoing Sawan Mahotsav 2025, the historic Panjaktra Mahadev Mandir once again became a vibrant centre of devotion and classical music, hosting its second Bhajan Sandhya of the holy month, drawing a large number of devotees and music lovers.  
The evening witnessed a spiritually immersive atmosphere as Dr. Rakesh Kalotra, HoD Music Dept GCW Parade, 'A' Grade artist of Akashvani (All India Radio), and Harsh Sharma, an acclaimed classical vocalist from Uttar Pradesh-both disciples of the Gwalior Gharana-captivated the audience with their deeply moving and melodious bhajans. Dr. Kalotra has trained under Prof. Ojesh Partap Singh and Pandit T.K. Jalali.  
Gauri Shankar on (Harmonium) Parshotam Kumar (Pakhawaj), Rakesh Anand (Flute), and Dr. Vinay (Tabla) accompanied the artists, enhancing the Bhajan Sandhya with their melodious



Participants performing during Bhajan Sandhya at Panjaktra Mandir.

support in the serene and spiritually charged atmosphere of the historic Panjaktra Mahadev Mandir. Earlier in the evening, the programme commenced with a soulful Ganesh Vandana by the newly inducted students of Panjaktra Mahadev Ved Pathshala, followed by powerful chanting of Shiv Tandav Stotram by senior Vedarthis. Suresh Kumar Sharma, Receiver, Panjaktra Mahadev Mandir, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the participating artists, dignitaries and devotees for their overwhelming response.  
He said, "Panjaktra Mahadev Mandir continues

to radiate the spirit of our rich spiritual traditions. These Bhajan Sandhyas are a beautiful way to celebrate our cultural roots and encourage the younger generation to stay connected with devotion and divinity.  
He further shared that in the coming weeks, more nationally acclaimed artists will grace the Mahotsav with their presence, presenting spiritually enriching musical offerings. He warmly invited devotees to continue being part of these uplifting musical evenings held every Monday.  
Panjaktra Mahadev Mandir has long served as a

spiritual and cultural hub, offering a platform to artists to express their devotion through music and art. However, with the recent addition of a dedicated stage within the temple premises, this role has been further strengthened.  
The Mandir is now actively enhancing its efforts to promote regular cultural activities in the heart of the city, allowing both seasoned and budding artists to perform. This initiative not only nurtures artistic expression but also deepens public engagement with our rich cultural and spiritual traditions.

## LG Kavinder meets noted individuals in New Delhi

## Reaffirms commitment to Ladakh's holistic development

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, on Monday met several noted individuals in the national capital who called on him to extend greetings and best wishes on his assuming charge as the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory.  
Among those who met the Lieutenant Governor included former Director General of Police, Jammu and Kashmir, Dilbag Singh; Director of Delhi Public Schools, S.S. Sodhi; Secretary of the Delhi



Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, meeting with several individuals in New Delhi.

conveyed their best wishes and expressed hope that under LG Kavinder Gupta's leadership, Ladakh would witness accelerated and inclusive development.  
The Lt Governor expressed his gratitude for their good wishes and reiterated his commitment to ensuring people-centric governance, strengthening infrastructure, and promoting peace and progress in the region. He emphasized that the administration is working on a clear roadmap for sustainable development in Ladakh while preserving its unique heritage and culture.

# India leads world in Digital Payments-a triumph of PM Modi's visionary leadership: Gaurav

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, BJP Spokesperson, said, "India's phenomenal rise as the global leader in fast digital payments is a direct result of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary leadership and the success of the Digital India mission. The IMF's recognition of UPI is a proud moment for every Indian." The recent IMF report titled "Growing Retail Digital Payments: The Value of Interoperability" applauds India's revolutionary Unified Payments Interface (UPI), launched in 2016 by the National



Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). UPI has transformed how India transacts - enabling secure, instant, and low-cost digital payments across all sections of society.  
Today, UPI accounts for 85% of all digital payments in India, linking 491 million users, 65 million merchants, and 675 banks. In June 2024, it processed over 18.39 billion transactions worth Rs 24.03 lakh crore, registering a 32% year-on-year growth.  
Gupta added, "UPI has become a symbol of financial inclusion and digital empower-

ment - benefiting everyone from local vendors to global travellers. Its expansion to seven countries, including France and UAE, is a testament to India's rising digital stature on the global stage."  
He further stated, "This is not just a fintech milestone - it's a reflection of India's trust in innovation, governance, and inclusive growth. Under PM Modi's leadership, India has shown the world how technology can transform lives." As UPI continues to strengthen India's digital backbone, this achievement showcases the success of the Reform-Perform-Transform model, making India not just a participant, but a global leader in the digital economy.

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**Branch office:** Jammu & Kashmir

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Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned, that Gold ornaments pledged with the under mentioned branches of the company under respective loan numbers, which were overdue for redemption and which have not been redeemed by the concerned customers so far in spite of repeated notices by the company, will be auctioned at the concerned branch offices of the company on **Wednesday 30th July, 2025** as per the following details:-  
  
1. BARI BRAHMANA Branch - L&T Finance Pvt. Ltd, Property No. 1711, Ward No. 1, Near Pnb Bank, National Highway, Bari Brahamana, Samba, J&K . Pin code - 181133. Phone - 9878366676 Loan Number - 210210000001954, 210210000001855, 210210000001789, 210210000001795, 210210000001844, 210210000001894, 210210000001868, 210210000001684, 210210000001184, 210210000001942, 210210000001943 (Time 11:00 AM)  
  
2. Jammu Branch - L&T Finance Pvt. Ltd, Shop No. Ae1, Part Of E3. Karan Market, Jammu City Jammu. Pin code - 180002. Phone - 9875942896 Loan Number - 162210000004002, 162210000004013, 162210000004047, 162210000003813, 162210000003773, 162210000004001, 162210000003770, 162210000003932, 162210000003994 (Time 11:00 AM)  
  
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4. R.S PURA Branch - L&T Finance Pvt. Ltd, Khasra No.168, Purana Pind Chawk, Near Gramin Bank, R.S.Pura, Jammu . Pin code - 181102. Phone - 9041455545 Loan Number - 178210000005286, 178210000004958, 178210000005299, 178210000005050, 178210000005257, 178210000005260, 178210000005037, 178210000004990, 178210000005248, 178210000005111, 178210000005059, 178210000005204, 178210000005174, 178210000005120, 178210000005272, 178210000004949, 178210000005001, 178210000004960, 178210000005189, 178210000004957, 178210000005006, 178210000005225, 178210000005018, 178210000005079, 178210000005258 (Time 11:00 AM)  
  
It may please be noted that if the auction does not get completed on the above stated day due to any reason, the same will be conducted on 06th Aug 2025 at the same place and time without any further notice.  
  
Note: Concerned customers can get the ornaments released before the auction date.  
  
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Place: Jammu & Kashmir