

Dr Jitendra announces 75 'Amrit' Grants for Biotech initiatives, StartUps

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh on Friday announced 75 "Amrit" Grants for Biotech initiatives involving StartUps, industry, academia and research bodies in integrated collaboration.

The Minister said, DBT-BIRAC 75 Amrit Team Grant Initiative will give a big boost to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for "Jai Anusandhan".

Dr Jitendra Singh said, 75 inter-disciplinary, multi-institutional grants would be supported for high-risk, ambitious research ideas, milestones-driven collaborative research in all domain specific areas of the biotech sector.

Dr Jitendra said, Startups, Industries, Academia and Research Bodies can form Team Science Grant in a Public-Private Partnership mode to avail grant of Rs 10-15 Crore over a period of two to three years for inter-disciplinary, high-quality research.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, flanked by Union Secretary Biotechnology, Dr Rajesh Gokhale and eminent Biotech experts, launching DBT-BIRAC 75 "Amrit" Team Grants Initiative at Biotechnology headquarters, CGO Complex, New Delhi on Monday.

The Minister said, in order to address national priorities to propel India as a global leader in biotechnology, the grants would be broadly provided in the areas of health, agri-biotech, climate change, synthetic biology and sustainable bioresource management.

The Minister said, the overall goal would be achieved through this initiative: knowledge-based discovery solutions for societal needs; transformational advances of scientific value and impact and also contributing towards India's

emergence as an equal global partner. He added that spin outs and venture creation will be a key component of this initiative.

Dr Jitendra said, this initiative builds on the deep foundation of partnerships, to support new and innovative research programs, which aims to propel India to a position of global leadership. He said, under this initiative, ambitious research ideas, high-risk, milestone-driven collaborative research for knowledge-based discoveries with broad demonstrable applica-

tion from both academic and industry will be considered for support.

Dr Singh pointed out that Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this year's Independence Day Address from the ramparts of the Red Fort underlined the importance of Anusandhan, when he said, "Till today we always remember our revered Lal Bahadur Shastri ji for his inspirational clarion call of Jai Jawan Jai Kisan meaning "Hail the Soldier, Hail the Farmer". Later Atal Bihari

Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Key Note



Vajpayee ji added a new link of Jai Vigyan which meant "hail science" and we gave it utmost importance. But in this new phase Amrit Kaal now it is imperative to add jai anusandhan that is "hail innovation".

Dr Jitendra Singh said, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) along with its PSU, BIRAC has a huge footprint in Biotech sector; having supported research endeavors across scale and in diverse areas in Institutes, Universities and Industries across the country. He, however added that the thrust in the Amrit kaal should be more on technological development to address the problems and needs of our country and also to facilitate a path to make our country a developed nation.

Dr Jitendra Singh congratulated the team from DBT and BIRAC for coming up with this unique initiative of 75 DBT-BIRAC Amrit Team Grants to commemorate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

Temporary appointment as Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Munsiff in Subordinate Judiciary, vide Government Order No. 6034- JK(LD) of 2022 dated 18.08.2022, Rekha Sharma, daughter of Netar Prakash Sharma, resident of New Basti, near Ward-6, R S Pura, Jammu is hereby posted as Munsiff Chenani, District Udhampur against available post.

Rekha Sharma posted as Munsiff Chenani

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rekha Sharma has been posted as Munsiff Chenani. According to an order issued by the Registrar General Sanjeev Gupta, consequent upon the tem-

porary appointment as Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Munsiff in Subordinate Judiciary, vide Government Order No. 6034- JK(LD) of 2022 dated 18.08.2022, Rekha Sharma, daughter

Lawyers take out bike rally, Bar threatens 'Jammu Bandh' on Aug 29

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu supported by business community and other organizations on Monday gave a call for a Jammu bandh, alleging the government failed to meet their demands.

"The agitation of J&K High Court Bar Association, Jammu entered into a decisive phase as on the call of Bar Association, the members of civil society representing various political parties, traders organizations and other civil society organizations extended their support to their agitation," President of the Bar Association Jammu, Senior Advocate M.K Bhardwaj told reporters after the meeting here.

"The meeting gave a call for Jammu province Bandh on 29th August, 2022, Monday," said Bhardwaj.

The prominent speakers in the meeting were Balwan Singh, Ex-MLA of Congress party, Abhinav Sharma, Sr. Adv. (Spokesperson BJP Party) & Former President, JKHCBAJ, M.R Qureshi, Adv. PDP Party, Nirmal Kotwal Adv. Apni Party,



JKHCBAJ President Senior Advocate M.K Bhardwaj briefing members and lawyers taking out bike rally at Jammu.

Parbandhak Committee.

Other prominent persons participated in the meeting include Anil Gupta, President, Mohalla Paharian, Traders Association, B.B. Kotwal, President, Market Gurdwara Sunder Singh, Rajinder Manhas, Chief Committee, Ramesh Kumar Tak, President, Traders Welfare Association, General Bus Stand, Suraj Sharma President and Ashwani Manni, Gen Seey both from Trikuta Shopping Complex, B.C. Road, Jammu, Pankaj Mahajan, President, Ankush Mahajan, Gen Seey, Mukesh Luthra, Vice President, VMT Below Gumat Jammu, Dharminder Singh, Jammu Wine Traders

Association, Anil Singh Rakwal, President, Sujit Kumar & Deewakar Singh from Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade, Charanjit Singh, Farmers President, & Jagpal Singh Treasurer District Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Ramesh Kumar Tak, President, Traders Welfare Association, General Bus Stand, Suraj Sharma President and Ashwani Manni, Gen Seey both from Trikuta Shopping Complex, B.C. Road, Jammu, Pankaj Mahajan, President, Ankush Mahajan, Gen Seey, Mukesh Luthra, Vice President, VMT Below Gumat Jammu, Dharminder Singh, Jammu Wine Traders

President and Daljit Singh Bumrah Gen. Seey, Shalamar Traders Association, Anil Kohli, President and Rajan Gupta, Gen. Seey, Apsra Road, Association, Shuja Zaffar, Chairman, Jammu Muslim Front, Ankur Anand, Seey, Vegetable & Fruit Association, Narwal, Godia, Gen. Seey, Vinayak Bazar, Koushal Sharma, Gou Rakshak Org. Team, Gian Sharma, President, New Hari Market Association, Sanjay Gupta, President, Amit Goel, Gen. Seey, R.N. Bazar, Businessmen Association, Surinder Mahajan, Chairman, Purani Mandi Market Association, Jodginder

Mahajan, Old Hospital Road Market, Sham Lal Langer, Seey, Gen. Traders Federation, WareHouse Nehru Market, Surinder Mahajan, Ex. President, R.N. Bazar, Deepak Soni, Dogra Hall Market Association, Amit Gupta, President & Sanjeev Chadda, Gen. Seey, Bakshi Nagar, Traders Association, Rajinder Gupta, President, Trikuta Nagar, Shopkeepers Association, Ashok Gupta, Vice President, Jammu Fruit Association, Dinesh Gupta, Gen. Seey, Chamber and Traders Federation, Rajeev Gupta, President, Below Gumat, Jewel Chowk, Sohit Sharma,

All the speakers felt great

need for broader unity of Jammu people to protect their identity and to fight for the various issues and problems being faced by the traders, lawyers, youth, daily wagers, farmers, students etc.

Bhardwaj, gave one week ultimatum to the LG administration for conceding the genuine demands already projected by the Bar Association and in case the administration fails to do so, he announced the unanimous decision of the meeting i.e. Jammu Bandh on 29th of August, 2022 (Monday).

It is worth mentioning here that the members of the Bar Association before the meeting took out a protest Bike Rally in various bazaars of Jammu city including Janipur area, New Plots, Ambiphala, Panjthi, Pacc Danga, Moti Bazar, Purani Mandi, City Chowk area, Kanak Mandi, Rajinder Bazar, Shahidi Chowk, Residency Road, R.N. Bazar, Vinayak Bazar, Dogra Chowk, Vikram Chowk etc.

The meeting was conducted by Surjeet Singh Andotra, General Secretary of JKHCBAJ.

Waqf not for a few people but for all: Dr Darakhshan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chairperson of Jammu & Kashmir Waqf Board, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi on Monday visited the important spiritual destinations of North Kashmir Tujjar Sharief and Watlab.

She paid obeisance at the sufi shrines of Hazrat Makhdoom Sahib at Tujjar Sharief & Baba Shukoor-udin at Watlab.

"These shrines are our spiritual centers and we have to ensure the dignity of these shrines & the saints with whom these shrines are associated.

The mass acceptance of our measures speaks volumes about the errors which existed within the system," said Dr Darakhshan.

She said that only a few people are opposing & shout-



Chairperson J&KWB, Dr Darakhshan Andrabi interacting with students.

ing in the media against these moves to correct the errors because of their personal interests.

"Waqf is not for a few people but for all. Decisions to streamline Waqf working system have annoyed a few but assured the majority of accountability & we will not allow Waqf to remain a busi-

ness enterprise for a selected few," said Dr Andrabi.

Dr Andrabi inaugurated a medical centre at Tujjar Sharief & also presided over the annual function of Waqf Higher Secondary School at Watlab.

"Waqf owns a big chain of schools & other educational institutions in J&K but the

poor management & political interference in these institutions has left them in a very poor condition. Every year we have to bear around twelve core rupees loss in running these schools in present poor condition. But we cannot allow the condition to continue. We are devising a mega transformation plan for our educational sector," said Dr Andrabi.

"In making Waqf an ideal organization, we require the support of everybody as this is a herculean task to cleanse the system so that we become resourceful enough to make Waqf self-sufficient & empowered enough to create public welfare projects in J&K within a few years from now," said Waqf Board Chairperson.

Less frequency of trains causing hardships for masses in Valley

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Despite continuous appeals of passengers, Northern Railways has failed to fulfill aspirations of people in Kashmir as commuters using Banihal-Baramulla Rail service are facing hardships due to less frequency of trains. The train services in was resumed in March 2021 in Valley after remaining suspended for around 11 months due to COVID-19 pandemic. Railway Ministry has once claimed that the resumption of train service would enhance ease of movement and provide a big boost to tourism sector but the ground reality is quite different, as the railway authorities have not resumed full operations.

Earlier in June 2022, officials assured the people that they are trying to increase number of train services and already 50 per cent trains are running while more will be added

gradually. Currently, only five trains, which are fully reserved, are operational and daily commuters including tourists are facing a lot of hardships.

Railway police personnel and other officials were seen making futile attempts to control the surge of passengers at stations, mainly in Anantnag, Srinagar and other sections. In Srinagar-Baramulla section, trains were relatively less congested while crowd was witnessed at several other places like Budgam, Awantipora and Nowgam.

Meanwhile, commuters have demanded an increase in the frequency of trains to control congestion during peak hours. The issue was recently also raised by women commuters. Considering the needs of the commuters, the railway should gradually increase the services as Valley is witnessing an increase in the COVID-19 cases once again. In

morning and evening hours, as trains are crowded with passengers, same can lead to an increase in COVID-19 spread.

"I travel from Srinagar to Anantnag daily during morning and evening hours. Services are not running with full frequency and no new or special train has been inducted yet as well as gap between trains are of about 2-3 hours, which cause more rush, especially during peak hours leading to more risk amid pandemic," said Sumaira Maqbool from Srinagar.

"Crowd leads to violation of social distancing and other safety precautions. Hence, increase in frequency will reduce risk," said Sara Akhter, another commuter.

Meanwhile, the commuters have urged LG Manoj Sinha to take up the matter with Northern Railways for providing relief from common man.

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ing in the media against these moves to correct the errors because of their personal interests.

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