

Chairman ISRO updates Dr Jitendra about Chandrayaan's readiness for landing

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Chairman ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) and Secretary, Department of Space, Dr S. Somnath called on Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh here on Monday and apprised him of the status and readiness of Chandrayaan-3 for the moon landing scheduled on 23rd August 2023 in the evening.

Chairman ISRO briefed the Minister that all systems are working perfectly and no contingencies are anticipated on Wednesday.

In the next two days, the health of Chandrayaan-3 will be continuously monitored. The final sequence of landing will be loaded two days ahead and tested out, he said.



Chairman ISRO Dr S. Somnath calling on Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh at New Delhi on Monday.

Dr Jitendra Singh expressed his confidence in Chandrayaan-3 making a soft landing this time and hoped that

it will script a new history of planetary exploration under the guidance of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

ISRO said the Chandrayaan-3 is set to land on the moon on August 23, 2023, around 18:04 hours IST. While the Chandrayaan-2 mission was only partially successful since the Lander lost contact after a hard landing, the ISRO successfully established two-way communication between the Chandrayaan-3 Lander Module and the still orbiting Chandrayaan-2 Orbiter.

Earlier today, the ISRO shared new images of the Lunar far side area captured by the Chandrayaan-3.

India will be the fourth country in the world to achieve this feat after the United States, Russia, and China, but India will be the only country in the world to land on the lunar South Pole.



7 SMC Corporators from Congress merge with DPAP



Chairman DPAP Ghulam Nabi Azad with newly joined members and party office bearers.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: In a major boost, seven corporators of Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) from Congress in Srinagar merged with Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) under the leadership of Shafat Gaffar in presence of Chairman DPAP Ghulam Nabi Azad on Monday.

The councillors resolved to carry on the party agenda and said that if any political party can take the people out of prevailing chaos, that is DPAP.

"We have resolved to

repose our faith and trust in Ghulam Nabi Azad who as a chief minister in past have proven his capacity of serving people with integrity and honesty," said counsellor Shafat Gaffar.

They said Jammu and Kashmir needs a dynamic leadership and Azad is the perfect choice for it.

"We will work and ensure more and more people are joining our party. DPAP has a vision and agenda which can serve people better," they said.

DPAP chairman on the occasion said that he will

never let his people down and ensure equitable and inclusive development of the UT.

Among others who were present on the occasion were G.M. Saroori Vice Chairman, R.S.Chib General Secretary, Ch Haroon Khatana Gen Secretary, Salman Nizami Chief Spokesperson, Shafiq Shabnam, Khalid Tufail Gen Secretaries Province, Bilal Peer Zonal President, Amir Bhat Distt President, Farooq Ah Dar, Gh Rasool Hajam, Nazia, Gulshan Bilal, Ab Majeed Tantry and others.

Inaugurates Int'l Buyer-Seller meet in Srinagar Committed to provide enabling environment for businesses to thrive, investments to flourish: LG

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday inaugurated the International Buyer-Seller meet at University of Kashmir.

As many 24 International and many domestic buyers are participating in the two-day Buyer-Seller meet.

In his address, the Lt Governor appreciated the J&K Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) and Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) for their endeavor to promote the export of handloom and handicraft products of J&K.

"The handloom and handicraft sector of J&K is ageless cultural asset of India, carrying a strong influence of our rich cultural diversity and spiritual traditions. It is the source of socio-economic growth to a large section of society and creating a rich pool of artisans," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor shared the growth potential of handloom and handicraft sector and the increasing demand for local products in global market.

"I see Jammu Kashmir as the principal handicraft, handloom market of the future. The creativity of our craftspeople, weavers, artisans and



Lt Governor inaugurating International Buyer-Sellers meet being organized by JKPTPO in collaboration with Handloom Promotion Council of India.

the indigenous skills is being recognized and admired by the world," the Lt Governor said.

Export is biggest source of revenue for handloom, handicraft and both Global North and Global South are major destinations to our handmade products. Our aim is to create a strong edifice of trade relationship to give a much-needed boost to our handloom & handicraft sector, he said.

At the inaugural ceremony, the Lt

Governor also talked about the transformational journey of J&K over the last few years.

"J&K is witnessing the dawn of a new era, rooted in peace and stability giving rise to economic, social and cultural renaissance. We are committed to provide enabling and conducive environment where businesses can thrive, investments can flourish, entrepreneurs can realize their dreams," the Lt Governor said.

He also highlighted the opportuni-

ties being created for the global stakeholders in handloom, handicraft, horticulture and various other sectors.

We are looking forward to improve and harmonise relationship between J&K and global market to meet new demands, develop new ventures, improve profitability and ensure our priceless artistic products find their rightful place in the market, he added.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor launched J&K One District One Product (ODOP) Logo competition and also inspected the stalls installed by the artisan and weavers from J&K.

Domestic and International Buyers shared their experiences and views on buying premium and authentic handloom and handicraft products.

Vijay Kumar, ADGP Kashmir; Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary, Industries & Commerce Department; Khalid Jahangir, Managing Director JKPTPO; N. Shreedhar, Executive Director HEPC, Prof. Nilofar Khan, Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University; HoDs, representatives from Industry, exhibitors, buyers from different parts of the country and the globe were present.

Amit inaugurates, flags off Electric Freight Vehicles in Ladakh

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: Secretary of Transport, UT Ladakh Amit Sharma inaugurated the session on the "Technical Assistance for Identification of Opportunities and Challenges in freight electrification and flagged off electric freight vehicles at Hotel-The Zen, Leh.

At the outset, Sanjay Dube, President & CEO of the International Institute for Energy Conservation (IIEC) provided the opening remarks and welcome speech on Evfying last mile freight in UT Ladakh, while N a r a y a n k u m a r Sreekumar, Associate Director of the Electric Mobility Program, Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation presented the project briefing among the attendees.

While speaking at the inaugural, Secretary



Secretary of Transport, UT Ladakh Amit Sharma inaugurating session at Hotel-The Zen, Leh.

Transport, UT Ladakh, Amit Sharma facilitated and appreciated the efforts of the technical assistance team for the decarbonization of the freight segment which directly contribute to the mission Carbon Neutral Ladakh Plan.

The initiative of moving road freight to a faster

pace of Zero emission truck adoption is feasible. Greenhouse gas emissions enter the atmosphere and contribute to warming, from diesel soot to CO2 to methane must be reduced now, he added.

Amit Sharma highlighted that technical agencies assessed what reductions could be possible in the

transportation sector from technology efficiency improvements, vehicle electrification, deep decarbonization, and the use of low-carbon fuels, Amit stressed.

There is a growing consensus that the zero-emission truck industry is on course to deliver competitive business cases for the

decarbonization of these fleets - through battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) that could eventually be powered by renewable energy, Secretary emphasized. The initiative is an important milestone in the history of Ladakh. The decisions and policies of the UT administration were made to support to form of Carbon Neutral Ladakh, Amit stated.

The event was attended by the Deputy Director of Motor Garages, UT Ladakh Dr. Zulfiqar Ali (KAS), ARTO Officer, Leh & Kargil, heads of different transports, technical team of IIEC and the team from the Knowledge Partner - Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation.

Mayor stresses on positive energy for welfare 'In local body polls elect educated, upright candidate'



Jammu Mayor, Rajinder Sharma and others at Day Care Centre and Recreational Centre at Lower Roop Nagar.

JAMMU: Mayor of Jammu city, Rajinder Sharma on Monday stressed on use of positive energy for the welfare of nation and making a start in this regard from home.

Addressing a gathering of senior citizens at 'Golden Days'-a day care centre and recreational centre at Lower

Roop Nagar on Senior Citizens Day, the Mayor said that irrespective of our ages everyone of us possess energies-positive and negative.

"We should use our positive energies to ensure welfare of all in our nation," he maintained adding, "The senior citizens have vast experience of life and they are filled

with all types of positive energies which they should use to guide the younger generations."

Mayor Sharma also said that as elections for local bodies are coming we should remain positive and prefer a candidate who is educated, upright person with integrity and has knowledge of administration.

"When we elect such a person, there will be honest system to ensure welfare and development of all," he continued.

Ex-MLA Shiv Dev Singh, District Social Welfare Officer, Mamta Rajput and others were also present on the occasion.

Earlier R.K Kohli, Coordinator highlighted importance of the Day. Dogri poet Uttam Singh Uttam sang a Dogri song.

Young farmers from district Anantnag are showing interest in Hazzle nut, ultra-density apple cultivation

MASROOR AHMAD

ANANTNAG: Horticulture Department is setting up various high crop yield plant nurseries especially ultra-high density apple cultivation and young Agro-Entrepreneurs are showing extraordinary interest in this sector.

In the year 2015, the then government was keen to introduce new variety of dry fruit-Hazelnut- in cold and hilly terrain areas of the Jammu and Kashmir.

Hazelnut which is known as Virin in Kashmiri language is in great demand worldwide for its medicinal value. It was believed that introduction of Hazelnut would expose the farmers to a new commercially viable product.

Besides the Hazelnut orchard at Lehenwan, Vailoo and Lissar fruit plantation nurseries of ultrahigh density apple orchard set up in private sector at Bimdoora.

The Hazelnut orchard laid by Horticulture Department in the year 2015 on 400 Kanals of land at Lehenwan (Mati Gawran) is a front-line demonstration plot to educate the farmers about the cultivation of Hazelnut on scientific basis.

The government was planned to



graft the local variant of Hazelnut high yielding varieties grown at Lehenwan demonstration plot.

The horticulture department functionaries were setting up demo plantation areas in the district and allowing farmers see it for themselves, and the department was directed to explore marketing facility of this rear dry fruit.

Presently the fencing of Hazelnut orchard is already completed, con-

struction of inspection huts at Lehenwan and Lissar fruit nurseries are on the proposal and 10 kanals of nursery land would be brought under ultra high density of apple plants as frontline demonstration plot to be imported from Europe for awareness of the fruit growers of the area.

To take stock of the scope of Hazelnut cultivation in Kashmir As part of the programme "Meri Mati Mera Desh".

Horticulture Director along with the Development Officer Zone Kokernag visited the area and collect the information about the efforts being done for creating awareness among orchardists for cultivation of Hazelnut and ultra High density apple cultivation in the area.

The Director also visited some private Hazelnut nurseries, interacted with orchardists and heard their suggestions and demands for better Horticulture practices in the area.

The Director assured the orchardists that all efforts are being done by the government to double the farmers income and introduce new crops in Kashmir.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPC Working President Raman Bhalla on Monday slammed the BJP-led central government, saying its hollow policies have resulted in increasing the sufferings of the people.

He criticized the BJP for hoodwinking public opinion by raking up residuary and emotive issues to divert the attention from its failures on all fronts.

This was stated by Bhalla while leading another protest in Ward-5 Khatika Tallab accompanied by Yogesh Sawhney former Minister, InCharge District President Jammu Urban, Pranav Shagotra and Rittu Choudhary against installing smart meters and also host of other issues.

Prominent among those present on the occasion include Farooq Mohd Slaria, Pawan Dev Singh,



Senior Congress leaders leading a protest rally at Jammu on Monday.

Anirudh Sawhney, Arif Malik, Atul Sharma, Rakesh Kumar, Jaghir Bhatt, Shak Hazoor, Jugal Kishor, Shokat Khokar, Rasid Mir, Latif Sufi, Raju Thapa, Anil Kumar, Gurmeet Singh besides others.

Speaking on the occasion, Bhalla said that BJP has nothing to offer to the people and therefore it has been shying away from focussing on the core issues.

Bhalla reminded the

BJP of the massive 2014 Jammu mandate for development and welfare and said that instead of doing a little bit in this regard they pushed the entire region to the wall.

The developmental machinery came to a grinding halt and the utility services suffered major jolt due to the self-centred approach of the BJP leaders

He said the upcoming polls will send a terse message to the BJP for pursu-

ing the politics of deceit and hate that has caused enormous damage to the secular fabric of this land of Sufis and Saints.

Senior Congress leader claimed that all sections of society were suffering under BJP rule as promises made to them have turned out to be hollow.

Yogesh Sawhney alleged that the present BJP Government is direction less due to absence of any public welfare in their respective agenda.