

# Dr Jitendra inaugurates 5-day International Conference at NIT Srinagar

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh on Tuesday inaugurated the 5-day International Conference on 'Nanotechnology for Better Living' at National Institute of Technology (NIT), here.

This is the 7th Edition of the Conference and is being held under the aegis of Materials Research Society of India in association with Anna University, SKUAST-K, NIT Mizoram, SSM College of Engineering, IIT Madras, SKIMS, MG University Kerala, and in collaboration with Nanoscale Research Facility (NRF), IIT Delhi. The Conference will be held in hybrid mode and around 300 participants from outside will take part in it.

Addressing the participants at the event, Dr Jitendra said that India has taken a giant leap forward in the field of science under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said that India always had superlative scientific temperament but there was lack of desire to implement it in the past but the gap has now been filled.

Commenting on the progress made by India in the recent years, the Minister said that the present dispensation has removed taboos and opened up the field to private players and start-ups. He said that the atom-



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurating 5-day International Conference of Nanotechnology, at NIT Srinagar, on Tuesday.

ic energy field was shut behind a veil of secrecy and it was only PM Modi who gave the permission to expand India's nuclear programme.

Dr Jitendra said that in the past, science and technology could not flourish because of lack of resources but it is happening now and India is emerging as a leading global player since privatisation has been made possible by PM Modi.

The Minister also emphasised the need to groom young and emerging scientists and tap scientific potential and temperament at an early age. He made a mention of an 11-year-old Indian-American girl who has been honoured as 'America's top young scientist' for inventing a quick, low-cost test to detect lead-contaminated water using carbon nano-tubes'.

Dr Jitendra said that in recent

years, nanotechnology-based drug delivery systems have been applied to intranasal drug delivery to overcome various limitations that occur during mucosal administration, and advances have been made to the stage where effective drug delivery is possible. He added that the use of non-toxic antiviral nanoparticles has been developed for clinical applications to prevent and treat Covid-19.

Congratulating NIT Srinagar for holding the Conference, Dr Singh said that the event will provide a vibrant platform to present and discuss path breaking research ideas in nanotechnologies and shall be an interface between academia and industries.

Dr Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman All India Council for Technical Education, who was Guest of Honour

on the occasion said that nanotechnology was known to Indians for thousands of years. He said that nano science has utility in many branches of science and the quantum of research being done on the subject has increased manifold in the recent past.

On the occasion, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof Rakesh Sehgal expressed gratitude to Dr. Jitendra Singh for accepting the invitation of the institution on short notice.

The Minister also briefed about history of NIT Srinagar and programs that the institution is offering in different academic fields. Prof Sehgal also urged the honorable minister to assist and facilitate NIT Srinagar in establishing centre of excellence on Advance Material for Multi-functional Applications to achieve Make in India vision of PM Modi.

Registrar NIT Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said the international conference will be a platform for young researchers of the Institute and other participants from across the globe. He also presented a vote of thanks to Dr. Jitendra Singh for accepting the NIT's request.

Convener of Conference and HOD Physics, Dr. M. A. Shah delivered his lecture on Glimpses of 7th Edition of Biennial International Conference on Nanotechnology for Better Living, highlighting its journey and importance for the region. He said scientists and engineers are finding a wide variety of ways to deliberately make materials at the nanoscale to take advantage of their enhanced properties.



# Congress prepared for any sacrifice to sustain glorious legacy of J&K: Bhalla

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JKPC Vice President Raman Bhalla on Tuesday strongly lambasted the present BJP Govt for failing on all fronts in giving a good and effective governance. He said under BJP regime the difficulties and miseries of people have increased many fold.

He blamed the BJP Govt for ignoring Jammu region and devoid it of the development programme. This was observed by former Minister while interacting with people of Bishnah constituency on Tuesday.

He was accompanied by Shashi Sharma PCC Secretary.

The PCC leader said that Bishnah lack basic amenities of life and people of the constituency are suffering a lot due to the badly damaged roads, non availability of electricity and drinking water. He further said that more than 100 villages of Bishnah constituency have worst road connectivity as all the roads are damaged.

He further said that the people of Bishnah constituency have every right of being a developed constituency and BJP has failed to develop this constituency. He added that



JKPC Vice President Raman Bhalla interacting with people.

both the Hospitals in Bishnah and Arnia are lacking the basic medical facilities and need an upgradation of these hospitals with full fledge 24x7 hour emergency facility. Both the hospitals should have trauma centre and adequate ventilators to save the precious lives of people.

He also referred to the long power cuts in the area and appealed the PDD authorities to improve power supply position. He demanded a regular power supply to all the villages of Bishnah constituency.

Former Minister slammed the BJP for letting down Jammu on developmental front, saying it reversed the momentum during recent years."The development effort initiated by Congress government was

brought to grinding halt due to policy paralysis of the BJP," he said.

Describing Congress as a force to reckon with, the former minister said assuaging political aspirations of the people and undertaking development on a massive scale holds key to steer Jammu and Kashmir to peace and prosperity. "We are committed to ensure equitable development in all the regions and sub-regions. He cautioned the people against the machinations of the BJP, which in the wake of letting down people of Jammu and being rejected by them is trying to divide the people on regional and religious lines. He said the people of Jammu are within their rights in asking the BJP of their achievements during last even years misrule.

# Awareness-cum-interaction camp on cancer held at Panchbakhtar temple under project 'Save Maa'



Dr Samita Bhat speaking at a camp.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To impart awareness among women-folk to fight cancer, primarily 'cervical and breast' cancers, renowned Gynae & Cancer Surgeon, Dr Samita Bhat and her team attended an awareness cum interaction camp at historic Panchbakhtar Temple in Jammu under project 'Save Maa', which was organised by retired Judge Suresh Sharma.

Corporators Anita Sharma and Ritu Choudhary were the Chief Guests during the camp, which was attended by a number of females from adjoining areas. On the occasion, Dr Bhat described a detailed presentation regarding female reproductive anatomy and causes of cancer of breast and cervix.

She further highlighted detailed measures required to be taken for prevention and timely detection for stopping the

advent of cases, so that necessary treatment can be taken. Asserting that cancer is not a death warrant, Dr Bhat stressed for timely detection of ailment before it can spread further. She also replied to the queries raised by the participants satisfactorily.

All necessary arrangements for smooth conduct of the camp were made by retired Judge Suresh Sharma while Yogesh Sharma, a computer engineer, provided technical assistance.

Pertinent to mention here that Panchbakhtar Temple in Jammu is considered among one of the oldest temples and is linked with the visit of Shankaracharya in 9th Century AD.

It is also believed that Guru Nanak visited this temple and gave a discourse.

A painting of Guru Nanak has also been preserved in the temple.

# ADGP Armed promotes 17 police personnel

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Additional Director General of Police Armed J&K, S.J.M Gillani on Tuesday issued promotion orders in respect of one ASI, 11 HCs, one Sget and four Constables of J&K Armed Police to their next rank besides Insitu promotion order of two Followers, two Cts, six Sget, one HC and one SI.

The ADGP Armed congratulated the newly promoted officers/officials and wished Good luck to them and their families.

He hoped that the newly promoted officers/officials shall consistently demonstrate discipline, hard work and dedication towards their respective assignments so that their

junior colleagues may also get inspired and follow their path.

DGP compliments security forces for handling situation during last 5 days in Kashmir

SRINAGAR: Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh on Tuesday complimented the security forces for handling ground situation during the last five days in Kashmir and said that responsible conduct of local people, especially youth, was observed.

Singh also added, as per J&K Police, that special restraint was shown by police and security forces.

He also compliments Police, CAPF and Army deployments for professional handling of the situation after the death of S.A.S Geelani.

"Army deployments for highly professional handling of ground situation over the last 5 days. Special restraint shown by police and security forces is highly appreciated. We have to move forward together to strengthen peace by identifying the enemies of peace and weaning out the mischievous elements strictly dealing with them under law," said J&K Police in a series of tweets.

DGP also said that most of the restrictions are eased including the Internet and situation is fully normal in both regions of Kashmir and Jammu but under close watch.

# ACG chairs SPCA meeting to discuss establishment of infirmaries for animals in Jammu

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Assistant Commissioner General (ACG), Rakesh Dubey chaired a meeting of the SPCA Society District Jammu and apprised the executive body members about the responsibilities and functions of this society.

The Notification of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules 2001, Framed under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960, SPCAs have become mandatory for every District in India, with a well-defined constitution and set of functions.

The Supreme Court has



ACG, Rakesh Dubey chairing meeting of the SPCA Society.

directed in 3 cases that the SPCAs must function as per their mandate and implement the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1960.

ACG also discussed the arrangements for the establishment of sick injured ani-

mal shelters on the 25 Kanals of Land Allotted for the Society For the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Jammu (SPCA).

Sr Vice President SPCA Jammu Devinder Kaur Madaan, GM FEC-COS Anil Gaind, DPO Sunaina

Saini, Nodal Officer of SPCA Jammu Dr. Altaf, and many senior officers of the concerned departments were present in the meeting.

Threadbare discussion was held regarding fundraising for Meeting the Expenditures for Necessities and Construction costs etc. Water Boring and piped water connections along with Electricity supply to the proposed Animal Shelter.

Nodal officer SPCA apprised the members about the Bank account opened separately for district SPCA Jammu and all donations for the cause will be received in the official Bank account of SPCA Jammu.

Membership forms for the

Society will be soon published in Newspapers for people wanting to join SPCA Society and work for Animal welfare, installation of sign board of SPCA, planting of fruit trees and fodder plants on the said Land in Chowadi area were also discussed.

Registration of Horses and mules, tagging and vaccinations etc by the SPCA Jammu.

Engagement of border area youth to train with SPCA as Paravets and Handlers under BADP Scheme was discussed, so that they can assist in Animal hospital, infirmary and Gaushala.

It was also decided in the meeting that officers from PDD, PHE and Forest will

make a combined visit to the proposed Shelter site in chowadi on 8/09/2021 so that Proper arrangement of Water and electricity could be made as early as possible for establishment of Shelter cum hospital. Also plantation drive to be launched to plant suitable fruit, fodder and medicinal plants on the SPCA land.

Sr Vice President suggested the Capacity Building workshop for Law Enforcement Agencies to be arranged at the earliest to sensitise the Police personnel in the Animal welfare Laws. DSP Parupkar Singh present in the meeting committed to find a suitable date and time after consulting the Senior Officers of the department.

# Mahatma Gandhi had worked and prayed for India where 'Ram Rajay' would prevail

## ► This day had Gandhi jee come back?

"We are thankful to you for your having remembered us after 50 years" had said Bharat Ratna Aruna (Ganguly) Asaf Ali (16 July 1909 - 29 July 1996) when she was requested to say a few words to Indian people on the eve of celebrations for August Kranti Day on 9-08-1992.

At that time India was remembering Quit India Movement. The venue was Gwalior Tank, Bombay.

In 1942 too it was Aruna Asif Ali who had first hoisted the 'Azadi ka Indian Flag' at the Gwalior tank in response to Mahatma Gandhi's words of Karo Ya Maro. Mr. Gandhi in his call had called upon each individual to be a leader of Karo Ya Maro movement within one's self himself to be on the path of Pooran Swaraj from the British. To me it appeared at that time as if Aruna jee expressed her anguish over the way we Indians forgot the struggle our elders had done. And even after three decades of Aruna Asaf Ali having expressed her anguish Indians have not gone much beyond formally celebrating the inde-

pendence day.

Another freedom fighter Nana Sahib Gore too had at an occasion advised people of India saying "Desh Banao, Yeh Khud Apne Ko Bacha Lega. How hollow our efforts to slogans like Desh Bachao have proved over last 7 decades could well be seen from the way even the appointments like that of the Chief Vigilance Commissioner India have been becoming controversial.

Surely the way persons like Aruna Asaf Ali and Gore appeared to have remained helplessly watching the Indian people in independent India, Indians had no right to bear the feel of honour in unfurling the tri colour at places like August Kranti Maidan and celebrating 15th August.

In the political environment that prevailed in 1992 when Captain Dr.Lakshmi Sehgal (1914 - 2012) of Azad Hind Fauj -Rani Jhansi Regiment (who had faced trial in Red Fort) narrated on 9-8-1992 the strength & commitment of Indian Freedom Movement that had totally



A Look through the Mist

frustrated the might of the British, she appeared to be from a country other than India to all those who were born in day's free India. And the similar story if any 'Sehgal' tells in 2021, it is sure to appear a fairy tale out of imagination. The Nationality has today been misunderstood as a simple citizenship and duty towards Nation has been removed from active lessons.

Mahatma Gandhi had foreseen his arrest to be certain on 9-8-1942 and hence called upon every Indian to lead individually to ultimate total independence during the days he (Gandhi) would remain in the British CELL. The then conventional leaders were jailed by the British in Beick Cells in August. In August 2021 also the conventional Indian leadership is in 'Jails' but the present day cell does not belong to the British and is a self made CELL with no bricks of honesty, no cement of straightforwardness, plaster of corruption and no lighting of selflessness.

Nation's natural resources, human

resources integrity (including territorial integrity) and future of coming generations are simply being materially traded by the leadership of the day.

We are today standing at a junction where our political leadership have been put into the cage by its own self centered wills and hence the common man need to catch on the Call of Mahatma Gandhi once again in 2021 to tread the fair course that some of the present day leadership has dared to tread on. Karo Ya Maro appears to be the only mantra that each and every Indian should recollect and take the lead thereby putting the conventional leadership virtually in a CELL to be bailed out only after leadership commits to truthness.

Had Gandhi be once again with Bharatbasies today he would have once again given a call to common Bharatbasi "Karo with Democratic tools, Ja Maro with commitment for making the Leadership yield to "Truthness of Common cause".

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## ■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: After Saffron, Kaani Shawl, Silk products and other handicraft items, now Kashmiri Pashmina will be available easily in international market with authentication and guarantee of purity, after getting GI certified TAG. In a significant step towards promotion of Handicrafts, the Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir has announced a Minimum Support Price (MSP) for GI-certified Pashmina shawls. The decision in this regard was taken considering the importance for promotion of hand spun and hand-woven Pashmina.

Jammu & Kashmir administration under the leadership of LG Manoj Sinha is very keen to pro-

mote J&K products in international market and till date, 7 crafts including Pashmina, Sozni, Kani, Paper-mâchié, Walnut Wood carving, Khatamband and Carpet have been registered under Geographical Indication of Goods Act-1999.

The MSP of Pashmina was determined after three consecutive meetings, held at Indian Institute of Carpet Technology between representatives from various organisations associated with Handicrafts & Handloom sector including Kashmir Pashmina Karighar Union, Yender Society, Numani Welfare Trust, Traders Association etc. After detailed discussions and considering various types of expenditures incurred during different

stages of manufacturing, the committee unanimously proposed Minimum Support Price of Rs 12,000 for GI Certified Plain Pashmina hand-spun and hand-woven Shawl.

Besides providing various benefits, the adoption of Minimum Support Price policy would help reviving hand-spinning and hand-weaving thereby proving beneficial for the artisans to great extent.

This initiative of the administration and Department of Handicraft is being appreciated by all sections of people and stakeholders have expressed their satisfaction over the constitution of committee.

They also demanded appropriate marketing platforms to ensure economic up-scaling.