

Dr Jitendra arrives at New York, enroute Washington for summit

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
NEW YORK: Union Minister, Dr Jitendra Singh, as the head of Joint Ministerial Indian delegation, arrived at New York this evening, enroute Washington DC, on the first leg of the 5-day US visit, which includes participation in Global Clean Energy Action Forum summit scheduled from September 21st to 23rd at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dr Jitendra was received by senior India Embassy officials and after facilitations at the airport, he left for Washington DC to hold an important Roundtable with senior executives of about 35 companies and federal representatives associated with Geospatial, Space, Earth & Ocean Science, Pharma and Biotech Sectors to be organized by US-India Business



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, as the head of Joint Ministerial Indian delegation, being received at New York on Tuesday evening, enroute Washington, on the first leg of 5-day US visit.

Council at US Chamber of Commerce headquarters in Washington, DC.

Dr Jitendra is leading a high-level Joint Indian Ministerial official delegation of Ministry of Power, New & Renewable Energy and Ministry of Science & Technology to participate in Global Clean Energy Action Forum and also to interact with eminent academicians as well as Indian diaspora.

At the Business Roundtable with CEOs of 35 prominent companies, Dr Jitendra is to highlight the bilateral Science & Technology (S&T) collaboration range from Mega Science such as LIGO [Laser Interferometer Gravitational Observatory], TMT [Thirty Meter telescope] and Neutrino Physics to Clean Energy Technologies, Health Science, Earth and Ocean Science, Agricultural Science

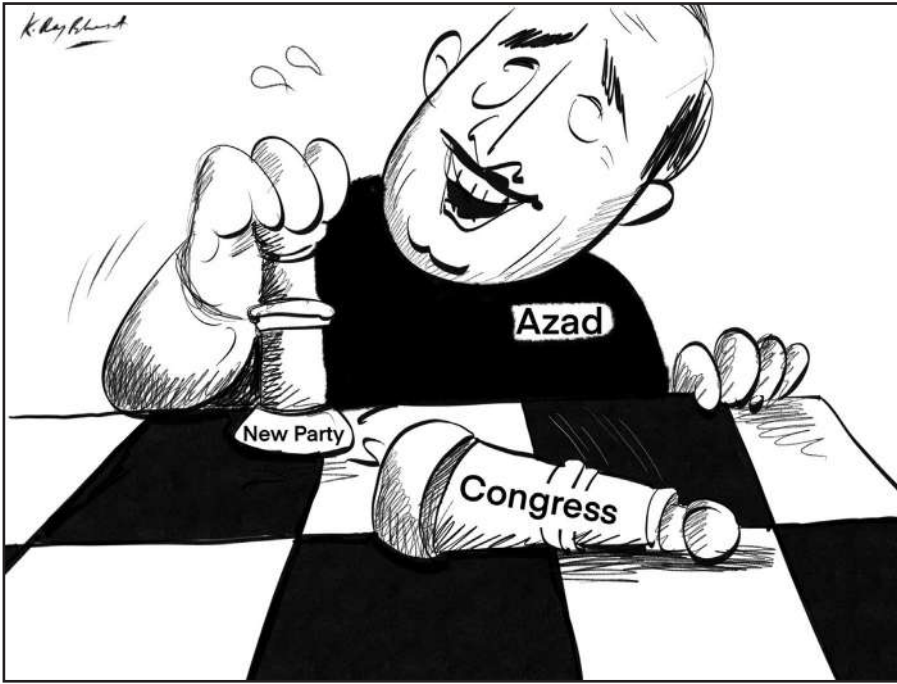
and recent interest in expanding our collaboration in Emerging Technologies.

Dr Jitendra Singh will offer that both India and America may further expand the partnership in the areas of common priority such as Quantum Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Deep Ocean Exploration, Electric Vehicles, Emerging Technologies for Telecommunications and

Semiconductor Research and Innovation, geospatial technology areas related to acquisition, processing, and dissemination of high-resolution geospatial data.

The Minister is likely to interact with key US Federal officials over dinner at India House to be hosted by the Indian Ambassador.

After the dinner at India House, Dr Jitendra Singh will depart for Pittsburgh on 21st September to take part in the coveted joint convening of the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13) and Mission Innovation (MI-7). The event is expected to bring together thousands of clean energy leaders from across the world, including CEOs, innovators, young professionals, civil society and ministers from over 30 countries to accelerate clean energy innovation and deployment.



Joint Director CBC reviews arrangements for publicity, other activities during Navratra Festival

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Joint Director, Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), J&K & Ladakh Region, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Ghulam Abbas on Tuesday reviewed arrangements for different publicity and other programmes in connection with the annual celebration of Navratra Festival at Katra that commences from September 26, 2022.



Joint Director CBC, J&K & Ladakh Region, Ghulam Abbas chairing a meeting.

During the meeting, Joint Director CBC informed that besides cultural and other devotional programmes, CBC will also organize a multimedia exhibition under Azadi Ka Anurit Mohatsav which besides showcasing the contribution of freedom fighters during the freedom movement of India, will also showcase 'Azadi Quest' and 'Swaraj', the new initiatives of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

Joint Director impressed

upon the officials and officers dealing with the publicity, cultural and other programmes to engage various stakeholders like PRIs, Civil Society Members, students, teachers, HCWs, Anganwadi Workers etc. for the publicity related activities.

With respect to the various cultural activities, cultural troupes have been invited from different states and UTs like Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Assam,

West Bengal, Manipur etc. who will be performing their traditional dances, the meeting was informed.

The meeting was attended by PPO Udhampur, Khurshid Yousuf, Media and Communications Officer, PIB Jammu, Sheikh Mudasar Amin, Administrative Officer, CBC, J&K, Ram Kishen, incharge Field Publicity Unit, Kathua, Rajesh Sharma and other officials of Regional Office Jammu and its Field Offices.

First time after 1947 Govt acknowledged Jammu's emotions, sentiments: Team Jammu

Preparations going on to pay befitting tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Hailing the decision of the administration of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to declare September 23 as a public holiday as a mark of respect for last Dogra ruler Maharaja Hari Singh, Chairman of Team Jammu Zorawar Singh Jamwal on Tuesday said that first-time after 1947 government at the helm of the affairs respected aspirations and emotions of the residents of Jammu Province.

"The historic decision by LG Administration is a beginning and has vindicated the stand of Team Jammu taken in 2015, that a day would not be far when, J&K's narrative would be set from Jammu," said Team Jammu chief Zorawar Singh Jamwal while addressing the volunteers, during the meeting, convened for mass mobilization of general public to make September 23 as grand celebration in every nook and corner of Jammu region. Youngest DDC Member, Pancheri-Moungri and volunteer of Team Jammu, Jasvir Singh also attended the meeting and



Chairman of Team Jammu Zorawar Singh Jamwal talking to media persons.

expressed his views.

"Although Maharaja Hari Singh is respected across J&K for taking pro-people initiatives during his regime, emotions of the residents of Jammu region are attached with the last ruler of the Dogra dynasty", Zorawar Singh said and added, "First-time after 1947 residents of Jammu are feeling that those at the helm of the affairs have respected their sentiments and emotions." He, however, regretted that the successive democratically elected regime of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir overlooked peoples' emotions just for petty political reasons.

Team Jammu chief said that this year September 23 would be celebrated in a big way to

give befitting tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh who merged the erstwhile princely state of Jammu and Kashmir with the Indian Union on October 26, 1947, by signing the "Instrument of Accession". He recalled that since its inception Team Jammu has been celebrating September 23 through different means to remain people about the contribution of Maharaja Hari Singh.

"Taking a big initiative, Team Jammu on December 31, 2016 had issued the first calendar in which September 23 was declared as a holiday", he said, adding, "Since then every year calendar depicting September 23 as a holiday is issued by the Team Jammu with a pledge to continue our

struggle for getting an official holiday on the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh".

He further mentioned it was the initiative of Team Jammu that members of all other communities be it traders, social organizations or student groups were involved to make this issue as a demand and mass movement of the entire Dogra community irrespective of caste, creed or colour. Zorawar Singh also highlighted that Team Jammu has been supporting the youth leaders of Yuva Rajput Sabha, who were spearheading the agitation.

"Since its inception, Team Jammu distributing Halwa and taking the pledge is a regular annual programme of our organization", he said.

Power shutdown

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution), JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Jourian, Troti, Muthi Mara, Bakora, Rakh Muthi, PHE, BSF, Border Migrant, Sohla, Akalpur, Udheywala, Sangrampur, Lale-De-Bagh, Nagbani, DPS School, Manorma Vihar, Anand Nagar, Domana, Lower Machelian, Nagbani, Kherian, Haipur-Jagir, Saroda, Puran de kothi, Trilokpur Sari Rakhwlan Pounichak and adjoining areas shall remain affected on September 21 from 7 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Yatri Niwas, Bhawani Nagar, Gole Gujral, Talab Tillo, Trilokpur, Panjeer, NITCO Lane, Vikas Nagar and adjoining areas shall remain affected on September 21 from 7 am to 11 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Kullian, Badyal, Kadyal, Simbal, Simbal Morh, Makhanpur, Tali Morh, Darsapur, Biaspur, Purana Pind, RS Pura and its adjoining areas shall remain affected on September 21 from 6 am to 12 noon.

Governor Manoj Sinha, on Tuesday.

Kumar discussed various matters with the Lt Governor including renewal of lease of KVIC training center at Pampore, production of bee boxes, besides effective implementation of KVIC schemes in J&K.

Discussion was also held on the record achievement in PMEGP in the last fiscal and how it can be implemented more aggressively in the future to create manifold employment opportunities.

Pertinently, in 2021-22, under PMEGP, the KVIC established 21,640 manufacturing and service units in J&K and as many as 1.73 lakh new employment was generated in the region.

Chairman AJTWA, Chairman KVIC meet LG

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: A delegation of All J&K Transport Welfare Association led by its Chairman Ajit Singh Khalsa called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, on Tuesday.

The 10 member delegation including General Secretary, Sheikh Mohammad Yusuf and President, Vijay Singh Chib submitted a memorandum of demands to the Lt Governor and put forth various issues and demands pertaining to smooth operations of public transport and welfare of transporter community.

The prominent demands included re-examination of order No. 08-JK(TR) of 2022, issued by Transport Department; ban on illegal



Delegation of All J&K Transport Welfare Association calling on Lt Governor Manoj Sinha.

operation of e-Rikshaws on unapproved routes; re-registration of vehicles purchased from outside UT; besides the issue of proper maintenance of General Bus Stand Parimpora and Narval transport yard and release of pending payments of transport vehicles under Government use, among other issues.

On the sidelines of the meeting, Ajit Singh Khalsa, Chairman, AJKTWA, also apprised the Lt Governor about an array of issues concerning the Sikh community that have been pending since long.

The Lt Governor gave a patient hearing to the Chairman, AJKTWA and

members of the delegation and assured that their genuine issues and demands would be redressed on merit.

Meanwhile, Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, Manoj Kumar called on Lieutenant

SPS Library to get high-speed internet facility soon

■ **SHAKEELA ANDRABI**
SRINAGAR: The SPS Library, biggest educational and knowledge hub for people of Kashmir Valley, is presently deprived of internet facility due to which students and people from different walks of life are facing a lot of hardships. Established in 1904, SPS Library has a repository of around 6000 centuries old rare manuscripts in 17 languages encompassing varied fields including religious, philosophical, historical, literary and scientific writings, which can prove very helpful to scholars and researchers.

Recently Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad visited the library to oversee its functioning and facilities available for students and scholars. During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Director Libraries & Research and other concerned officers. On the

occasion, DC inspected various compartments of Library and was appraised about centuries old repository of Manuscripts, Rare Books and Miniature etc.

DC also held an interaction with students/scholars and enquired about facilities available at SPS Library, during which students put forth several demands before the Deputy Commissioner including provision of power backup for uninterrupted power supply and high-speed Internet facility. The district administration assured them that all their genuine demands would be looked on priority. Officials of Libraries & Research Department, J&K also assured that they have a proposal of setting-up of an IT hub inside the library adding that the permission of internet access to students will be only given after an approval from authorities.

CS calls for increasing crop intensity, adopting digital initiatives

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J) on Tuesday celebrated its 24th Foundation Day at Baba Jitto Auditorium, Main campus, Chatha in which Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta was the chief guest.

Dr Mehta inaugurated the exhibition at Baba Jitto Auditorium depicting various technologies and FPOs promoted by different KVVKs of SKUAST-Jammu.

Bharat Bhushan, DDC Chairman Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner, Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat, former MLA, Prof. P.K. Sharma, former Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr P. Ramasundaram, National Coordinator, ICAR-NAHEP and Kavinder Gupta, former Dy CM J&K, also graced the occasion.

In his address, the Chief Secretary underlined that around seventy percent of the population of J&K depends directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihoods.



VC SKUAST-J, Prof. J. P. Sharma honouring Chief Secretary, Dr AK Mehta during a function.

Development and promotion of the sector is vital for the prosperity of its people, he said. Dr Mehta highlighted that J&K stands top among other states in farmer-household income and called for further exploring ways to increase it. Due to the fast paced development done in the UT since 2019, we already stand among the top five states in various sectors, he added.

Elaborating on novel initiatives, the Chief Secretary said that farmers have been provided Soil Health Cards and are accordingly provided expert advice on farming. He also detailed digital platforms like Agristack and unique farmer IDs being implemented in the UT. Parvaaz scheme

is helping our farmers export their farm produce abroad on subsidised rates, added the Chief Secretary.

Dr Mehta called upon experts to help improve crop intensity to 2.5 crops per year through various interventions. He also encouraged participation in the Millet Mission of Government of India and increased production of oilseeds and pulses in J&K. He suggested undertaking rain water harvesting projects under MGNREGA in Kandi belts of Jammu region and boosting suitable crops there. Chief Secretary hailed agriculture as a special and unique career pursuit of life. "We are proud of our farmers and must start campaigns to acknowledge their role in society", he reiterated.

Prof. J. P. Sharma, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu in his address congratulating all the teaching, non-teaching staff and students on foundation day. He lauded the farmers for their substantial contribution in the agricultural development of J&K.

He informed the gathering that as per NITI Aayog's yearly survey, Jammu and Kashmir has secured third place in all India ranking in terms of farmers' family earnings besides stepping up from rank 22 to 5 in agriculture and allied sector ranking within one year. He said that since its birth in 1999, SKUAST-Jammu has made rapid strides.

While highlighting the

achievements of the University Prof. Sharma revealed that the farm University has released 21 new varieties of different crops during the last two years, developed Integrated Farming System Model, established Agri-business Incubation centre for the Start Ups etc. He said that sixty six students of the University qualified for the National Eligibility Test and ICAR has accredited the institution with grade 'A'. He said that three new faculties and three new KVVKs have been established by the University.

Padma Shri Prof BS Dhilon, former Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana delivered "Foundation Day Speech" on the occasion and said that for

the holistic development of agriculture in J&K, the government and both farm universities should focus on recent trends in agriculture development like biotechnology, nanotechnology, digital agriculture, and the promotion of FPOs. Further, he shared his scientific as well as administrative experience dedicated to the welfare of the farming community.

Prominent personalities of Jammu namely Dr. Sushil Sharma, Head, Cardiology Department, GMC Jammu; Mahant Rohit Shastri, Pradeep Kapoor of Seva Bharti, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) S.K. Sharma, Member, SMVDN Hospital governing body and Head Vignyan Bharti, Priti Choudhary (Nasha Mukti Kendra), Puneet Mahajan (Blood donation), Vir Pratap Singh, Head Career Counseling, Gurha Slathia, Abhishek Abrol (SDM), Harmeet Singh, Tehsildar, Pallavi, Himanshu Sharma, Seva Bharti Gou Raksha were felicitated on the occasion for their immense contribution towards the welfare of the society.