

Dr Jitendra attends Dinner meeting with US Energy Minister Jennifer

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PITTSBURGH: The hall-mark of the first day of the Global Clean Energy Action Forum 2022 was a dinner meeting attended by Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh with US Energy Minister Jennifer Granholm and other important Ministers of the forum. Earlier, the Action Forum-2022 began with an opening ceremony at the Heinz History Centre at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US.

The coveted joint convening of the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13) and Mission Innovation (MI-7) from 21st to 23rd September at Pittsburg is being organised by the U.S. Department of Energy and Carnegie Mellon University.

Besides Jennifer Granholm, the speakers Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive, Ed Gainey, Mayor of Pittsburgh, Farnam Jahanian, President of Carnegie Mellon University and David Sandalow, Inaugural Fellow, Centre on Global Energy Policy,



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh at the Dinner meeting at Heinz History Centre, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US.

Columbia University welcomed visiting country delegations to Pittsburgh, sharing the Steel City's transformation from an early energy economy to a clean energy and innovation industrial hub. They also shared how we got here - the origins of Mission Innovation and the Clean Energy Ministerial - and the rapid acceleration of innovation and deployment needed to achieve a global net zero economy. Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and John Kerry, the U.S. special presidential envoy for climate, are also among the expected attendees at the Global Clean Energy Action Forum.

Dr Jitendra Singh, who is leading the Joint Ministerial Indian delegation joined Energy Ministers from 30 other countries at Pittsburgh for the environmental summit at the David L. Lawrence Convention Centre downtown.

Later, Dr Jitendra Singh joined a private dinner for Ministers and VIPs that included Jennifer Granholm, United States Secretary of Energy, Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Natural Resources from Canada, Diego Pardow, Minister of Energy from Chile, Rob Jetten, Minister for Climate and Energy Policy from Netherland, German

Galushchenko, Ukraine Minister of Energy of Ukraine, Graham Stuart, Minister of State for Climate from UK, Andreas Ericksen, State Secretary in Norway's petroleum and energy ministry, Farnam Jahanian, President of Carnegie Mellon University, Angela Wilkinson, Secretary General of World Energy Council. Dr Jitendra said that he is looking forward to participating in the Cleantech Leaders Roundtable and joining U.S. DOE officials and industry leaders tomorrow, besides meeting leading world scientists and academicians and the India Diaspora. The Minister noted that the Global Clean Energy Action Forum meet offers India an opportunity to present Prime Minister Narendra Modi's climate and clean energy vision before the world. Dr Singh will have very close engagements at the Plenary and two Roundtables of Global Clean Energy Action Forum. At the 1st Roundtable on Sustainable Bioenergy and

Bio-refineries he is expected to speak about India's plan to work towards transforming the energy landscape with significant clean energy share. At the 2nd Roundtable on Net Zero Built Environment with Connected Communities, the Minister will elaborate on India supported research development and deployment of technologies with an investment of 34.3 million USD during the last decade.

Both the Roundtables will be followed by the Joint Ministerial Plenary of Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM13) and Mission Innovation (MI-7), where Dr Jitendra Singh will tell the Ministers and Delegates that India is founding and active member of both MI & CEM since launch and now actively engaged with MI2.0 through various Missions and Platforms work streams.

After the events, Dr Jitendra Singh will have Private Dinner with Select Eminent Scientists, Academicians, Doctors and Philanthropists.

JK Bank conducts DLRC Meet at Shopian

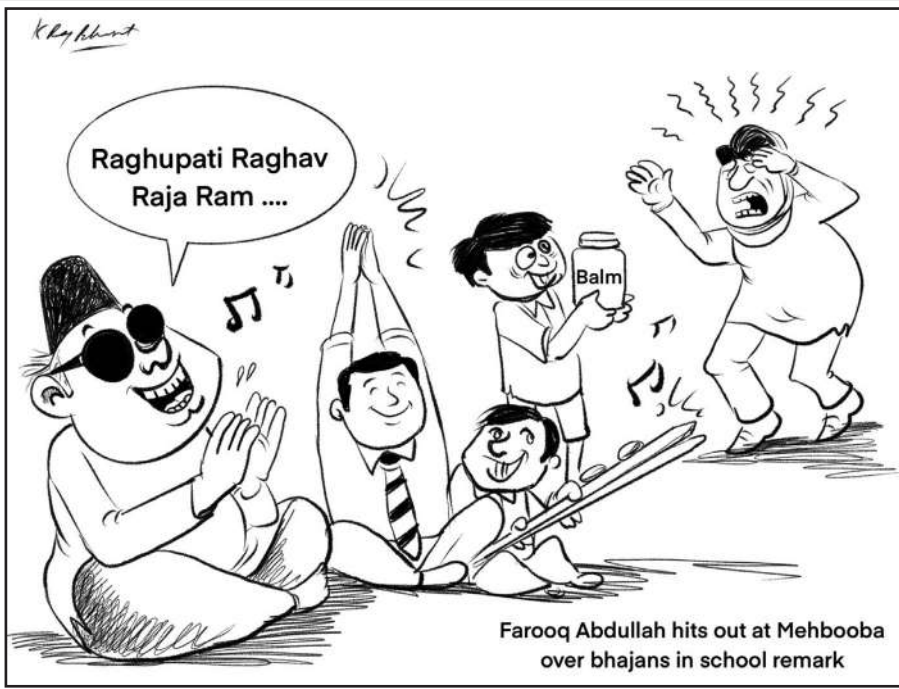
■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: To review the performance of Banks under Annual Credit Plan (ACP 2022-23) for the April-June quarter, J&K Bank on Thursday convened District Level Review Committee (DLRC) and DDC meetings.

District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaisliya chaired the meeting.

Lead District Manager (LDM) Shopian, Farooq Ahmad Bhat informed the house that the Banks operating in the district have disbursed Rs 262.05 Cr to 8565 beneficiaries during the 1st quarter of financial year against the financial target of Rs 1910.41 Cr and physical targets of 32019 beneficiaries under DCP 2022-23.

He informed that the banks have made total credit disbursement of Rs 1408.31 Cr as on June 30, 2021 to Rs.1383.87 crore as on June 30, 2022 and in the Non priority sector lending has increased from Rs 255.79 Cr as on June 30, 2021 to Rs 391.30 Cr as on June 30, 2022 thereby achieving a growth of 52.97% on YOY. The deposits of the district have increased from Rs 1260.12Cr to Rs 1419.50 Cr by the end of 1st quarter.



Farooq Abdullah hits out at Mehbooba over bhajans in school remark

BJP will do justice with daily wagers: Ravinder Raina

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JAMMU: BJP will do justice with daily wagers, stated Ravinder Raina Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir President while stressing that BJP has always stood by the side of them and supports their all genuine demands.

Ravinder Raina, accompanied by the party Vice-President Sham Lal Sharma, BJP NEM & Headquarter Incharge Priya Sethi and BJYM President Arun Dev Singh was addressing a rally attending by the thousands of PHE daily wager employees.

Ravinder Raina said that BJP has always supported them earlier and is standing by their side in the present.

He said that the party has raised their issue in the Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir and has supported



J&K BJP Chief, Ravinder Raina addressing PHE daily-wagers.

their justified demands on the roads as well.

He insisted that the party stands with their struggle for the justice which was done with them with the earlier governments.

He said that they have also raised their issue in front of LG of J&K.

Sham Lal Sharma also assured the daily wagers that BJP is pursuing their case positively at every level

required. He assured them that the party will support them through every thick and thin.

Priya Sethi also assured the daily wagers that the party will support them in all their justified demands.

Ravi Hans, Rajinder Singh, Hoshair Singh, Navdeep, Mohan Lal and others were representing the daily wagers on behalf of PHE Employees United Front.

HC quashes PSA of Gola Shah

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JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir High Court has quashed detention under Public Safety Act (PSA) of Ravinder Gupta alias Gola Shah.

While quashing detention order, Justice Rajnesh Oswal after hearing both the sides observed that India is a democratic country and the personal liberty of the individual cannot be curtailed except according to the procedure established by law. "If law provides for curtailment of personal liberty under certain contingencies/conditions, then such conditions/contingencies must exist, then only, the personal liberty of an individual can be curtailed and that too according to the procedure prescribed by the law. The perusal of detention order reveals that in all the FIRs, the allegations against the petitioner are with regard to the commission of offences, which do not fall within the realm of "public order" as defined by section 8(3) of the Act as there are no allegations against the petitioner regarding his activities affecting public at large. The allegations may amount to law and order issue but in no manner can be said to have disturbed the public order," the Court observed.

Justice Rajnesh Oswal further observed that in view of decision of Apex Court the argument of Amit Gupta that land grabbing would fall within meaning of 'mischievous' loses its force. Court is of the considered view that the alleged activities as men-

tioned above, even if are considered as true, still the said activities do not fall within the purview of the activities prejudicial to the maintenance of public order as defined in 8 (3) (b) of the Act. Also, a perusal of the detention order reveals that the respondent No 2 has not shown his/her awareness about the arrest of the petitioner in FIR No. 53/2022 though the arrest of the petitioner in the said FIR has been mentioned in the dossier. This issue is no longer res Integra that a person who is already in custody in some substantive offence, can still be detained provided that the detaining authority is of the opinion on the basis of the material placed on record before the detaining authority by the sponsoring agency that the petitioner is in custody, there is likelihood of the detainee being released on bail and further that after being enlarged on bail, there is every likelihood that he would indulge in similar criminal activities. The contention of Amit Gupta that order of detention is to be read in conjunction with dossier cannot be accepted as the detaining authority is not supposed to act as a mere post office but must be alive to the circumstances necessitating issuance of detention order and it must reflect from the order of detention. On this score also, the detention order is not sustainable in the eyes of law. With these observations, the Court allowed the petition and quashed the detention order No. 06/2022 dated May 25, 2022.

127th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh Vikramaditya felicitates President YRS for key role in sanction of holiday

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JAMMU: Former MLC Vikramaditya Singh along with Ajatshatru Singh, senior BJP leader and former minister and his son, Ranvijay Singh felicitated Rajan Singh Happy, President Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS) for playing key role in sanction of a holiday on September 23, every year, the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh.

The YRS President was honoured by presenting a portrait of the Maharaja during a glittering function organized in connection with the 127th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh here on Thursday at Amar Mahal.

Addressing the gathering, Vikramaditya Singh gave whole credit to the holiday of Maharaja to Yuva Rajput Sabha.

He termed it as a youth movement in Jammu as the Sabha members mobilized people over the issue by visiting village after village and imparting awareness about the significance of holiday of Maharaja Hari Singh and mounted pressure on the government to cede to the



Former MLC Vikramaditya Singh and Ajatshatru Singh, and his son, Ranvijay Singh felicitating Rajan Singh Happy, President YRS.

demand of the entire Union Territory. While paying tributes to Maharaja Hari Singh, Vikramaditya Singh threw light on the reforms taken by the great Monarch during his regime.

He recalled that the Maharaja ensured free and compulsory girl education, widow remarriage, flood control channel, irrigation canal, environment and forest protection laws, local handicraft promotion, sericulture, protection to small traders, etc.

"Besides J&K Bank and erstwhile J&K High Court were also started during the regime of Maharaja Hari Singh", he added.

The former MLC said that Maharaja Hari Singh during

his coronation in 1926 had said that justice is his religion, and during his life he proved this assertion through his deeds which were impartial and exemplary.

Vikramaditya said that people of J&K should continue to spread awareness about the rich cultural legacy of the erstwhile state of J&K through all possible means because this will help them to connect with the soil and the heritage of this great Duggarland which always stood for justice and secular credentials.

He said that the next goal of people should be complete eradication of drugs and demanded establishment of drug de addiction centres across the union territory.

Vikramaditya Singh also thanked PM Narendra Modi and LG Manoj Sinha for announcing the holiday on the birth anniversary of Maharaja Hari Singh. He also remembered Late B S Slatia, former President Bar Association Jammu for his significant role in raising voice for holiday on Maharaja's birthday. He thanked the Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Bar Association, and other social and political organizations for their support to Yuva Rajput Sabha that led to the success of this struggle for holiday on September 23. He also thanked the media fraternity for unconditional support to the cause of the people of J&K.

During the function, various local artists including Slatia Brothers presented melodious Dogri songs narrating the life and achievements of Maharaja Hari Singh. The youth present in the audience enjoyed the cultural bonanza and danced to the deeds of songs presented by Dogri artists.

The proceedings of the programme were conducted by Surinder Sagar.

GeM in coordination with PIB Jammu & CBC J&K organizes 'Seller Samvad'

GeM being contactless, paperless, cashless standing on three pillars-efficiency, transparency, inclusivity: Gh. Abbas

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JAMMU: Government e-Marketplace (GeM), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India on Thursday organized a 'Seller Samvad' at Jammu in coordination with Press Information Bureau Jammu and Central Bureau of Communication, J&K.

The 'Seller Samvad' was organized with the aim to interact with the GeM sellers, share their best experiences for learning, inspiring others and make them aware about the new GeM features and functionalities that further make it conducive for them to operate on the portal.

Speaking during the occasion, Joint Director, CBC J&K, Ladakh Region, Gh. Abbas said that such face to face interactions between the GeM officials and sellers is the need of the hour as these interactions are helping on spot in settling seller's grievances and their suggestions are taken on board as well.

Abbas further said that GeM being contactless, paperless, and cashless is standing on three pillars- efficiency, transparency, and inclusivity.



Joint Director, CBC J&K, Ladakh Region, Gh. Abbas speaking at a programme.

Piyush Kumar, Senior Manager, States & UTs, GeM while interacting with the sellers said that GeM has achieved Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of Rs. 1 lakh crore in the last financial year and is on the path to go beyond Rs. 1.5 lakh crore in the current financial year.

He further said that GeM has now more than sixty thousand buyer organizations, more than fifty lakh sellers/service providers, more than ten thousand products and 250 plus service categories.

With these figures, GeM is getting bigger and more comparable to platforms like Konapss of South Korea, Chilecompera from Chile and GeBiz from Singapore.

With GeM Sahay, GeM enables the proprietors across India to attain frictionless uncollateralized working capital loans against purchase orders on GeM, Kumar added.

The app, GeM Sahay brings an end to end digital solution for all our proprietors, assists them in availing loans instantly, uncollateralized, in a completely contactless and paperless manner, he informed.

Kumar further said that GeM has been awarded twice in last financial year by CIPS under the category of 'Best use of digital technology' and by Dun and Bradstreet in the category of 'E-Governance Solutions for Public Procurement.

Sheikh Mudasir Amin, Media & Communications Officer, PIB Jammu said that GeM has surpassed the milestone of Rs 1 lakh crore of procurement value, in a single fiscal year in FY 21-22 which has only been possible with the support of all the stakeholders including buyers and sellers across the country.

Sarthak Khoda, Regional State Business Facilitator, GeM, J&K and Ladakh who was also present during the program said that GeM is known for redefining public procurement and has been able to bring about radical changes in the way procurement was done by Government buyers and public sector undertakings.

Besides GeM officials, the samvad was attended by GeM sellers of J&K like Vardhman Enterprises (Jaikmo Bath Fittings & Accessories), Jai Kabir Services, S2H4 Technologies, BD Medi Aid, Endeavors Heavy Earth Movers, Quantum Technologies, PC Printers etc. The sellers expressed their satisfaction and shared their experiences while working on GeM.

This year damaged paddy seed has spoiled rice production in Jammu Ex-BJP minister Sukhnandan seeks detailed probe; compensation for farmers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Seeking relief for the farmers of rice cultivation in Jammu region and adequate action against the departmental officials who are responsible for the low production of the paddy crop this year, the former Minister and senior BJP leader Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar demanded full compensation and insurance payments to the farmers of our region.

Our Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched numerous schemes for the welfare of the farmers but due to the negligence of some agriculture officials here, we are suffering major losses this year as far as rice cultivation is concerned, said Sukhnandan. This year, already the farmers of our region are suffering because of the dreaded lumpy disease in cattle. Now, this low paddy crop has broken the spine of the farmers whose



Senior BJP leader Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar talking to reporters.

livelihood is based on rice cultivation only. Sukhnandan has sought a comprehensive detailed report from the department of agriculture for this failure is growth of paddy seed. "We have brought here some samples to show to the media the size of the paddy cultivation this year. We have very poor output this year," said Sukhnandan Kumar. LG Manoj Sinha has always supported the cause of villagers and the farmers, the former

minister Sukhnandan Kumar said, adding "This time I also sought his attention also so that the villagers are saved from this turmoil as their rice cultivation is at ground zero."

"Our agriculture officials never visit the spots and even they never visit the rice cultivation sites in the neighboring states to learn and educate the farmers so that the local farmers are benefitted, the former minister said, adding, "I also sought a stern action against

those who are responsible for supply of low quality paddy seeds to Jammu based farmers." "Jammu farmer is already a neglected lot and this type of loss to the farmers make their economic condition more worse, said Sukhnandan Kumar, adding, now we appeal to the government for compensation to all those farmers whose rice cultivation is at the verge of complete damage. "You can see the height of the paddy crop this year; where from this low quality seed has been sold in Jammu region, Sukhnandan questioned.

"This problem is not only in Marh, Kanachak or Akhnoor sector; we have received complaint from Bishnah, Arnia and RS Pura sector; the major contributor in rice cultivation, Sukhnandan Kumar said.

The rice seeds of numbers 6444 PHV71, 17, 18, 1692, 2344, 2377 have been found to be of low quality, the ex-minis-

Secretary, LA presents "Raj Tarangni" book to Chairman, Committee for Welfare of SC, ST Kerala

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly, Renu Mahajan on Thursday presented a Book titled "Raj Tarangni" to Chairman, Committee for Welfare of Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes of Kerala Legislative Assembly who was on a study tour to Union Territory of J&K. The token of the gift was presented to the Chairman at Legislators Hostel, Srinagar. It is in place to mention here that same has been suggested by Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Manoj Sinha, Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory to "give a book instead of bouquet as a greeting".

HC restrains MC Udhampur from declaring result of voting *CEO MC Udhampur declared results before issuance of court orders: Mankotia

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a petition filed by Dr Jogeshwar Kumar Gupta, son of Late Shiv Charan Gupta, President, Municipal Council Udhampur challenging the notice of no-confidence motion dated September 9, issued by respondents and notice dated September 19, 2022 issued by CEO MC Udhampur, Justice Sanjay Dhar after hearing Adv Ankur Sharma appearing for petitioner, issued notice to the respondents and observed that petition raises important questions of law, as such, stand of official respondents is neces-

sary in the matter. Justice Sanjay Dhar further observed that while awaiting reply of the respondents, it is provided that voting on No Confidence Motion, pursuant to the impugned no confidence motion dated September 9, 2022 and notice dated September 19, 2022 issued by respondent shall go ahead. However, it is directed that result of voting shall not be declared and the same shall be kept by respondent in a sealed cover, till next date of hearing, the Court directed.

Former MLA Balwant Singh Mankotia said, the

Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Udhampur declared the results earlier in the day before the issuance of court orders. According to the result sheet issued by the CEO MC, the copy of which was available with Mankotia, states, that total number of members present were 20. One member was absent while 11 members voted in favour of motion, 8 members against the motion and one vote was invalid. "We will apprise the court about the facts tomorrow so that justice is done," Mankotia added.