

India to lead bio-manufacturing revolution due to its abundant bio-resources: Dr Jitendra

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Saturday that bio-manufacturing will shape the future of global economy, and India is well-positioned to lead this revolution due to its abundant bio-resources.

"India has an opportunity to lead the next big revolution which will be driven by bio-manufacturing. While the west led the IT revolution, India, with its immense and largely untapped bio-resources, is ready to take the lead," Singh said.

He said that bio-manufacturing offers solutions to global challenges like climate change, resource depletion, waste generation, and pollution. It can help



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking after formally releasing the "BioE3" policy at National Media Centre, New Delhi on Saturday.

meet the growing demand for food and fuel while also creating new jobs.

Singh said that India currently

imports most of its crude oil, but bio-manufacturing, using biomass and carbon dioxide, can make the country more self-reliant in fuel

production. Also, it could support the dairy industry through non-dairy milk alternatives, promoting resource sustainability.

Last week, the Union Cabinet approved the 'BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy for Fostering High Performance Biomanufacturing'.

This policy seeks to boost research, technology development, and commercialisation by setting up bio-manufacturing and bio-AI hubs and biofoundries, and enable the production of several things from medicine to materials and promote the use of advanced biotechnological processes in agriculture and manufacturing.



Yudhvir reaffirms BJP's commitment to equitable development & youth empowerment

Assures employment priority of Jagti youths in IIT, IIMs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Yudhvir Sethi, senior BJP leader and contesting candidate for the East constituency, addressed a massive rally at Jagti on Saturday. Amid a rousing reception from local residents and supporters, Sethi reaffirmed the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) commitment to equitable development across Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a gathering, the senior BJP leader emphasized that the BJP government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has introduced several initiatives aimed at transforming the lives of citizens. He specifically highlighted the numerous startup schemes that have immensely benefited the youth in J&K, enabling them to harness opportunities for entrepreneurship and self-employment.

Those who accompanied with Yudhvir Sethi included Ajay Sharma, Mandal President Bajalta, Narayan ji, Hari Om, Sanjay Sharma, Sanjay Mahey, Majid Khan, Balbir Sharma, Rakesh ji, Rattan Ji, Om Prashk, Abha Jamwal, Vicky, Pritam Thapa and Ravi.

"Our youth have received substantial support through startup schemes introduced



BJP Contesting candidate for the East constituency, Yudhvir Sethi addressing massive rally at Jagti.

by the Modi government. These programs have not only encouraged entrepreneurship but have also created employment opportunities across various sectors," Sethi said. He also assured local youth that, under BJP's leadership, employment prospects would continue to grow, particularly with the establishment of premier educational institutions like IIM and IIT in the region. "We will ensure that the local youth benefit from

employment opportunities in IIMs, IITs, and other institutions being set up in our area," he assured. Sethi appealed to the people of Jagti and surrounding areas to support the BJP in the upcoming Assembly elections, urging them to vote for a party that has consistently prioritized development and welfare for all sections of society. "Your vote for the BJP is a vote for progress, prosperity, and a brighter future for Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

The rally witnessed overwhelming participation from various sections of society, reflecting the growing support for BJP's development-centric policies. Yudhvir Sethi reaffirmed his commitment to continue working tirelessly for the welfare of his constituency and the entire region.

Civil Judges visit FSL Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) Jammu recently welcomed a delegation of Civil Judges for a two-day educational tour, aimed at providing an in-depth understanding of the laboratory's operations and its role in the criminal justice system.

The visit, which took place on August 29th and 31st, 2024, covered a wide range of divisions within FSL Jammu, including Documents, Physics, Chemistry & Toxicology/Narcotics, Biology/Serology, and Cyber Forensics.

The delegation was received by Dr. Kumar Sourabh, Deputy Director (Officer In-charge), FSL Jammu. He provided a comprehensive briefing on the history, current status, and future plans of the laboratory along with Mr. Rohit Koul (Sr. Scientific expert).



Delegation of Civil Judges visiting FSL Jammu.

During his address, Dr. Sourabh highlighted the laboratory's journey from its inception, emphasizing its evolution over the years in terms of technological advancements and the increasing scope of forensic services offered. Dr. Sourabh further elaborated on the laboratory's future plans, which include the expansion of existing divisions and the introduction of new forensic techniques to keep pace with the evolving nature of crime.

After the briefing, the Civil Judges toured the laboratory's various divisions.

Assistant Scientific Officer (ASO) Miss Rafia demonstrated the examination and authentication of documents, including signatures, ink, and forgeries. ASO Arun Kumar explained the analysis of physical evidence, such as soil, glass fragments, and tool marks.

The delegation was then introduced to the Chemical and Narcotics Division, where Deputy Director Mr. Ankush Kumar (C&T), Scientific Officer (Narcotics) Dr. Aarif Hussain Shah, and ASOs discussed the analysis of chemical substances and

narcotic drugs/psychotropic substances, crucial in criminal cases. The Biological Section, demonstrated by Scientific Officer Dr. Sunny Sharma (Bio/Sero) along with ASO Nipuna Kumari, showcased the analysis of biological evidence, including blood samples, sexual assault cases etc. The tour concluded at the Cyber Division, where ASO, Sourabh explained the usage of various digital forensic tools which are used in digital evidence investigation.

During the tour, the Civil Judges expressed appreciation for the FSL staff's dedication and expertise, acknowledging the vital role of forensic science in the justice delivery system. The visit emphasized the importance of collaboration between the judiciary and forensic experts, with a commitment to continued engagement to strengthen the criminal justice system.

Sham condemns NC manifesto, questions Congress on support for reinstating Articles 370, 35A



JP State Vice President and former Minister, Sham Lal Sharma addressing public meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a fiery address to the public, BJP State Vice President and former Minister, Sham Lal Sharma issued a stern warning to the people of Jammu, highlighting the alleged harmful intentions of the National Conference (NC)-Congress alliance.

He accused them of aligning with anti-national elements and attempting to destabilize Jammu and Kashmir.

Sham Sharma, while addressing a public gathering, called out the NC's

manifesto as a dangerous ploy aimed at re-establishing terrorism and separatism in the region.

He stated, "The manifesto by the National Conference is an attempt to reintroduce terrorism and separatism in Jammu and Kashmir. Their declaration to reinstate Articles 370 and 35A has received full support from the Congress party."

Sharma further condemned the manifesto, stating that it clearly proposes the release of separatists currently imprisoned, who were involved in bomb blasts

and advancing Pakistan's agenda in the region.

He questioned the Congress Party's stand on these issues, demanding clarity on whether they endorse this manifesto that proposes the renaming of Shankaracharya Hill to Takht-e-Suleman.

"This is the same Congress party that was responsible for the exodus of Kashmiri Pandits, and now they are talking about their rehabilitation. The people of Jammu must not forget their betrayal," Sharma added.

Transgender community members hold rally in Jammu, seek reservation in assembly

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Ahead of the Jammu and Kashmir polls, members of the transgender community held a rally here on Saturday, demanding reservation for them in the legislative assembly.

The rally, which started from Vikram Chowk and culminated at Hari Singh Park in the heart of the city, saw participants carrying placards and raising slogans in support of their demand.

"We have 90 seats in the assembly but not one is reserved for us. We want at least one seat each to be reserved in the two divisions of Jammu and Kashmir for us so that our issues can be resolved," Raveena Mahant, who was leading the rally, told reporters.

She said the rally was organized to voice the transgender community's demand for reservation and representation in the electoral process which has long been denied by the political parties in the region. "Without such reservation, the community remains under-represented and is unable to influence decisions which directly impact the lives of transgender persons," she added. Mahant said the transgender community will continue to advocate for these crucial changes and call on the government and political parties to address the issues at the earliest. Another participant said that political parties and governments talk about democracy but it is only "lip service because there is no reservation for us in jobs or separate washrooms in educational institutions".



DIPR Jammu bids adieu to retiring officials



DIPR Jammu according farewell to Inf Assistant Neel Kamal and PAS Operator Ashok Kumar on Saturday.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Jammu bade a warm farewell to Information Assistant Neel Kamal and PAS Operator Ashok Kumar, who attained superannuation on Saturday.

Neel Kamal Information Assistant served in the department for over 33 years whereas PAS Operator Ashok Kumar served for 28 years.

An impressive function was organized in the Auditorium of DIPR to bid farewell to the officials.

Joint Director Information, Atul Gupta; Deputy Director (PR)

Jammu, Ankush Hans; Deputy Director (HQ), Virender Gupta; Field Publicity Officer, Mukesh Kumar; Youth Information Officer, Monika Sambyal; Information Officers, Sachin Bali, Ashu Kumari besides other officers and officials of the department and family members of retiring officials attended the function.

Speaking on the occasion, Joint Director Information hailed the services rendered by the retiring officials in DIPR and congratulated them on their superannuation.

On the occasion, a colourful cultural programme was presented by the artists of culture unit of the department which were highly appreciated by the audience.

retirement life could be dedicated to the betterment of society.

Other officers and colleagues also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the contribution of the retiring officials in the department.

The officers and officials of DIPR also appreciated retiring officials for their dedicated service career in the department and congratulated them on their superannuation.

On the occasion, a colourful cultural programme was presented by the artists of culture unit of the department which were highly appreciated by the audience.

CEO office conducts conference of UT, Distt ICONS to boost voter participation



Additional CEO, J&K, Rahul Sharma and others at a conference.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With a mission to boost maximum participation of electorates in Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Elections commencing from 18th of September, 2024, the Chief Electoral Office (CEO) J&K on Saturday conducted a conference of UT/Districts ICONS through Online Mode.

The conference was held under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), J&K, Rahul Sharma at Nirvachan Bhawan, Jammu, in presence of Akther Hussain Qazi, Nodal Officer SVEEP and Sapna Kotwal, Nodal Officer for Media.

The UT ICONS and influencers along with District Level Social Media ICONS coming from various fields of achievements including singing, music, sports, literature, technology, social work and others participated in the conference virtually.

The aim of the conference was to create awareness among the masses in connection with upcoming J&K Assembly Elections 2024 to be held in 3 phases across the 90 Assembly Constituencies commencing from 18 September, 2024 and especially those who are the first time voters.

During the conference, the UT ICONS were urged to educate and

influence the voters to participate the biggest democratic exercise of the J&K UT by using their skills and experience.

Additional Chief Electoral Officer, Rahul Sharma exhorted the ICONS to target Young Voters, PwDs, Tribals, slum dwellers, women, weaker sections and old age voters to ensure their maximum participation in the elections.

On the occasion, Nodal Officer SVEEP gave some tips to the participants in creating video and audio messages for the masses and their publicity over the social platforms.

The messages should be completely neutral to achieve the target and not favour or disregard to any political party or candidate, he maintained.

The UT ICONS who attended this conference included, S. Chandep Singh, Sandhya Dhar, Ankush Sabharwal, Shivani Arora, Zoddi, Imran Khan, Shwetima Janwal, Sargam Koushal, Parvez Rasool, Faisal Ali Dar, Sonali Dogra, Mahfooz Elahi, Kabul Bukhari, Nazir Ahmed Lone, Bilkis Maqbool, Ashok Hans, Shazia Bashir, Aabha Hanjura and Sadia Tariq.

NC trying to obliterate 'Aastha Kendra' of Hindus by renaming iconic landmarks: BJP

"Whose masters are you pleasing," BJP asks Farooq

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) BJP on Saturday launched a scathing attack on the National Congress (NC) for orchestrating an ill-conceived design to rename the Hindu iconic landmarks- 'Shankaracharya Hill' as 'Takht-e-Suleman' and the 'Hari Parbat' as 'Koh-e-Miran' in a mischievous attempt to Islamize the region.

National General Secretary of the BJP Mahila Morcha, Deepti Rawat Bhardwaj while addressing news persons in Jammu today said the attempt by the NC is a brazen move to Islamize the province by obliterating the long standing Hindu traditions of Kashmir. She accused the Congress of colluding with the NC to temper with what she referred to as the 'Aastha Kendra' (Centers of faith) of the Hindus.

The manifesto of the NC talks about renaming our symbols of faith. The Abdullah



National General Secretary of BJPMM Deepti Rawat Bhardwaj addressing press conference.

family and Rahul Gandhi need to explain their intentions behind the move to the people of the state. What the NC is doing is betrayal of Kashmir's rich cultural diversity and an attempt to impose a monolithic identity on the region," Bhatnagar said, while maintaining that the BJP vows to oppose this move tooth and nail.

Former J&K minister Priya Sethi, flanked by Sanjita Dogra, the President of Mahila Morcha BJP J&K, asked NC chief and former CM Farooq Abdullah if the move to rename the revered Hindu faith sites was to 'please his masters elsewhere'.

"This is a dangerous strategy to divide people. BJP will not let this Islamikaran take place," Priya Sethi said, adding that the timing of move by the NC also raises concerns given that Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to the valley a few months ago had paid obeisance at the Shankaracharya Hill.

Hari Parbat is a historic fort with Hindu significance, while Adi Shankaracharya, one of the most revered Hindu sages, visited this site centuries ago, leaving an indelible mark on Kashmir's cultural landscape. Inferring that the NC was hitting at the roots of 'Kashmiriyat' and the Indian traditions, Deepti Rawat Bhardwaj said this isn't the

first instance when cold-blooded attempts were made to Islamize the region by targeting Hindus and their belief system.

"This is not an isolated incident but a continuation of their historical complicity in wiping out the Hindu heritage of Kashmir. Over three decades ago, Kashmiri Pandits were driven out of Kashmir. It led to an exodus of the community. They remain refugees in their homeland," she said while adding that the people of J&K can see through the ill-designs of both the NC and the Congress and would strengthen the BJP which banks its credentials on development, employment and peace in the region. "In the 1990s, when Pakistan-sponsored terrorism forced nearly five lakh Kashmiri Hindus to flee their homes, the NC was a mute spectator, effectively partnering in the ethnic cleansing of Hindus from Kashmir," she said.