

Dr Jitendra launches India's first National Life Science Data Centre

Excelsior Correspondent

FARIDABAD (Haryana), Nov 10: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Earth

importantly, for prevention of Metabolic Disorders like Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus which are now occurring in younger age groups, he said.

As per the BIOTECH-PRIDE guidelines of the Government of India, Dr

researchers interested in performing computational-intensive analysis. Users can contact the data center by submitting their requests at support@ibdc.rcb.res.in.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed that IBDC has started nucleotide data submission services via two data portals viz. the 'Indian Nucleotide Data Archive (INDA)' and 'Indian Nucleotide Data Archive - Controlled Access (INDA-CA)' and has accumulated over 200 billion bases from 2,08,055 submissions from more than 50 research labs across India.

It also hosts an online 'Dashboard' for the genomic surveillance data generated by the INSACOG labs (https://inda.rcb.ac.in/insacog/statisticsinsacog). The dashboard provides customized data submission, access, data analysis services, and real-time SARS-CoV-2 variant monitoring across India. Data submission and access portals for other data types are under development and would be launched shortly.

Fundamentally, IBDC is committed to the spirit of data sharing as per FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) principles. IBDC is being developed in a modular fashion wherein different sections would typically deal with particular type/s of life science data.

The computational infrastructure at IBDC is also made available for researchers interested in performing computational intensive analysis. Users can contact the data center by submitting their requests at support@ibdc.rcb.res.in. Further, IBDC conducts regular workshops and orientations (https://ibdc.rcb.res.in/news-and-announcement/) to assist users in submitting the data. Video tutorials for data submission to IBDC are also available at the data center website. The data center team can also be contacted at support@ibdc.rcb.res.in for scheduling of any workshop on data submission/analysis.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh speaking after dedicating to the nation 'Indian Life Science/Biological Data Centre' at Faridabad, Haryana on Thursday.

Science; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Space and Atomic Energy, Dr Jitendra Singh today dedicated to the nation India's first-ever National Repository for Life Science data-'Indian Biological Data Centre' (IBDC).

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Jitendra Singh said, India is ushering in a new era of disease study and disease management. "Indian data for Indian diseases and Indian treatment regimen for Indian patients" is the dictum. In the times to come, this data bank can also help in carrying out specific gene interventions for management and more

Jitendra Singh said, IBDC is mandated to archive all life science data generated from publicly-funded research in India.

Supported by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), it has been established at Regional Centre of Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad with a data 'Disaster Recovery' site at National Informatics Centre (NIC), Bhubaneswar.

It has a data storage capacity of about 4 petabytes and houses the 'Brahm' High Performance Computing (HPC) facility. The computational infrastructure at IBDC is also made available for



Secretary Mining Deptt Amit Sharma speaking during inaugural session of International Conference at Nagpur.

Secretary Mining invites Global Mineral Business Developers to invest in J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

NAGPUR, Nov 10: Secretary, Mining Department, Amit Sharma, has invited Global Mineral Developers to invest in Jammu and Kashmir during the ongoing two day International Conference and Exhibition on Mineral Business Development, 2022 organised here.

The theme of this mega event was "Prospects and Challenges of Mineral Based Products and Utilization of Wastes for the Make in India Initiative".

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari, also extended his wishes through a special video message to the visiting delegates and organisers Mineral Information & Development Center (MIDC), India who have collaborated with Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI), India and Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED), India who have organised this mega international event in his constituency Nagpur.

While attending the inaugural session of this international conference as a guest of honour, Amit Sharma shared the success story of J&K created in past couple of years wherein Mining and

Mineral Exploration sectors have touched new heights. He invited all prospective global players to invest in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir while elaborating on ample underlying scope for strategic minerals there.

Several global players assured that they will come to J&K soon while mentioning their areas of interest and specialisation.

During his keynote address, Amit Sharma gave a detailed presentation on the mining and mineral wealth in J&K and shared district-wise scope for different mineral availability such as Lithium, Bauxite, Limestone, Gypsum, Marble, Lignite, Graphite and Quartzite.

He also disclosed that a rare precious gem Sapphire is being extracted in Padder area of Jammu division which is having an excellent quality. He added that the coal mines located in Kalakote area of Jammu have been provisioning top quality anthracite coal over last many years.

The delegates showed lot of interest in exploring the mineral wealth of J&K after this eye-opening presentation on opportunities for mineral based industries in J&K by Secretary Mining.



DAP Chairman, Ghulam Nabi Azad, welcoming new entrants into party fold at Jammu on Thursday.

Azad chairs DAP's Central Zonal Committee meet

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 11: Former J&K Chief Minister and Chairman Democratic Azad Party (DAP), Ghulam Nabi Azad today convened Central Zonal Committee meeting of the party and finalised the lists of the delegates for the district and zone level committees.

While addressing Central Zonal Committee members including former DyCM Tara Chand former ministers- R S Chib, Jugal Kishore and Ch Ghru Ram, Ex-MLC Balwan Singh, Ex-MLC Subhash Gupta, Vinod Mishra, Vicky Mahajan, Corporators -Sobat Ali and Gourav Chopra besides others, Azad asked them to gear up their activities in their respective constituencies, blocks, wards and Panchayats and prepare Panchayat and ward level committees.

Azad further asked the party leaders and workers to reach out to the public, identify their issues and take up with the concerned authorities for immediate redressal.

Party general secretary, R S Chib said that during today's meeting district and zonal committee lists of the delegates were finalised for Central Committee comprising of 24 Assembly seats.

Later, Pir Panjal Zonal Committee meeting of DAP was also held and the delegates list for the same was finalised. Former MLA Kalakote, Adv

Ashok Sharma, Adv Zahid Malik, Masud Choudhary, Lovely Gupta and others attended the meeting. Azad took feedback about the party activities in Rajouri and Poonch from them and asked the Zonal Committee members to finalise District, Block and Panchayat level committees of the party.

Several delegations met Azad during the day today at his Jammu residence. Many people also joined DAP in presence of senior party leaders today. They were welcomed by Azad in the party fold.



Artists performing during an event in Jammu.

JKAACL sets off EBSB program series from IIT Jammu

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 10: Under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Programme of the Government of India, the Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL), under the guidance of Bharat Singh, Secretary (JKAACL) and in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology Jammu (IIT Jammu), has successfully begun a series of cultural programmes from IIT Jammu's Jagti campus.

The event will continue for the next two days at Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu and Abhinav Theatre.

A troupe of 64 individuals including several officers, officials, and artists from Tamil Nadu are performing in Jammu & Kashmir to exhibit the indigenous culture of their region.

These cultural programmes strive to enhance interaction & promote mutual cultural understanding between the people of Jammu & Kashmir and Tamil Nadu.

Ramesh Kumar, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The event went ahead with the lamp-lighting followed by the welcome address by Dr Rajkumar Velu, faculty in charge of the EBSB programme at IIT Jammu.

The event continued with the felicitation ceremony of the chief guest, artists, and dignitaries with flower bouquets and souvenirs. Bharat Singh, Secretary (JKAACL), also addressed the audience. In his address, he extended his gratitude to the Department of Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu, for the initiative.

The Div Com, while speaking on the occasion stressed that such events should be organised regularly. He also advised the Culture Department to continue such events in other districts as well.

The dance forms performed during the evening revolved around the folk narratives of the region. Dancers dressed in traditional costumes showed a strong connection between nature and the Gods.

Mangala Isai, Bharathanattiyam, Thappattam, Kaniyan Koothu, Kavadiattam, Kakkali Kattaiattam, Oilattam & Kollattam and Karagattam were a few of the many classical and folk performances of the evening.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Shahnawaz, Editor cum Cultural Officer at JKAACL. JKAACL's effort in promoting cross-cultural sensitivities is receiving great applause from the art and culture connoisseurs of the region.

The order has been passed in an application filed by Chairman, Airports Authority of India and Others seeking stay on the operation of the impugned judgment dated May 4, 2022, passed by the Single Judge in the Writ Petition in terms whereof, the Writ Court, has quashed the proceedings initiated by the respondents/appellants with regard to the penalty of censure dated 31st of October, 2001 against the writ petitioner/respondent disintitling him for back dated promotion to the post of DGM (ATC) as well as order of censure issued on 31st of October, 2001 conveyed to the writ petitioner/respondent vide communication dated 21st of January, 2009, besides directing the respondents/ appellants to grant the benefit of next higher scale of DGC (ATC) to the writ petitioner/respondent (now retired) with effect from 10th of January, 1999, along with consequential benefits including arrears of emoluments and post-retiral benefits.

Senior Advocate C Raina with DSGI Vishal Sharma, DSGI and Advocate Yatin Mahajan appearing on behalf of the applicants/ appellants, submitted that, in terms of the scheme of law governing the subject, the writ petitioner/respondent is not entitled to the benefits as awarded to him by the Writ Court.

It was contended that the applicants/ appellants have already assailed the judgment passed by the Single Judge in appeal wherein notice has already been issued in the accompanying application seek-

Dheeraj discusses implementation of action plans under AMRUT-2.0

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 10: Principal Secretary Housing & Urban Development Department (H&UDD), Dheeraj Gupta today chaired a meeting of officers to discuss the implementation of Action Plan under AMRUT 2.0.

The meeting was attended by Commissioners of Municipal Corporations Jammu/Kashmir, Director Urban Local Bodies Kashmir (SNA-AMRUT), Director Urban Local Bodies Jammu, Director Finance HUDD, Chief Engineer Jal Shakti Kashmir (Nodal Agency for PDMC), Chief Engineer Jal Shakti Jammu, Chief Engineers Irrigation & Flood Control Kashmir/Jammu, Chief Engineer UEDD and other concerned.

Kashmir based officers participated in the meeting via video conferencing.

The meeting was informed about the various ongoing projects carried out under AMRUT in Jammu City including construction of Multi-tier parkings, Circular Road, construction/upgradation of drainage nallahs at various areas of Jammu city, drainage schemes for construction of deep drain.



Principal Secretary H&UDD Dheeraj Gupta chairing a meeting at Jammu.

The meeting also discussed the issues of construction of the sewerage system by way of laying of sewers, and construction of the main hole.

The ongoing works of Srinagar City under AMRUT including Anantnag Town were also discussed in the meeting.

The meeting in detail discussed the physical and financial status of projects under AMRUT and submission of utilization certificates of funds as on date under AMRUT 1.0.

The status of unspent funds lying with SNA, IAs, if any, amount of interest accrued, separately for central assistance of funds and matching UT share and transfer of the same into the relevant account head of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and J&K government for availing the first installment under AMRUT 2.0.

Formulation of DPRs for approved PFRs/projects of water supply sector under AMRUT 2.0 by CE Jal Shakti Kashmir/Jammu and status of engagement of PDMC by the Nodal Agency.

Dheeraj Gupta directed the concerned officers to make both physical and financial closure of all the projects taken under AMRUT 1.0 at the earliest and set the deadlines to complete these projects.

He also asked Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti to clear and close all the observations of MoHUA to move ahead in their projects.

Later, the Principal Secretary held a meeting to discuss the perspective plan for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karaykaram (PMJKV).

The meeting discussed DPRs for funding the balanced water supply schemes under PMJKV by CEs Jal Shakti Kashmir/Jammu and UEDD J&K.

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Skoda Auto India celebrates last quarter with intl congregation

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Nov 10: Skoda Auto India celebrated the last quarter of 2022 with an international congregation in the picturesque backdrop of the Himalayas in Dehradun.

The Peak-to-Peak drive show-

the world to our Mlada Boleslav headquarters and showcase our products. It gives me great pleasure and pride to invite the world to India to showcase our India-developed and India-made products, which have proven themselves on the world stage. It was an incredible



Officials of Skoda Auto India during celebration of last quarter of 2022.

case the achievements of the company and its India-made products to a large gathering consisting of automotive experts from India and around the world.

Skoda Auto India also commemorated the full 5-star crash safety ratings for the Kushaq and its recently-conducted GNCAP crash tests.

Commenting on the occasion, Petr Solc, Brand Director, Skoda Auto India said, "Usually, we call

ble few days for all of us at Skoda Auto India, interacting with experts from India and the world. Our India 2.0 heroes were in their element in the beautiful foothills of the Himalayas. 2022 has been a remarkable year for us. With the response we have received, we are confident of carrying forward this momentum into 2023, and beyond."

The congregation saw auto enthusiasts from India, Germany, Slovakia, Ireland, Belgium, France, Austria, and the Czech Republic.

Skoda Auto India also announced the introduction of the Anniversary Edition of the Kushaq, with Model Year 2023 updates to both the Kushaq and the Slavia to follow.

Both the Slavia and the Kushaq are equipped with a range of active and passive safety features. These include Three-Point Seat Belts with Individual Headrest for all passengers, up to Six Airbags, Roll-Over Protection, ISOFIX mounts for Child Protection, Hill Hold Control, Electronic Stability Control, Tyre Pressure Monitoring System, ABS with Traction Control System, Electronic Differential Lock System, Multi Collision Braking, Electronic Brake-force Distribution, Brake Disc Wiping and Rear Parking Sensors with Camera.

Moreover, in an endeavour to enhance customer engagement and interaction, the manufacturer also introduced the revolutionary Fans of Skoda movement.

Paid holiday declared for Himachal voters working in Ladakh

Excelsior Correspondent

LEH, Nov 10: After J&K, Ladakh Administration has also declared paid holiday for the voters of Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Elections-2022, working in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

An order in this regard was issued today, according to which, sanction has been accorded to grant paid holiday in favour of Government/Semi-Government employees and Industrial workers in UT of Ladakh, who are registered voters in the state of Himachal Pradesh, for casting their vote on the day of polling i.e. November 12, on account of Assembly elections there.

The paid holiday has been declared in terms of Sanction 135-B of the Representation of People Act, 1951.

It may be recalled that J&K Administration has already declared similar paid holiday for the registered voters of Himachal Pradesh working here.

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Paucity of Funds: Street Lights, drain work half way done in Ward 38

Sanjeev K. Sharma

JAMMU, Nov 10: While the elected Urban Local Body of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) has completed its more than four years in office, only 50 per cent of drain work has



been completed in Ward number 38 (Janipur-Paloura area) due to paucity of funds.

This was informed by Surinder Sharma, JMC Councillor from Ward number 38 during an interaction with the Excelsior.

Sharma, who belongs to BJP and is a first time Councillor, informed that his Ward includes the area from the Department of Economics and Statics in Janipur to Buta Nagar in Paloura along with the areas of Pritam Nagar, Pamposh Colony, Nasib Nagar, Vivek Vihar, Maheshwar Enclave, Pawan Enclave, Radha Vihar, Basant Nagar (Upper and Lower), Paloura (Nardar Mohalla) and Chohana Mohalla.

He further said that even the work of lanes in the Ward has also not been fully completed but is about 85 per cent done.

"A Nallah flowing from Basant Nagar to Paloura is yet

to be repaired at an expenditure of Rs. 4 crore. Funds for this have been sanctioned, tendering work has also been done and the construction work may start soon," Sharma said adding: "Encroachments on the banks of this Nallah are responsible for the overflow of water from it in rainy season which causes flood and inflicts damage to the adjoining houses."

The Councillor said that 75

MUNICIPAL WARD UPDATE

per cent of blacktopping work has been done in his Ward and tendering process for the remaining was also over.

"While there is no improvement in case of the problems due to stray animals as JMC on routine picks them and leaves them, water supply in the Ward has now been improved and now it is supplied on alternate days," he maintained.

The JMC Councillor said, after 40 years pipes were replaced in most parts of the Ward like Buta Nagar, Nardar Mohalla, Pritam Nagar and in Sectors II and III of Pamposh Colony and their adjoining streets while in Radha Vihar work is going on for laying these pipes.

"For Sector IV of Pamposh Colony, estimate has been given to the authorities and the money may be released soon

for laying the new pipes for proper water supply," he maintained adding that for Nasib Nagar no contractor is picking the tenders while for Sector-I of Pamposh Colony, tenders have been floated afresh.

Sharma said that crimes like chain snatching have been reported from the Pamposh Colony and the police should start patrolling in the Ward.

"At Lohan Park and Chohana Mohalla Park, police

should conduct raids as drug addicts and peddlers remain active there," he claimed adding that he even got threats on phone some 2-3 times for which he got a complaint registered with the police but no action has been taken by the cops.

The Councillor said that his Ward only got 50 per cent of the street lights against the actual requirement.

As there is an outbreak of dengue fever in Jammu at present, Sharma said that fogging has been done in his Ward.

"Almost everyone in my Ward has made Ayushman and Aadhar Cards while all eligible voters have made their Voter Cards," he claimed.

"I got many medical camps organized in the Ward and almost of the eligible persons of my Ward have got COVID-19 vaccination," he continued.

The Councillor informed that electric poles in his Ward needs to be properly fixed and replaced at certain places as due to storms and digging of lanes these have been either damaged or tilted and may even fall causing possible damages.

He further said that only 50 per cent of new cabling work has been done in his Ward.

On smart meters, he said that these are giving excessive bills due to which poor people are facing problems.

He said that there are three Parks in his Ward at Buta Nagar opposite Police Station Janipur, at Chohana Mohalla and Lohan Park. These parks have swings for children and open air gym.

The JMC Councillor said that there is no playground in his Ward while there is a pond on which developmental works are being going on.

"There is also a Community Hall in a temple in my Ward which is presently under construction," he continued.

However, some people from the Ward informed that there is no Sign-Board installed in the Ward and many areas of the Ward often get waterlogged during rains.

They further informed that there is a debris dump near Shiv Mandir near Buta Nagar area of the Ward which the authorities should remove.