

Thanks to efforts of culture and tourism ministries, we know many real heroes who weren't in limelight: VP

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

Vice President Jagdeep Thakkar on Tuesday hailed the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and said thanks to the efforts of the culture and tourism ministries, the people of the country have come to know many "real heroes who weren't in limelight".

Addressing a gathering at the National Tourism Awards 2018-19 at Vigyan Bhawan here, he also praised the Swachh Bharat mission and other initiatives of the Government, and said the re-introduction of cheetahs in India would boost tourism.

"We need to change our mindset and there can be no better occasion to do it than the year we are currently in, 2022 - the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. It affords us with a rare opportunity to look within, to know people who have helped us come to this stage. We are exposed to the authenticity and sublimity of our history," Thakkar said.

The Union Government is

celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark 75 years of India's Independence, and the Ministry of Culture is the nodal agency for it. It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 12, 2021, and will end on August 15, 2023.

The Vice President in his address said many unsung heroes have been brought to limelight through the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.

"I can assure you, a couple of years ago, if we were to ask people, who were those who got us freedom, it was difficult to get into a double digit. Now, we have already gone past three digits. Thanks to the efforts of the culture and tourism ministries, we have come to know real heroes who were not in limelight," he said.

Hailing India's cultural diversity and bountiful nature it is endowed with, Thakkar said, "Our cultural background and civilisational ethos are unparalleled, unrivalled."

He said the last two years

were "very tough" due the COVID-19 pandemic that also impacted the tourism sector heavily.

But, in retrospect, one can say that India knows the way, and the country is "out of the difficult period".

National Tourism Awards 2018-19 was hosted by the Ministry of Tourism marking World Tourism Day. The annual award ceremony took place after a gap of two years due to Covid outbreak in India in early 2020.

Uttarakhand won the award in the 'Best State/ Union Territory: Comprehensive Development of Tourism (Rest of India)' category, while Maharashtra and Telangana finished second and third respectively.

Union Culture and Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy, Minister of State for Tourism Ajay Bhatt and Union Tourism Secretary Arvind Singh were also present on the occasion.

A report titled 'India Tourism Statistics 2022' and two video campaigns of Incredible India, and an e-book -- 'GoBeyond: 75 Experiences of North India' -- were released on the occasion. (PTI)

DRDO conducts successful test flight of VSHORADS missile

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

The DRDO on Tuesday successfully flight tested the Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile in Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.

The VSHORADS is an air defence system designed and developed indigenously by Hyderabad-based Research Centre Imarat of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

"The DRDO conducted two successful test flight of the Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) missile on September 27 from a ground based portable launcher at the integrated test range, Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha," the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

"VSHORADS missile incorporates many novel technologies including miniaturized Reaction Control System (RCS) and integrated avionics, which have been successfully proven during the tests," the Ministry said.

"The missile, meant for neutralising low altitude aerial threats at short ranges is propelled by a dual thrust solid motor," the Ministry said on the Man Portable Air Defence System. (PTI)

Pursue path of social responsibility, Prez tells scientific community

BENGALURU, Sept 27:

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday exhorted the scientific community to pursue the path of social responsibility, and imbibe a "spirit of indigenisation".

She also stressed it should be the joint responsibility of everyone to ensure that the India of 2047 will be a much more prosperous and strong nation.

The President was speaking after inaugurating the Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility (ICMF) of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) here, and laying the foundation stone for the Zonal Institute of Virology (South Zone) virtually.

"On this historic occasion, I am reminded of my esteemed predecessor Dr A P J Abdul Kalam. Though we know him as the 'Missile Man of India', there was another aspect of his life on which I would like to throw some light. He constantly pursued the path of technological development along with social inclusion," Murmu said.

Science can bring a phenomenal revolution and touch the lives of masses, and Dr Kalam too touched the lives of the masses by designing the 'Kalam-Raju stent', she said, noting that it was an indigenous coronary stent which helped thousands of patients as it



President Droupadi Murmu inaugurating the Integrated Cryogenic Engines Manufacturing Facility of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in Bengaluru.

was affordable in comparison to imported ones.

"What I mean to say is that the spirit of indigenisation which was pursued by Dr Kalam has great positive impact on our society.

The hard work and research pursued by our scientists can save the lives of many people. I urge the scientist community of India to pursue the path of social responsibility," she added.

The ICMF set up by HAL would cater to the entire rocket engine manufacturing and assembly under one roof for Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The state-of-the-art ICMF, set up over an area of 4,500 square

metres, houses over 70 hi-tech equipment and testing facilities for manufacturing cryogenic (CE20) and semi-cryogenic (SE2000) engines of Indian rockets.

In 2013, an MOU was signed with ISRO for establishing the facility for manufacturing cryogenic engine modules at HAL, Aerospace Division, and it was subsequently amended in 2016 for setting up of the ICMF with an investment of Rs 208 crore.

The President said the glorious past of HAL and ISRO gives us an assurance that they will continue to play a significant and positive role in the future as India enters the 'Amrit Kaal'.

"We have completed 75 years as an independent country. We are looking ahead at the next 25 years as the period to re-imagine India and make it a developed country. It is our joint responsibility to ensure that the India of 2047 will be a much more prosperous and strong nation," she said.

Karnataka Governor Thaaarvachand Gehlot, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, ISRO Chairman S Somanath, HAL Chairman and Managing Director C B Ananthakrishnan were among those present at the event.

Cryogenic engines are the most widely used engines world over in launch vehicles, an HAL statement said. Due to the complex nature of the cryogenic engine, till date only a few countries -- the USA, France, Japan, China and Russia -- have mastered the cryogenic technology.

On January 5, 2014 India successfully flew GSLV-D5 with a cryogenic engine and became the sixth country in developing cryogenic engines.

On the occasion, the President also laid the foundation stone for the Zonal Institute of Virology (South Zone) virtually, which was attended by Union Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar, and Karnataka Health Minister K Sudhakar. (PTI)

FM asks PSU banks to fill backlog vacancies, enhance coverage of SCs in all schemes

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday asked public sector banks (PSBs) to fill the backlog vacancies of Scheduled Castes (SCs) in time bound manner and enhance their coverage in all schemes.

In a meeting to review the progress of various g/Government schemes aimed at the welfare and upliftment of SCs, the Finance Minister urged banks to make proper digital records for jobs being outsourced, especially for posts like Safai Karamcharis from October 1.

It was also directed that the redressal of all pending grievances pertaining to the SC community may also be taken up in the special drive by the Department of Financial Services (DFS) from October 2, an official statement said.

She also advised PSBs heads to look into the need for capacity building and entrepreneurship development as SCs constitute about 18 per cent of the total workforce of the banks and financial institutions (FIs).

In the review meeting attended by CEOs of PSBs and FIs, she asked them to provide forward and backward linkages through the convergence of various schemes for SCs by Government departments while giving them financial assistance.

She also directed banks to apprise National Commission for Scheduled Castes twice in

a year on SC-related credit and recruitment.

The Finance Minister also said that the objective of the meeting was to bring all stakeholders on a common platform to work together in fulfilment of the rights enshrined in the Constitution for the upliftment and betterment of the people from Scheduled Castes.

Sitharaman also observed that performance in schemes like the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), where 21 per cent of the credit linked Self-Help Groups (SHGs) were SCs and in SVANIDHI, which has 19 per cent SCs as the beneficiaries, is satisfactory, it said.

Improvements required to be carried out in all the schemes like the Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme for Scheduled Castes (CEGSSC) and the Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes, etc may be taken up by the DFS after discussion with agencies like the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCII) that are working with scheduled castes at the grassroots level, she said.

The meeting, chaired by the Finance Minister, saw participation from the chairman and members of the NCSC, the Minister of State for Finance, the financial services secretary and other senior officials.

During the meeting, NCSC Chairman Vijay Sampla urged the bankers to give all the due bank credits to the SCs. (PTI)

Nadda holds meetings with BJP's state in-charges, general secretaries

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

Preparing for the 2024 parliamentary elections, BJP president J P Nadda on Tuesday held separate meetings with the party's state in-charges and general secretaries to strengthen the organisation with a special focus on booth committees, sources said.

This was Nadda's first meeting with the party's newly appointed state in-charges.

Besides Nadda, BJP general secretary (organisation) Santhosh was present in the meeting that took place at the party headquarters here, they said.

Wide-ranging discussions took place during the meeting on strengthening the organisation and preparing for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the sources said.

Nadda specifically emphasised on strengthening relatively weak booths in all states, they said.

He also held discussion on how to strengthen the organisation in Bihar, they said.

CBI arrests businessman Vijay Nair in Delhi Excise Policy case

NEW DELHI, Sept 27:

The CBI arrested businessman Vijay Nair on Tuesday in connection with the Delhi Excise Policy scam case in which Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia is also an accused, officials said.

Nair, who was abroad for quite some time, was called for questioning at the agency office on Tuesday, they said.

Sources said Nair was arrested for his alleged role in "cartelisation" and "conspiracy" related to alleged irregularities in the allocation of liquor licence in the national capital.

The FIR has alleged that Arjun Pandey, an associate of Sisodia, had once collected about Rs 2-4 crore in cash from liquor businessman Sameer Mahendru on behalf of Nair, former CEO of Only Much Louder, an entertainment and event management company. (PTI)

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER MARWAH FOREST DIVISION

e- NIT NO: - 07 OF 2022-23 DATED: 22-09-2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J & K Union Territory, e-tenders are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful contractors/firms registered with J&K Government/Central Government Organizations for the following works: -

Table with 7 columns: S. NO, NAME OF WORK, ADV. COST (Rs. In lac), EMD (in Rs.), CLASS OF CONTRACTOR, Cost of Tender Document (Rs), TIME OF COMPLETION, and Receiving/ Opening Committee. It lists 10 different forest management and afforestation projects.

Note: The Department through Marwah Forest Division shall provide the Wooden Fence Posts of required sizes at site of establishment of closure. The Black Annealed Barbed wire with standard specification conforming to product code BA-BW, allied materials like "U" nails etc. and its mechanical carriage including loading, unloading and stacking charges will be managed/procured himself by the contractor. A proper testing certificate with regard to the material i.e Barbed Wire etc. has to be produced by the contractor before the execution of work. The extraction and carriage charges of Wooden Fence Posts shall be deducted by the department from the bill of the contractor at the time of payment after satisfactory execution of work. A proper Measurement Book of the work has to be prepared against which work done payment is to be made to the contractor. In respect of DRSM work, the contractor has to extract/collect the stone, preferably Nallah Stone from the area to be identified by the Forest staff with fashioning of stones to be used along the exposed faces and carry upto the site of construction at required places especially in Soil eroded forest area. The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bills of quantities, (B.O.Q) set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Website: -www.jktenders.gov.in.

Position of AA: _Accorded
Position of T/S: _Accorded
Position of Funds : _Budgeted

Table with 2 columns: Publishing Date, Download Start Date, Bid Submission Start Date, Bid submission End Date, Date of opening of Technical Bid (online), Date of opening of Financial Bid (online).

- 1. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: - https://jktenders.gov.in
2. The date for opening of Technical & Financial bids online shall be opened as per time schedule mentioned above.
3. Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406-Forest. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.

Sd/- (Vijay Kumar)SFS
Divisional Forest Officer, Marwah Forest Division.

DIP/J-9248/22

Dated : 27/09/2022