

World today recognises India's Blue Economy resources: Dr Jitendra

Excelsior Correspondent

NEW DELHI, Feb 1: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership for the first time, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Blue Economy has been given high priority and the same is now being recognised globally. PM Modi referred to India's Deep Sea Mission in his

contributor in exploring and utilizing sea resources. Dr Singh expressed happiness over India being designated in the category of 'Pioneer investor' having special interests, by the ISA.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also highlighted the fact that India's Deep-Sea Mission is one of the prime projects which has been undertaken by the Government of India under Prime Minister Modi. He said that an amount of Rs 600 crore has been allocated for the Mission, which will bring to the fore India's oceanic capabilities.

The Union Minister said that this sector is going to be a major contributor in the Indian economy in the times to come. The Minister also mentioned ambitious projects of Samudrayaan, which will put India amongst the elite list of countries who have achieved such a feat of exploring oceans so deep.

Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted India's vast maritime interests and noted that the Blue Economy in India has a vital relationship with the nation's economic growth. He stated that India is a strong proponent of the "Blue Growth" as a part of the long-term strategy to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors. He also said that India is in the process of bringing out its own comprehensive Blue Economy policy framework, which aims at covering the coastal economy, tourism, marine fishery, technology, skill development, shipping, deep-sea mining, and capacity building in a holistic manner.

The Minister said that the objective of the Blue Economy has been to promote smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth and opportunities within the Indian Ocean region's maritime economic activities and initiate appropriate programmes for the sustainable harnessing of ocean resources, research, and development.

The Secretary General, ISA, Lodge said that India is in a very good position to move ahead in the field of energy transition and that ISA is looking forward to working with M/o Earth Sciences on all possible fronts to further the mutual cooperation.



Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority, Michael W. Lodge, accompanied by a high level delegation, calling on Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh at Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi on Wednesday.

Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said, the world today recognises India's Blue Economy resources and the International Seabed Authority with headquarters in Jamaica has officially designated India as a "Pioneer Investor".

The Minister said this when the Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority, Michael W. Lodge, currently on India visit, called on him at Prithvi Bhawan. Michael Lodge was accompanied by a high level delegation which held a detailed meeting with the Indian team led by Union Secretary Earth Sciences, Dr M. Ravichandran.

Independence Day address for two consecutive years in 2021 and 2022, he said.

International Seabed Authority (ISA) and Ministry of Earth Sciences also exchanged PMN (Polymetallic Nodules) exploration extension contract in presence of Dr. Jitendra Singh. This contract was initially signed on 25th March 2002 for a period of 15 years, which later was extended by the authority twice for 5 years period, during 2017 and 2022.

Dr. Jitendra Singh extended a warm welcome to the delegation and said that India, with its 7500-kilometer-long coastal belt, is both a stakeholder as well as a



Div Com Ramesh Kumar during a visit to Tirupati Balaji Temple construction site on Wednesday.

Div Com visits Tirupati Balaji Temple construction site, inspects work

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 1: Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar today visited the construction site of Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple, Tirupati Balaji Temple on Jammu outskirts in Majeen village and reviewed the provision of basic amenities being made for the upcoming Place of Worship.

The Div Com was accompanied by Senior Superintendent of police, Chandan Kohli; Chief Engineers of Jal Shakti, JPDCL, PWD, concerned Tehsildar, functionaries of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams and other concerned officers.

The Div Com inspected the pace of work on the construction of main Temple, accommodation and other allied works.

It was informed that the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Board will establish a Gurukul/ Veda Pathshala in the temple premises to promote Sanskrit language and Vedic teachings and learning.

The Engineers of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD)

apprised the Div Com that the construction of main Temple has almost been completed and the finishing work was in progress. The Engineers also apprised the Div Com about the requirement of works to be done by JPDCL.

Responding to the issue of shifting of transmission lines/poles, the Div Com issued directions to the JPTCL to immediately start the shifting of transmission lines coming in the site.

He also directed JPDCL to create required power infrastructure at the site for providing adequate power supply to the temple area.

Public Works Department was asked to construct approach road and also develop internal road network to provide easy access to the pilgrims, tourists.

Jal Shakti Department was instructed to provide uninterrupted water supply to the Temple.

The Div Com observed that the temple will become a major religious and pilgrimage destination attracting huge tourists, which will give boost to the religious and pilgrimage tourism in the region.



Maj Gen Girish Kalia taking as GOC Vajr Division.

Maj Gen Girish Kalia takes over as GOC Vajr Division

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Feb 1: Major General Girish Kalia took over the reins as General Officer Commanding of the elite Vajr Division from Major General Abhijit S Pendarkar.

Maj Gen Girish was commissioned on December 14, 1991 from IMA, Dehradun into, the Madras Regiment. An alumnus of Indian Military Academy, Dehradun, the General Officer has attended all important career courses at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Army War College, Mhow and National Defence College, New Delhi. His higher qualification includes MSc & M Phil in Defence & Strategic Studies. The General Officer has vast operational experience having served in intense counter insurgency/ counter terrorist

operations in North East and Jammu and Kashmir.

For his distinguished service, he has been awarded GOC-in-C Northern Command Commendation Card in 2001, GOC-in-C Southern Command Commendation Card in 2009 and Vishisht Seva Medal in 2020 while commanding a challenging brigade on the Line of Control.

The General Officer brings with him a rich experience of various Command, Staff and Instructional appointments including the command of an Infantry battalion as part of an Infantry Brigade and Strike Corps on the Line of Control, Defence Attache in Egypt. He was tenanted an important appointment at Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff prior to assuming the Command of the prestigious Vajr Division.



CS flagging off Walkathon on Wednesday.

CS flags off Walkathon to raise public consciousness about paying taxes

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 1: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today flagged off a 'Walkathon' organised by the State Taxes Department under the theme 'Ek Kadam Vikas Ki Aur' for creating awareness about the importance of taxes in the development and progress of the nation.

Around 200 participants from the Finance Department along with students of IIT Jammu, IIM Jammu and University of Jammu walked in solidarity holding placards propagating the significance of billing, e-invoicing, digital payments & E-way bills.

The purpose of the 5 kms walk was to celebrate recent years in terms of revenue collection & compliance as well as to take every step from henceforth towards its accelerating growth. The participants emphasised the fact that this growth is not possible without all stakeholders being the partners in this process.

Dr Mehta, who was the chief guest on the occasion, acknowledged the sustained growth registered in revenue collection by the UT government during the past 3 years. He observed that the growth in collections is higher than the national average, which indicates responsible behaviour of all stakeholders.

The Chief Secretary maintained that those paying their taxes honestly on time are the real builders of the nation. Their contribution towards the growth and development of the nation is direct and well acknowledged.

He reminisced that these responsible citizens are the heroes who deserves accolades.

Dr Mehta encouraged the participants including the students to generate awareness among the public about taking authentic invoices and making digital payments. He asked them that the taxes paid by the people are proportionate to the welfare measures taken by the government for them. He also sensitized the businessmen about the link between the payment of taxes and easy access to credit from the financial institutions to them.

Commissioner State Taxes, Rashmi Singh appealed the general public as well as traders to cooperate in their efforts towards compliance with tax laws. She highlighted various short term and long term benefits it has for the citizens at large. She gave out that the Department is alive to the fact of facilitating those filing their taxes responsibly. She said that those resorting to dishonest practices can never be true patriots of the nation.

The officers who took part in this flagging off ceremony also includes Commissioner CGST, H.B Negi; Secretary in Finance, Nitu Gupta; DG Expenditure Finance, PK Bhat; Additional Commissioner (A&E), STD, Namrita Dogra; Additional Commissioner, (TPPAR), STD, Ankita Kar and many other senior officers of the department.

HC sets aside conviction of Addl Treasury Officer in corruption case

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 1: High Court has set-aside the conviction and sentence of two years awarded to Roshan Lal Bhagat, the then Additional Treasury Officer Thathri in corruption case.

After hearing Advocate Nirmal Kotwal for the appellant, Justice Mohal Lal said, "there is no legal evidence on record to prove that appellant/convict has committed the forgery. The direct evidence/the circumstances as relied upon by the prosecution are not strong enough indicating the involvement of appellant/convict in the commission of crime and all the circumstances are not compatible with the possibility of guilt of the accused".

"The witnesses examined by the prosecution have not been able to putforth in their evidence a ring of truth, so as to inspire confidence in this court. Evidence of prosecution witnesses, is therefore, qualitatively and quantitatively, insufficient to bring nexus between appellant/convict and commission of the offences indicted against him", Justice Mohan Lal said, adding "this renders

3309 Kanal State, Kahcharai land retrieved from ex-minister's father, retired Forest officer among other encroachers

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, Feb 1: In its ongoing anti-encroachment drive, Jammu and Kashmir administration today retrieved around 3309 Kanal State/Kahcharai land in 7 districts from illegal encroachers including an ex-minister's father and a senior retired Forest officer.

District Administration Samba today conducted a massive anti-encroachment drive to vacate prime state land at Ghagore, Vijaypur. Around 14 Kanal and 10 Marlas of prime state land under the occupation of Balwant Singh, father of ex-minister Manjeet Singh, was retrieved. The outer wall of the premises which had been constructed on land was demolished and sign board indicating the status of land as Government land was installed on the site.

In Jammu, the district administration today retrieved 212 Kanal prime state land from illegal encroachers during eviction drive. A team of revenue officers along with police retrieved 5 Kanal land worth crores of rupees in the prime location at Top Sherkhania. Similarly, 5 Kanal prime state land, encroached by an ex-Conservator of Forest, a banquet hall owner and a timber businessman was also evacuated by the officials of the Revenue.

In another eviction drive, 141 Kanal and 9 Marla State land was vacated in village Mandal. Likewise, prime State land measuring 67 Kanal and 13 Marla was retrieved at village Rajpura (tehsil Marh) by the team of Revenue officials.

During the day-long eviction drive, the Kathua district administration reclaimed a total of 1073 Kanal and 16 Marlas of state land. The drive also exposed some government officials involved in encouraging encroachment. The State land retrieved includes 635 Kanal and 13 Marlas in Hiranagar, 136 Kanal and 7 Marlas in Marheen, 110 Kanal in Dinga Amb, 60 Kanal in Basohli, 29 Kanal and

29 Marlas in Lohai Malhar, 7 Kanal and 7 Marlas in Mahanpur and 5 Kanal in Nagri Parole.

The retrieval also includes 39 Kanal and 16 Marlas prime land worth Rs 37 crore 16 lakh in Kathua tehsil, 26 Kanal and 14 Marlas in Jagatpur, 4 Kanal and 9 Marlas in Changran, 4 Kanal in Chak Munsifdar, 4 Kanal in Muthi Rakwalan, 14 Marlas in Chak Schzada and 10 Marlas of land in Logate. The high value chunk of 49 Kanal and 14 Marlas State land worth Rs 1.28 crore was also retrieved in Ramkot during the day-long eviction drive.

In district administration Ramban, more than 1137 Kanal State land across eight tehsils of the district was retrieved. In a joint anti encroachment drive, a Revenue and Police team

* Watch video on www.excelsionews.com

retrieved 301 Kanal State land in tehsil Ramban besides demolishing illegal structures in Phalti and Chanderkote areas. Similarly, 450 Kanal State land was vacated during a joint anti encroachment drive in tehsil Rajgarh.

The teams also demolished illegal structures build on State land besides retrieving over 1137 Kanal State land worth crores from the encroachers including 120 Kanal in Pugal-Paristan, 52 Kanal in Banihal, 100 Kanal in Khari, 59 Kanal in Ramsoo, 25 Kanal in Batote and 30 Kanal in Gool.

Rajouri district Administration retrieved 511 Kanal State land worth crores of rupees during the anti-encroachment drives. During the drives, 1 Kanal of prime State land was retrieved from illegal occupants on the National Highway 144A, besides demolishing illegal structures raised on the State land in tehsil Sunderbani. The drive was carried by Tehsildar Sunderbani Kapil Kant Khajuria.

Similarly, 10 Kanal State land was retrieved by the team of Tehsil Sunderbani at Village Devak, while 310 Kanal of State land was retrieved in Tehsil Teryath. Sign boards indicating the evicted land as state/government land were installed at these locations. Tehsildar Rajouri and his team carried out a major anti-encroachment drive at villages Keri and Dharasanwala and retrieved 192 Kanal State

land from illegal possession.

District Administration Ganderbal today retrieved 495 Kanals of State/Kahcharai land in various tehsils of the district. About 298 Kanals of Government land was retrieved at block Ganderbal by an anti-encroachment squad headed by Tehsildar Ganderbal and 53 Kanals were retrieved by Tehsildar Tullamula. Besides, 65 Kanals of Kahcharai land was retrieved in Tehsil Lar.

Similarly, Anti-encroachment squads in Sub-division Kangan retrieved 74 Kanals of Government land which include 24 Kanals of State land in Block Kangan and 50 Kanals in Block Gund. The District Administration has so far retrieved 17627 Kanals of Government land which include 11672 kanals of State land and 5955 Kanals of Kahcharai land during anti-encroachment drives.

In Anantnag district, massive anti-encroachment operations were conducted today against various stone crushers operating from State/Kahcharai lands. Encroachment by 5 stone crusher units in Nipora was removed by Tehsildar Anantnag and a total of 50 Kanals of land was retrieved which lies at a short distance from NH44 and is valued in excess of Rs 20 crores. Teams from the District Mineral Office were also present and the operation of crushers has been seized.

The officials said that the crushers have been given a week's time to remove the machinery from the spot failing which the machinery will also be seized. Demolition drives were also conducted at Panzath, Qazigund where another stone crusher was operating on State land. A total of 14 Kanals of land was retrieved by the revenue team from Tehsil Qazigund. It is in place to mention that in wide-spread anti encroachment drives held in the district, more than 2700 kanals of State/Kahcharai lands were retrieved in a single day.

In District Poonch, the revenue authorities retrieved 8 kanal 5 marla State land including 3 Kanal commercial land valued approximately Rs 4.5 crores at main Bus Stand Mendhar.

During the anti-encroachment drive 8 permanent structures were also demolished by the authorities which were constructed on the same land.

Sugar को Manage करने, Sugar Problems में लाभदायक...

Shodhit Shilajit Boosts Stamina

Khadir Beneficial In Boils & Pimples.

Jamun Seed Reduces the burning sensation of the body

Amla Rich in Vitamin-C, & Rasayana

Made from 13 Precious Herbs

1800 102 8384 www.baidyanath.co.in

www.hdfc.com

HDFC HOME LOANS
apni jagah banao

HDFC Home Loans

@8.65%*
p.a.

For Credit Score of 800 and above#

Give us a missed call on 09289 120 120

Disclaimer: *#All loans are at the sole discretion of HDFC Ltd. For detailed terms & conditions, visit www.hdfc.com CIN: L70100MH1977PLC019916.

Scan for a Home Loan