

PM to address 108th Indian Science Congress on 3rd January Science, Technology and Innovation will define India@100 in 20247 - Dr Jitendra Singh

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will address the 108th Indian Science Congress (ISC) on 3rd January, 2023 at 10:30 AM via video conferencing.

The focal theme of this year's ISC is "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment". It will witness discussions on issues of sustainable development, women empowerment and the role of science & technology in achieving this. The participants will discuss and deliberate on ways to increase the number of women in higher echelons of teaching, research and industry, along with trying to find ways to provide women with equal access to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education, research opportunities and economic participation. A special programme to showcase the contribution of women in science and

technology will also be held, which will also witness lectures by renowned women scientists.

Several other programmes will also be organised alongside ISC. Children's Science Congress will also be organised to help stimulate scientific interest and temperament among children. Farmer's Science Congress will provide a platform to improve the bio-economy and attract youth to agriculture. Tribal Science Congress will also be held, which will also be a platform for scientific display of indigenous ancient knowledge system and practice, along with focusing on the empowerment of tribal women.

The first session of the Congress was held in 1914. The 108th annual session of ISC will be held at Rashtasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, which is also celebrating its centenary this year.

In a media interaction on the first day of the New Year, Union



Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said, 2023 Science Vision will define India at 2047.

Dr Jitendra Singh added that the year 2023 also happens to be the first of the last 25 years or the last quarter of the calendar before independent India turns 100 at 2047 and realizes

its century dreams. This is also the year, the Minister said, when India under PM Narendra Modi reiterates its stature in the international fora as the host of G20 as well as the Nation on whose proposal the world is observing International Year of Millets.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, "The future belongs to those who have innovative ideas and out-of-box goals, and have the conviction and courage to achieve the same. The Minister

emphasized that today we have a Prime Minister, who not only thinks out of box, but inspires 130 Crore Indians to take decisions with courage of conviction.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's penchant for "Innovation", Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out to his Independence Day address, where he had said, "Till today we always remember our revered Lal Bahadur Shastri ji for his inspirational clarion call of Jai Jawan Jai Kisan

meaning "Hail the Soldier, Hail the Farmer". Later Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji added a new link of Jai Vigyan which meant "hail science" and we gave it utmost importance. But in this new phase Amrit Kaal now it is imperative to add jai anusandhaan that is "hail innovation". "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan Jai Vigyan Jai Anusandhaan."

Dr Jitendra Singh underlined that in the Centre -State Science Conclave held in September, 2022 also, Modi had highlighted

that in order to make India a global center of research and innovation in this Amrit Kaal, we have to work on many fronts simultaneously and stressed the need to take science and technology-related research to the local level.

Departments dealing with Science and Technology have already outlined their focus and thrust areas for the year 2023.

ISRO, after the opening up of Space Sector to private participants on the intervention of PM Modi, today has more than 100 StartUps in a short span of time. At the same time, its focus is on scientific exploration missions, Technology Demonstration missions and Human spaceflight programme "Gaganyaan" in 2024.

The department of Biotechnology (DBT) would take forward the successes of COVID-19 vaccine mission by investing in improvement of vaccines for the existing and emerging diseases. Significantly, major missions would also be

launched on millets and patho-genomics of plant viruses in the International Year of Millets.

CSIR in 2023 will also focus on Green Hydrogen as it has already made a headway in Green Hydrogen indigenous as part of clean energy mission.

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) will focus on Deep Sea mission & technologies which will add value to India's economy in the years to come. 2023 will also witness further headway in Blue Economy. Significantly, PM Modi referred to Deep Ocean Mission twice in his Independence Day address, first in 2021 and then again in 2022.

Department of Atomic Energy, DAE in its contribution to India's Electoral Management will deliver about 21.00 lakh equipment for the Election Commission of India which includes Ballot Units (BU), Control Units (CU) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) to be completed by ECIL by Sept/Oct 2023.

Department of Fisheries conducts National Webinar on "Insurance Coverage for Fisheries and Aquaculture"

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India organized a National Webinar on "Insurance Coverage for Fisheries and Aquaculture" on 29th December, 2022 as a part of ongoing celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The event was presided over by Shri Jatindra Nath Swain, Secretary, Department of Fisheries (DoF), Government of India (GOI) and well-attended by more than 170 participants from across the country. These included fishers, farmers, entrepreneurs, fisheries associations, officials of Department of Fisheries, GoI and fisheries officials of different States/UTs, faculties from State Agriculture, Veterinary and Fisheries universities, Fisheries research institutes, Fisheries cooperative officers, Scientists, students and stakeholders from fisheries across the country.

Shri Jatindra Nath Swain, Union Secretary, Department of Fisheries, Government of India pointed out that fundamental issue is the lack of understanding of the concept of insurance amongst the stakeholders and suggested that necessary outreach and capacity building programmes should be undertaken to build trust to attract private and other global insurance players to the fisheries sector. He highlighted that most of the stakeholders who demand insurance policies are from the marine sector and briefed about the Group Accident Insurance Scheme (GAIS) provided by the Department of Fisheries, Government of India. He concluded his address by stating that necessary legislative provisions may be incorporated in the Marine Fisheries Regulation Acts (MFRAs) as a first step to gradually enhance the adoption of fisheries insurance.

Shri Sagar Mehra, Joint Secretary highlighted coverage of

capture fisheries insurance and aquaculture insurance policies adopted across various countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and Americas for industrial and smaller fishing vessels and large aquaculture operations etc.. He further mentioned about the insurance products available in the domestic market offered by insurance companies. He also mentioned about the challenges in the aquaculture insurance and strategy to expand the coverage of insurance in fisheries sector while taking advantage of technology, ICT/IT, remote sensing and mobilizing participation of various different stakeholders.

Dr Shinoj Parappurathu, Senior Scientist, ICAR-CMFRI, delivers presentation on "Fisheries and Aquaculture Insurance in India: Opportunities and Challenges".

During the technical session, Dr Shinoj Parappurathu, Senior Scientist, ICAR-



CMFRI, Kochi, delivered a presentation on "Fisheries and Aquaculture Insurance in India: Opportunities and Challenges". He highlighted the common perils in the fisheries sector both in the inland and marine sectors and informed about the insurance policy/product presently available with government and private sector for fishing gears and other equipments. Further, he elaborately explained about the outcomes of the survey carried out by ICAR - Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) that highlighted lack of familiarity of the insurance policies and products amongst fishermen community and the aquaculture farmers.

Dr. L.N. Murthy, Senior Executive Director, NFDB delivers presentation on

"Insurance Needs in Fisheries Sector"

The above was subsequently followed by a presentation on "Insurance Needs in Fisheries Sector" by Dr. L.N. Murthy, Senior Executive Director, NFDB. He explained about the multiple opportunities of the sector and stressed upon the threats posed by the fishers and fisherfolks

such as threats during fishing at sea, threats in culture practices etc. He explained about the insurance product developed which have proven to be beneficial for them. He also insisted upon the formulation of the insurance products by universities and academic institutions. In the end he quoted that, "Sustainability, Profitability and Productivity are the way forward" for the fisheries sector.

Shri B.K. Sinha Chief Manager, M/s Oriental Insurance Company Ltd, delivers presentation on

topic Aquaculture (Shrimp and Prawn) Insurance Policy

Later, Shri B.K. Sinha Chief Manager, M/s Oriental Insurance Company Ltd, New Delhi presented on the topic Aquaculture (Shrimp and Prawn) Insurance Policy. A detailed presentation was made on insurance products available for aquaculture of variety of species and the scope of insurance coverage of such products. He further shared information on the policy period, basic policy valuation and

discounts that are offered to the beneficiaries. Towards the end, he concluded by quoting that suitable terms and conditions of the insurance policies of Oriental Insurance Company Ltd should be chalked out.

After the presentation, a Q&A session was held with the distinguished speakers, clarifications were sought from the distinguished speakers on practical and on-the-ground issues and possible actions and development of new insurance products.

E-Sevai Maiyam
Star Rainbow Services
 11, SOUTH PERUMAL KOIL STREET, VADAPALANI, CHENNAI - 600 026.
8148231942 / 8144337349
PATTA | LEGAL HEIR | PAN | PASSPORT | AADHAAR
ALL ONLINE SERVICES

Amit Shah today laid the Foundation Stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) and inaugurated the residential and administrative complexes of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah today laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka and inaugurated the residential and administrative complexes of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP). The residential complexes of ITBP inaugurated by Shri Amit Shah include Residential Quarters, Joint Building, Barracks for 120 Jawans, Staff Officers' Mess and Officers' Mess. On this occasion, Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri Basavaraj Bommai, Union Minister Shri Prahlad Joshi and many other dignitaries were present.

In his address, Shri Amit Shah said that with the laying of the foundation stone of the CDTI, a link has been initiated to make facilities for police forces more accessible. Shri Shah thanked Chief Minister Shri Basavaraj Bommai for providing suitable land for the BPR&D's Central Intelligence Training Institute.

The Union Home Minister said that BPR&D strengthens the police institutions of the country, but its work was not being given due

importance. He said that with the passage of time, societal thinking, its form, goals and path have changed and if police do not change accordingly, they can gradually become irrelevant. Shri Shah said that research is essential for police to adapt to the continuous changes in society, BPR&D is responsible for conducting this research for the police and Central Armed Forces.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said systemic and procedural reforms in police should be a continuous process, for which collaboration between institutions, seminars and exchange of best practices and challenges is necessary to make police forces the best. Shri Shah said this process is very important, as law and order is a State subject and with India's cultural diversities, there are variations in criminal activities and different challenges are encountered. The police have been appropriately classified as a State subject, but over a period of time, difficult challenges like narcotics, fake notes, hawala business, organizations spreading frenzy, terrorism, infiltration in border States, problems related to the sea in coastal States have also been



encountered by police forces across the country, and various measures have been taken to deal with them. Dialogue, seminars and cooperation through BPR&D is essential to maintain harmony among the forces. He said, it is a continuous process, but time has come to speed up the pace, as without it, we cannot prepare the Nation to rise up to challenges of law and order.

Shri Shah said the country will also have to focus on challenges in metropolitan areas, and there is a need to change our strategy through research and practicing with results, as city policing is going to be more challenging in the near future. He said, CDTI would help in

fulfilling all these objectives for the CAPFs as well as the police of neighboring States, which has been running since 1956. Shri Amit Shah said the centers built in Kolkata, Hyderabad, Ghaziabad and Rajasthan have made huge contributions and now the Government of India will work towards bringing equality among all these centers through coordination and support of BPR&D.

Shri Amit Shah said the CDTI will also serve the forensic needs of the neighboring States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa and the UT of Daman-Diu. He said it is very important to have good law and order situation in the journey towards India's development, and in the

last 3 years under the auspices of BPR&D, the government has made changes to help improve research, the results of which are also now becoming visible. Shri Shah said under its charter, BPR&D has also started creating verticals in new areas added by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and Modus Operandi Bureau under the aegis of BPR&D.

The Union Home Minister said that the government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has made efforts to equip personnel of security forces, especially border guarding forces, with latest technology, increase their housing

satisfaction ratio and fulfill requirements of personnel and their families. As a continuation of these efforts, today the Foundation Stone of CDTI is being laid and various residential buildings of ITBP are being inaugurated. He said, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, a lot of work is being undertaken for the construction of residences and administrative blocks to ensure the convenience of the CAPF Jawans staying in the barracks and guarding the border; and this work will continue unabated.

Shri Shah said the ITBP works in the most difficult area amongst all CAPFs. We cannot even imagine their morale and great patriotism to

protect the country's borders in - 42 (minus 42) degrees temperature. He said when ITBP personnel patrol the border, the country is sure that no one can dare to encroach on even an inch of India's land. Shri Amit Shah said that since its inception, ITBP has performed exceedingly well in tough geographical conditions, harsh environmental conditions and difficult terrain. ITBP has also played a crucial role in fighting against Left Wing Extremism. That's why, be it Arunachal, Kashmir, Ladakh, ITBP Jawans are called 'Himveer' by the people, a title bigger than any award as it has been bestowed by the people.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said through BPR&D, we are moving forward in the direction of identification of the problems, analysis of the suggestions on research, policy change on the basis of analysis, implementation of the policy and ending the entire chain of review. We are going to derive huge benefit from this, and CDTI will work towards fulfilling the objective.

He said that the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has initiated e-Awas portal for CAPFs due to

which housing satisfaction ratio has increased by about 9 percent and in last eight years, 31,000 houses have been constructed, more than 17,000 houses are under construction and in the in upcoming budget more than 15,000 houses will be approved, due to which the housing satisfaction ratio will go beyond 60 percent which is a matter of great satisfaction.

Shri Shah said that to further strengthen the health facilities provided to Jawans and their families, about 35 lakh cards have been distributed under the Ayushman Awas scheme. Now, just by swiping the card, one can go for treatment without waiting for any approval or document. With the addition of more hospitals, healthcare services worth over Rs. 20-crore have been availed by CAPF personnel and their families in a span of less than a year.

The Union Minister said that a duty roster is also being prepared to ensure that Jawans patrolling the border get a chance to stay at the headquarters with their families for at least 100 days. He said the Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is dedicated and alert to the welfare of CAPF personnel.

National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) : 21 Legislatures of 19 States Sign MoU with Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs serves as an important link between the two Houses of Parliament and the Government in respect of Government Business in Parliament. Created in May, 1949 as a Department, it soon became a full-fledged Ministry with the allotment of more responsibilities and functions. The Ministry strives to provide comprehensive and quality services to a Body of Citizens comprising, the Parliament and its Members as well as Ministries/Departments and other Organizations of Government of India and State Governments. A glimpse of the performance of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs during current fiscal (from April to November 2022) is as under: Legislative Business:

A total of 33 Bills (9 Bills in the Lok Sabha and 24 Bills in the Rajya Sabha) were pending at the conclusion of 7th Session of Seventeenth Lok Sabha and 255th

Session of Rajya Sabha (Winter Session, 2021). 19 Bills were introduced (18 in the Lok Sabha and 1 in the Rajya Sabha) during the period, making a total of 52 Bills. Out of these, 16 Bills were passed by both the Houses. 1 Bill, (in Lok Sabha) was withdrawn. A total of 35 Bills (7 Bills in the Lok Sabha and 28 Bills in the Rajya Sabha) were pending in both Houses of Parliament at the conclusion of 9th Session of Seventeenth Lok Sabha and 257th Session of Rajya Sabha (Monsoon Session, 2022). The details of Sessions held during the period are as under:

Budget Session 2022:
The Budget Session, 2022 of Parliament was held from Monday 31st January, 2022 to Thursday 7th of April 2022. In between, both the Houses were adjourned for recess on Friday, the 11th February, 2022 to reassemble on Monday, the 14th March, 2022 to enable Departmentally related Standing Committee to examine and report on the Demands for Grants



relating to various Ministries/Department.

The first part of the Budget Session yielded a total of 10 sittings of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. In the second part of the Session, there were 17 sittings of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. During the entire Budget Session, 2022, there were in total 27 sittings in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. During this Session, a total of 13 Bills (12 in Lok Sabha and 01 in Rajya Sabha) were introduced. 13 Bills were passed by Lok

Sabha and 11 Bills were passed by Rajya Sabha. Total number of Bills passed by both the Houses of Parliament were 11.
Financial Business:
The Union Budget for 2022-23 was presented to the Lok Sabha on Tuesday the 1st February, 2022. General discussions on Union Budget were held in both the Houses. The Lok Sabha also discussed and voted the Demands for Grants 2022-23, Supplementary Demands

for Grants for the year 2021-22 and Demands of Excess Grants for 2018-19.

Supplementary Demand for Grant in respect of the State of Jammu and Kashmir for 2021-22, Demands for Grants in respect of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 2022-23 were also discussed and voted by Lok Sabha.

Rajya Sabha also returned all the related Appropriation Bills and the entire Financial

Business was completed before 31st March, 2022.

The Monsoon Session 2022 of Parliament:

The Monsoon Session 2022 of Parliament was held from Monday the 18th of July, 2022 to Monday the 8th of August, 2022. The session provided for 16 sittings spreading over a period of 22 days.

During the Session, 6 Bills (6 in Lok Sabha) were introduced. 7 Bills were passed by Lok Sabha and 5 Bills were

passed by Rajya Sabha. Total number of Bills passed by both the Houses of Parliament was 5. One Bill was withdrawn in Lok Sabha.

Digitization of Legislatures through National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA):

National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) is an end-to-end cloud based digital solution for bringing all the 39 Legislatures (Lok Sabha + Rajya Sabha + 31 Assemblies + 6 Councils) across the country including the 2 Houses of the Parliament on a single platform. It has been developed on the theme of 'One Nation- One Application'. The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (MoPA) has been entrusted with the responsibility of rolling out NeVA in all the Legislatures across the country.

The NeVA Application has been developed to cater various stakeholders like Members, Ministers, House Secretariat personnel, Govt.

Department personnel and Citizens at large. Developed as a member centric application, it enables them to handle diverse House Business smartly by putting entire information needed by them in their hand-held devices/ tablets. It also helps the Ministers to have access to all the House Information like Question Replies, Bills, other Papers laid, etc. It equips all the Branches of Legislatures/ Department to handle it efficiently and creating an efficient inclusive database thereby overhauling the way our legislatures work with facilities for Live webcasting. Moreover, NeVA not only aims to bring democracy closer to our citizens by giving the citizens access to the bills, the questions and answers, the documents tabled in the Houses in an easy manner, but also to empower them by providing an opportunity to the citizens for meaningful engagement with the democracy which can be achieved through e-Constituency Management Module and Grievance Module.

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurates "Incubation Centre" at National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) Headquarters in Delhi to provide multi-dimensional support to Start-Ups

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated "Incubation Centre" at National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), Delhi to provide multi-prong support to StartUps.

Chairman and Managing Director NRDC, Commodore (Retd) Amit Rastogi and his entire team welcomed Dr Jitendra Singh and pointed out that he was the first ever Minister for Science and Technology who was visiting the NRDC headquarters at Delhi, since its inception in 1953.

Dr Jitendra Singh was glad to note that after the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement of "Startup India, Stand-up India" from the ramparts of the Red fort on 15th August, 2015, NRDC had reoriented itself to become the only National level PSU, which is providing its services for taking the lab scale technologies developed by Public Funded Research Institutes (PFRI) to Industry.

Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that the Corporation is providing support to start-ups through its various activities like IP Filing support to StartUps, Incubation Support for nurturing Start-Ups



through its incubators at NRDC HQ, CSIR-NAL and CSIR-IMMT, Technology Evaluation, Basic Engineering, Market Surveys, etc. and providing its bit to make India truly "Atmanirbhar".

Commodore (Retd) Amit Rastogi, in his presentation before the Minister informed that Uniphore, an Indian Unicorn and The Leader in Conversational AI & Automation received Funding of Rs 30 lakh and Technology support from NRDC in 2008. Shri Rastogi promised to Dr Jitendra Singh that he and his team will strive hard to make the Corporation one of the world's best and leading organization for Technology Transfer.

NRDC has created the facilities for incubating start-ups and is also promoting beneficial schemes to provide support in terms of funding, mentoring, IP assistance and other allied services to the Start-ups. In the last one year, the Corporation has established three Incubation Centres and one Outreach Centre.

Another Outreach Centre

is planned for inauguration in January 2023 at Guwahati to promote start-ups in North East. 10,000 Start-ups have received support in respect of IP filing, Incubation and start-up registration so far.

NRDC has further forayed into the domain of defence and nuclear technologies for civilian application. With an aim to support Made-in-India, NRDC has established Foreign collaboration with USPTO, AARDO etc. for exploring world market for Indian Technologies. Further, NRDC is proving to be a catalyst between R&D Institute & Industry and has signed MoU with 220 R&D Institute & Universities in last five years. NRDC has also provided its credentials and its Vizag unit was awarded "Best Technology" and "Innovation Support Centre" in 2021. With an aim to set-up National Technology Transfer Organization to provide one stop shop to StartUps and with setting up of International Marketing Division, NRDC is poised for grand scale up in future.

Jan Aushadhi Fulfils PM's vision of ensuring high quality medicines at affordable prices to all Medicines priced 50%-90% less than that of branded Medicines

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: With an objective of making quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India in November, 2008. The target of opening 3000 Kendras was achieved in December 2017. Further, a revised target of total 6000 outlets was also achieved in March, 2020. In this journey, the number of Kendras have now increased to 9000 from 8610 in the last financial year. Hence, the Government has deepened the reach of PMBJP with more than 9000 stores covering 743 out of 766 districts across the country. The Government has set a target to increase the number of Pradhan

Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) to 10,000 by March 2024. The product basket of PMBJP comprises 1759 medicines and 280 surgical devices covering all major therapeutic groups such as Cardiovascular, Anti-cancers, Anti-diabetics, Anti-infectives, Anti-allergic, Gastro-intestinal medicines, Nutraceuticals, etc. In addition to this, various nutraceutical products like Protein Powder, Malt-based Food Supplements, etc. and some AYUSH products like Ayuraksha Kit, Baraksha Kit and Ayush-64 tablet as Immunity boosters have been added in the product basket of the Pariyojana.

Medicines available under PMBJP are priced 50%-90% less than that of branded medicines. In the financial year 2021-

22, sale of Rs. 893.56 Crore has been done, which has led to savings of about Rs. 5300 Crore to the citizens as compared to the branded medicines. In the current financial year i.e. 2022-23, PMBI has made sales of Rs. 758.69 Crore till 30.11.2022 which has led to savings of approximately Rs. 4500 Cr. to the citizens. Overall sales have seen a phenomenal growth which shows wider acceptance of Jan Aushadhi.

This scheme is providing a good source of self-employment with sustainable and regular earnings. Under PMBJP, an incentive of Rs. 5.00 lakh is provided to the Janaushadhi Kendras as a financial assistance and one-time additional incentive of Rs. 2.00 lakh (as reimbursement for IT and Infra expenditure) is being provided to

Janaushadhi Kendras opened in North-Eastern states, Himalayan areas, Island territories and backward areas mentioned as aspirational district by NITI Ayog or if opened by women entrepreneur, Ex-serviceman, Divyang, SC & ST.

Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Sanitary Napkins are sold at Rs. 1/- per pad through these 9000 PMBJP kendras across the country. Since inception till 30.11.2022, 31.40 crore Janaushadhi Suvidha Sanitary pads have been sold at Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras, across the country. There are four warehouses at Gurugram, Chennai, Guwahati and Surat. These are backed by SAP based inventory management system to facilitate uninterrupted supply and faster delivery to remote and rural areas.

AIR MARSHAL PANKAJ MOHAN SINHA ASSUMES COMMAND OF IAF'S WESTERN AIR COMMAND



Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha assumed command of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command on 01 January 2023.

The Air Marshal is a graduate of National Defence Academy, Pune and was commissioned into the IAF as a fighter pilot in Jun 1985. He is an alumnus of the prestigious Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. An experienced fighter pilot, Category 'A'

Qualified Flying Instructor, Fighter Striker Leader, Instrument Rating Instructor & Examiner, Air Marshal Sinha has more than 4500 hours of flying experience.

In his service career spanning over 37 years, the Air Marshal has tenanted important command and staff appointments. These include Commanding Officer of a Fighter Squadron, Chief Instructor (Flying) at a flying station, Training

Coordination Officer at Royal Air Force Valley, United Kingdom where he flew the Hawk aircraft, Principal Director Personnel Officers at Air Headquarters, Air Officer commanding of a prestigious Air Force Station, Air Assistant to Chief of the Air Staff and Assistant Chief of Air Staff Operations (Offensive) at Air Headquarters. He is the Commodore Commandant of a premier fighter Sqn and

was Director General Air Operations at Air Headquarters prior to taking over the present appointment.

The Air Officer is a recipient of 'Vishist Seva Medal' and 'Ati Vishist Seva Medal'.

Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha succeeds Air Marshal S Prabhakaran who superannuated on 31 December 2022 after putting in more than 39 years of distinguished service in the IAF.

MoU signed for commercial production of indigenously developed vaccine "Lumpi-ProVac" in presence of Union Minister FAHD Parshottam Rupala and CM Maharashtra, Shri Eknath Shinde

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: An MoU for production of Goat Pox vaccine and "Lumpi-ProVac" vaccine was signed in Nagpur on 29th December, 2022 in the presence of Shri Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the Chief Minister and Deputy CM of Maharashtra. Shri Rupala praised the commendable effort put forth by ICAR in developing indigenous vaccine Lumpi-ProVac for LSD. He further said that this MoU will also ensure large-scale production of Goat Pox vaccine for future needs of India's livestock sector. At present Goat Pox vaccine is used for controlling Lumpy Skin Disease in animals and this has been proven effective against Lumpy.

He further highlighted the relevance of the technology and requested the IVBP, Pune to start manufacturing the vaccine at large scale without any delay so as to make the vaccine available for the use by the department for the help of the farmers by overcoming the disease.

National Centre for Veterinary Type Culture, ICAR-National Research Centre on Equines (ICAR-NRCE), Haryana, in collaboration with ICAR-



Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar (UP) developed a homologous live-attenuated LSD vaccine, named Lumpi-ProVacInd. Agrinnovate India Limited (AgIn), the commercial arm of DARE, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India granted "Non-Exclusive Rights" for Commercial production of "Lumpi-ProVac", to Institute of Veterinary Biological Products (IVBP), Pune today.

Lumpi-ProVacind is safe in animals and induces LSDV-specific antibody-and cell-mediated immune response, besides providing complete protection against lethal LSDV challenge. Lumpi-ProVacind is used for the prophylactic immunization of animals

against Lumpy Skin Disease, which illicit protection for about one year. A single dose of the vaccine contains 103.5 TCID50 of live-attenuated LSDV (Ranchi strain). The vaccine is stored at 4°C. The vaccine must be shipped on ice and must be used within a few hours after reconstitution. The patent has been filed by the ICAR for the technology.

The event was graced by Shri Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India, Shri Eknath Shinde, Chief Minister, Govt. of Maharashtra, Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief-Minister, Govt. of Maharashtra, Shri Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, Minister of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of

Maharashtra, Dr. B.N. Tripathi, DDG (Animal Science), ICAR, Dr. Triveni Dutt, Director, ICAR-IVRI, Dr. T K Bhattacharya, Director, ICAR-NRCE, Mr. Sachindra Pratap Singh, Commissioner (AH), Govt. of Maharashtra and Dr. Praveen Malik, CEO, AgIn, other officials from ICAR and AgIn. Agrinnovate, granted a non-exclusive license to IVBP, Pune for ten years.

The dignitaries congratulated the IVBP, Pune, ICAR-NRCE, ICAR-IVRI and AgIn for the successful transfer of the technology. It is expected that the vaccine technology will definitely meet out the standard of the market and significantly provide a defence mechanism to control the devastating lumpy skin disease.

D1 Fortification wins 2 prestigious awards at the 17th Security Leadership Summit

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: D1 Fortification, a leading security services company in India, has won two prestigious awards at the 17th Security Leadership Summit 2022. Mr. Prem Menon, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer of D1 Fortification won the "Security Personality of the Year" Award while Ms. Kavitha Mariyappa, Director & Chief Operating Officer at D1 Fortification won the "Lady Leadership in Security" Award. Both winners received their award from General (Dr) V K Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of State,



Photo caption: Rajiv Pothan Kuruvilla, Vishwanath V. Katti, National President, CAPSI, Kunwar Vikram Singh, Chairman, CAPSI, and Yohaana John Kuruvilla, with winners Prem Menon & Kavitha Mariyappa

Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways, and Ministry of Aviation, who was the chief guest at the 17th Security Leadership Summit at the NDMC Convention Centre in New Delhi. Known for its processes and procedures D1 Fortification Private Limited provides security services to a large number of leading national and multinational companies. With a guarding strength of over 3000 personnel, D1 Fortification has become one of the country's most respected security service providers.

Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been elevated as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been elevated as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank with effect from 1st January 2023 from his current posting as Executive Director since 9th October 2017.

He started his banking career as Probationary officer in 1991 with Allahabad Bank where he worked in various capacities in different parts of the country. He is an astute and hardcore banker with vast field level experience and has the distinction of having successfully led the largest and most critical areas of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Delhi while working at senior level in Allahabad Bank.



Financial parameters were in bad shape besides many other challenges. He made strategies for each of the key areas and successfully implemented them at the ground level with the support of the Board. He served the Bank as Executive Director for more than five years and handled all the departments and portfolios during the period. The highlight of his stint as Executive Director has been playing a very key role in bringing the Bank out of loss in March 2020 and out of PCA in September 2021. Moreover, he was the only Executive Director in the Bank for about 14 months during 2020-2021.

He was appointed as Director on the Board of India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited by GOI for two years. He also served as Director on the Board of Regional Rural Bank in his previous Bank.

After successful completion of about 27 years in Allahabad Bank he was elevated as Executive Director by Government of

India and he joined Indian Overseas Bank on 09.10.2017.

At Indian Overseas

Bank as Executive Director, he had a very challenging journey. Bank was incurring losses since 2014, was in PCA since 2015 and

Ministry of Tribal Affairs disbursed scholarships to 26.37 lakh tribal students through DBT from 1st April 2022 to 31st Dec 2022

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Scheduled Tribes (ST) constitute approximately 8.6% of population of India numbering around 10.4 crores. There are over 730 Scheduled Tribes notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India. In keeping with the vision of Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayaas,' the Government of India has focused on development of tribes and conservation of their heritage and culture as a priority.



April 2022 to 31st Dec 2022

Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), in line with this vision and its enduring commitment for welfare of tribals, geared itself to ensure sectoral development through enhanced allocation of financial resources, convergence of efforts, re-engineering of planning and implementation mechanism of the Ministry.

Major highlights of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during 2022 are as follows:

- Substantial increase of 12.32% in the Budget Outlay of Rs. 8451 cr for the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for 2022-23
- The Budget Outlay for the Financial Year 2022-2023 has earmarked an enhanced Total Budget Outlay of Rs. 8451.92 Crores for the Ministry of Tribal Affairs as against Outlay for 2021-2022 of Rs. 7524.87 Crores, thus leading to an increase of 12.32%.

An amount of Rs. 87,584 Cr has been allocated as Scheduled Tribe Component as against an amount of Rs. 78,256 Cr in the previous year. 41 Central Ministries are required to allocate this amount for the welfare of STs and development of tribal areas.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs disbursed scholarships to 26.37 lakh tribal students through DBT from 1st

The ministry of tribal affairs disbursed an amount of Rs 2149.70 crore to 2637669 students under various scholarship schemes namely Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students, Post Matric Scholarship for ST students, National Fellowship Scheme for Higher Education for ST students, National Scholarship Scheme for Higher Education for ST students (Top Class), National Overseas Scholarship for ST students for studying abroad from 1st April 2022 to 31st Dec 2022.

(Scholarship wise details are attached in Annexure 1)

President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu leads the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2022. President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, led the celebrations of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas November this year. On Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on 15th November, the President visited Ulihatu village (the birth place of Bhagwan Birsa Munda) in Khunti district of Jharkhand, and paid floral tributes there.

Various events and programmes were planned from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Gujarat to Arunachal Pradesh including in villages and remote areas. Several programmes such as organization of marches of youth and

performances by tribal artists across states in State capitals; cultural programmes; organization of Seminars/Workshops; essay, songs, dance, sport, and painting competitions, Swachhta campaign were also organised across the country in coordination with State Governments and State Tribal Research Institutes.

Vice President and Chairman Rajya Sabha Sh. Jagdeep Dhankar paid floral tributes on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2022

Vice President & Chairman Rajya Sabha, Sh. Jagdeep Dhankar along with other Parliamentarians and officials of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and others paid floral tributes to the legendary tribal freedom fighter, Bhagwan Birsa Munda, at Parliament House premises on 15th November 2022, Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

National Education Society for Tribal Students organises a host of events

EMRS Foundation Laying and Inauguration Ceremony

Foundation Stone for 20 EMRSs was laid by Central and State level dignitaries in the year 2022-23. These schools are being set up in 14 districts of 6 States. Out of the 20 schools, 11 are in Nagaland, 5 in Odisha and 1 each in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh,

Maharashtra, and Manipur. These schools are situated in the remotest hilly and forest areas of the country. (List is at Annexure 2)

President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu laying Foundation Stone for 10 EMRSs in Nagaland

Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Sh. Arjun Munda, lays foundation stone for EMRS Surguna, Maharashtra

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, an initiative of the Government of India is to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture, and achievements, 12 EMRSs have been inaugurated by Central and State level dignitaries in the year 2022-23. Out of the 12 schools inaugurated, 4 schools were inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh, 2 each were inaugurated in Arunachal Pradesh and Kerala, and 1 each in Gujarat, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana. (List is at Annexure 3)

Cultural Meet 2022

National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) organised the EMRS National Cultural Fest from 31st October to 2nd November 2022 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Smt. Renuka Singh Saruta, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tribal Affairs was the Chief Guest, on the momentous occasion.

Dinesh Kumar Shukla takes over the reins of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: Dinesh Kumar Shukla, former Executive Director of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) & Distinguished Scientist assumed the charge as Chairman, AERB on 31st December 2022. He has been appointed on this post for a period of three years.

Dinesh Kumar Shukla is an internationally acclaimed expert in the field of Nuclear Safety. After graduating from Government Engineering College, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) in Mechanical Engineering in 1980, Mr. Shukla joined the Bhabha Atomic Energy research Centre (BARC) in the year 1981. He has been associated with the commissioning of high flux research reactor Dhruva and later held the position of Head, Reactor Operations Division (ROD), BARC. In



2015, he joined AERB

Director and Chairman, of Safety Review Committee for Operating Plants the Board, Executive

2021, Mr. Shukla superannuated from AERB and since then had been actively mentoring nuclear energy professionals on nuclear safety and regulations.

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board was constituted on November 15, 1983, by the President of India by exercising the powers conferred by the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 to carry out certain regulatory and safety functions under the Act. The regulatory authority of AERB is derived from the rules and notifications promulgated under the Atomic Energy Act and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The Mission of the AERB is to ensure the use of ionizing radiation and nuclear energy in India does not cause undue risk to the health of people and the environment.

General Managers of FCI to visit three ration shops every day during the first week to review and report

Chennai, Jan 01 2023: The roll out of center's new integrated food security Scheme is set to begin on 1 January 2023. As per the decision made by cabinet, led by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the new Scheme would provide free food grains to 81.35 crore beneficiaries under NFSA, for the year 2023. The Scheme would also ensure effective and uniform implementation of National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Government of India has social & legal commitment to the people of the nation- a dignified life by ensuring them access to food and nutritional security through availability of adequate quantity of quality foodgrains. For fulfilling this commitment to the most vulnerable 67% of population i.e. 81.35 crore persons covered under NFSA, the cabinet decided to launch a new Central Sector scheme to fulfill the vision of One Nation - One Price - One Ration.

Under the scheme, Government of India will



provide free foodgrains to all NFSA beneficiaries i.e. Antyodaya Ann Yojana (AAY) households & Priority Household (PHH) persons for the next one year through the wide spread network of 5.33 lakhs Fair Price Shops across the country. The decision will strengthen the provisions of NFSA, 2013 in terms of accessibility, affordability and availability of foodgrains for the poor.

The new integrated scheme will subsume two current food subsidy schemes of the Department of Food and Public Distribution- a) Food Subsidy to FCI for NFSA, and b) Food Subsidy for decentralized procurement states, dealing with procurement, allocation

and delivery of free foodgrains to the states under NFSA.

Free foodgrains will concurrently ensure uniform implementation of portability under One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) across the country and will further strengthen this choice-based platform. Central Government will bear the food subsidy of more than Rs. 2 Lakh crore for the year 2023. The new scheme is aimed at bringing uniformity and clarity on food security under NFSA at beneficiary level.

To implement the decision in the field,

The Secretary, DFPD has taken a meeting with all State Food Secretaries on

29.12.2022. The issues related to distribution of free foodgrains were discussed including technical resolutions. All States and UTs assured to implement the free foodgrain scheme from 1st January 2023.

Notification of modified Schedule I reflecting zero price of foodgrains for AAY and PHH beneficiaries from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023 has been issued on 31.12.22 and shared with the States/UTs.

Also an order is issued for all General Managers of FCI to visit three ration shops every day in different areas of their jurisdiction mandatorily from 01.01.2023 to 07.01.2023 and submit a report to the DFPD Nodal Officer on a daily basis, in the given format for review and taking corrective action.

In view of free foodgrains, an advisory is also issued to the States/UTs on the mechanism to provide Dealer's Margin for distributing foodgrains to the beneficiaries.