

Rajnath lauds Army, locals for organic farming

Jammu: The 26th Ladakhi-Kisan-Jawan-Vigyan Mela was inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the presence of Gyal Phunchok Wangyal, Chief Executive Counsellor, Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, Member of Parliament of Ladakh, Dr Satheesh Reddy, Secretary DD Research and Development and Chairman Defence Research And Development Organisation (DRDO), Lieutenant General YK Joshi, General Officer, Commanding Fire and Fury Corps, Dr Ajay Kumar Singh, Director General, Life Sciences, and other top brass of the Indian Army in Ladakh.

The mela was organised by the Leh-based Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR) of DRDO, which was established in 1960 to meet the fresh food requirement of the soldiers deployed in the harsh terrain of Ladakh. Through the technologies developed by the institute, the Army is getting locally grown fresh organic farm produce.

As a spin-off of the technologies developed, farmers in Ladakh are able to produce a variety of fruits and vegetables resulting in improving their socio-economic condition. The interdependence created between the locals and the Army through the scientific endeavours of DIHAR has contributed to the socio-economic uplifting of the local farmers.

Rajnath Singh visited the experimental farm of DIHAR where technologies for production of quality organic fruits and vegetables are being demonstrated. He appreciated the contributions of DIHAR for the troops and local population and said the laboratory should now gear up for greater responsibilities in the prosperity of New Ladakh.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the 26th Ladakhi-Kisan-Jawan-Vigyan Mela. Tribune photo

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/jammu-kashmir/rajnath-lauds-army-locals-for-organic-farming/824833.html>

Pak has no locus standi on Kashmir: Rajnath Singh

Union Minister for Defence was the first to visit Ladakh post Article 370 abrogation

New Delhi: Pakistan has no locus standi on Kashmir and no country is backing it on the “current issue”, defence minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday amid Islamabad’s efforts to internationalise the Centre’s move to abrogate provisions of Article 370 that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a DRDO event here, Singh asked how can India talk to Pakistan when it keeps trying to destabilise India using terror.

India wants to have a good neighbourly relationship with Pakistan, but it should first stop exporting terror to India, Singh said. "Pakistan has no locus standi on Kashmir. However, it is in illegal occupation of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, including Gilgit Baltistan," the minister said after inaugurating the 'Kisan-Jawan Vigyan Mela'.

"I want to ask Pakistan, when had Kashmir belonged to it. Pakistan was also formed out of India," he said. India respects Pakistan's existence, but that does not mean that it can keep making statements on Kashmir, Singh said.

"Kashmir has been ours, there has been no doubt about that in the country. The truth is that PoK and Gilgit Baltistan is in illegal occupation of Pakistan. Pakistan should focus on addressing human rights violations and atrocities in PoK," Singh said.

Earlier this month, the government revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status under Article 370 of the Constitution and divided the state into Union Territories - J&K and Ladakh.

"When we made a law to make Ladakh a separate Union Territory then we not only respected the public sentiment here but also gave a solution to the problems of the people," Singh said.

"Our prime minister has made it clear that localised solution will be brought in for India's strategic areas," he said.

Organised by Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR) DRDO, the 'Kisan Jawan Vigyan Mela' is a big step towards strengthening the strategic ecosystem in Ladakh, Singh said.

Separately in New Delhi, Union minister Jitendra Singh on Thursday said Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Gilgit-Baltistan will be part of India one day. "There will be a time when PoK and Gilgit-Baltistan will also be part of India," he said.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/pak-has-no-locus-standi-on-kashmir-rajnath-singh/story-awTFPgV2MCj9tl5C5024sL.html>



Fri, 30 Aug 2019

PES on a high as varsity gears up for second eye in sky

By Rashmi Belur

Bengaluru: PES University is all set to launch its second satellite, designed by students with the help of experts and faculties and funded by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

The project assigned by the DRDO to the students two years ago, with a fund of Rs 2.22 crore, is in its final stage. The final testing and launch will be conducted in the next three months.

PES University Vice-Chancellor Dr KNB Murthy said: "The fabrication level of the model is completed. The flight model is under construction.

"The DRDO needs to test this flight model, and we are waiting for their dates."

However, the authorities refused to reveal the areas of interest on which the model is designed. "As it is a defence-related satellite, we have to maintain confidentiality," explained KNB Murthy.

A total of 150 students from across all engineering departments are involved in the project. Senior faculties and experts from the field are assisting the students in designing the satellite.

It can be recalled that PES was the first university in the state to launch a student-designed satellite in 2016. The nanosatellite designed by the students was successfully launched into polar orbit with assistance from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

<https://www.deccanherald.com/city/bengaluru-infrastructure/pes-on-a-high-as-varsity-gears-up-for-second-eye-in-sky-757937.html>



Fri, 30 Aug 2019

Badnore visits TBRL

Chandigarh: Punjab Governor and UT Administrator VP Singh Badnore visited DRDO's Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory at Ramgarh near here today. He was briefed about the laboratory's activities by its director, Dr Manjit Singh.

The Governor took keen interest in test and evaluation facilities of TBRL which are unique in the world.

The Governor was apprised of initiatives taken by TBRL for the design and development of conventional warheads and electronic fuzes. Many other products and ammunition for low intensity conflicts and asymmetric warfare were also displayed. — TNS

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/chandigarh/badnore-visits-tbri/824419.html>