

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND

MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES

PRESS RELEASE

Dated: 28th May, 2014

SUB.: Dr Jitendra Singh assumes charge as Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences

Dr Jitendra Singh took charge of his new assignment as Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences here today.

Ministry of Science & Technology comprises of three departments viz., Department of Science & Technology, Department of Bio-technology and Department of Scientific & Industrial Research. The Department of Science & Technology deals with the S&T policy issues, human and institutional capacity building in basic sciences, societal and international S&T cooperation. The Department of Bio-technology supports extra- and intra-mural research in the field of biotechnology. The Department of Scientific & Industrial Research is mandated to carry out activities relating to indigenous technology promotion, development and transfer. The council of Scientific & Industrial research-an autonomous society under DSIR has 38 constituent labs in different parts of the country engaged in variety of research areas.

Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) deals with the subjects of Atmospheric Sciences, Oceanography, polar sciences and geo-sciences. The MoES has 9 autonomous Institutions/subordinate departments. The India Meteorological Department- a subordinate department under MoES, is responsible for all weather and climate related issues including monsoon, tropical cyclones, other natural hazards. MoES also deals with Earthquakes monitoring, Tsunami warnings and Antarctic and Arctic exploration.

Speaking to media persons thereafter, Dr Singh said that my ministries will work for scaling up scientific research to address key socio-economic problems of national importance by collaborating with other socio-economic ministries. We will make concerted efforts to build scientific temper among the scientists especially amongst the youth to make India strong and vibrant. He said that the government will create right opportunities and R&D infrastructure to not only create an environment for reverse brain drain but also facilitate scientists to have world class research facilities in the country. We will also work to build effective public-private partnership in R&D.

Later, the Minister addressed officials of both the ministries and took briefing on the key initiatives, mandate and policy framework of the Ministry of S&T and Ministry of Earth Sciences by Secretaries of the two ministries and other Senior Officials of the Ministries.