



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh holds interactive meet with a distinguished group of around 500 StartUps, eminent scientists, and distinguished scholars from across the country, who were special invitees to the Republic Day celebrations

Around 100 eminent science experts among them attend President's at Home reception as part of Republic Day celebrations

Scientists from Space, Biotechnology, Life Sciences, Earth Sciences, and other frontier research areas among 500 Republic Day special invitees

The practice to have such special invitees for Republic Day celebrations began at PM Modi's initiative: Dr Jitendra Singh

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Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh, holds an interactive meet with a distinguished group of around 500 StartUps, eminent scientists and distinguished scholars from across the country, who were specially invited to the National Capital as part of the Republic Day celebrations.

The gathering comprised eminent scientists drawn from diverse scientific domains, including Space, Biotechnology, Life Sciences, Earth Sciences, and other frontier areas of research, along with distinguished scholars and selected startup innovators representing India's expanding scientific and innovation ecosystem. A significant number of scientists from ISRO and other leading national institutions formed a key part of the gathering, reflecting India's growing global stature in science and technology.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that this diverse group of invitees had been specially called to Delhi to witness the Republic Day Parade and to participate in official engagements conducted in an atmosphere of dignity and national recognition. He informed that around 100 members from this larger group were also invited to the At Home reception at the President's residence in the evening, underscoring the national importance accorded to their contributions.

The Minister highlighted that this practice of inviting eminent academics, scientists, doctors, and innovators as Special Invitees for Republic Day events has been initiated over the last few years through the personal initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with the objective of honouring intellectual excellence and giving national visibility to India's knowledge creators.

“This convention reflects the Prime Minister's intent to accord due respect to the scientific and academic community, while also providing them an opportunity to witness national ceremonies from a place of dignity and to have an audience with the President of India,” Dr Jitendra Singh said.

The Minister added that every year, a carefully curated group of eminent academics, scientists, medical professionals, and innovators is invited to Delhi as part of this initiative, highlighting the government's continued emphasis on recognising intellectual capital as a pillar of national development.

Dr Jitendra Singh also clarified that while sector-specific engagements, including those related to Earth Sciences, were held during the visit, the overall initiative was a broad, inclusive engagement covering multiple scientific domains, and should be viewed in that comprehensive national context.

In addressing the assembled scientists, Dr. Singh reaffirmed the Government of India's unwavering support for scientific research, innovation, and capacity building that strengthens India's global scientific footprint and contributes to national development.





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