



India ready to play larger global role in AI-led climate action, says Science Minister Dr Jitendra Singh

AI must have to be deployed alongside human judgement to build resilience against extreme weather events, says the Minister

Dr Jitendra Singh addresses "Technology and Innovation Conclave 2.0", jointly organised by "Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology" (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) Govt of India

Global cooperation imperative because Climate is too serious a subject to be left to one nation alone: Dr Jitendra Singh

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 28 JAN 2026 6:24PM by PIB Delhi

NEW DELHI, January 28 : Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr Jitendra Singh, today said that India is ready to play a larger global role in Artificial Intelligence (AI) -led climate action.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh addressing the "Technology and Innovation Conclave 2.0", organised by "Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology" (APCTT) and DSIR, at Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi, on Wednesday.

However, the Minister hastened to add, Artificial Intelligence must be deployed alongside human judgement, institutional cooperation and global partnerships if it is to effectively address climate change and build resilience against extreme weather events.



Speaking at the Technology and Innovation Conclave 2.0, jointly organised by the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) Govt of India, Dr Jitendra Singh said climate change was “too serious a subject to be left to one nation alone” and could not be mitigated unless countries worked together across borders.



The conclave, themed “AI for Climate Action and Resilience”, opened with the introduction of innovators and startups, followed by a high-level inaugural session that brought together senior Indian officials and United Nations representatives, reflecting the growing convergence between national science priorities and global climate action. Speakers highlighted the role of technology, international cooperation and innovation ecosystems in responding to climate challenges faced by vulnerable regions.



As part of the programme, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated the exhibition of innovations, walked through the displays and interacted with young innovators from participating member states. He later presented awards to winners of a hackathon focused on AI-driven solutions for climate and resilience challenges.

During the inaugural session, DSIR and APCTT formally announced the launch of “SANKALP” (Synergy for Advanced Networks, Knowledge, and Academia–Industry Learning Progress), a new lecture series aimed at strengthening structured engagement between academia, industry and policymakers, and accelerating the translation of research into real-world applications.

In his address, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the era of working in silos was over, stressing that climate action required collaboration across scientific disciplines, public and private sectors, and even between science and non-science institutions. Innovation, he said, could no longer succeed in isolation and needed early and sustained linkages with industry, markets and technology transfer mechanisms.

Highlighting India's evolving global role, the Minister said the country was no longer inward-looking and was increasingly expected to contribute ideas and solutions to international efforts on climate and technology. India's geographic diversity, he noted, offered a unique advantage in studying climate impacts and developing adaptable solutions that could be shared with other countries.

Dr. Jitendra Singh linked artificial intelligence with India's broader technology roadmap, noting that the country was among the early movers in emerging areas such as quantum technologies, having already launched a national quantum mission. Artificial intelligence, he said, was similarly transformative and had become critical for analysing climate data, forecasting disasters and managing resources.

Citing practical examples, the Minister said AI-based models were already being used in disaster response and environmental monitoring, including the analysis of extreme weather events. He also referred to the use of AI in healthcare, where diagnostics that earlier took days could now be completed in minutes, and in drug trials, where technology was improving both speed and precision.

At the same time, Dr. Jitendra Singh issued a clear caution against blind or uncritical use of artificial intelligence. Drawing from governance experiences, he said systems driven entirely by AI often failed to meet public expectations, even when disposal rates were high. He emphasised the importance of hybrid models that combine artificial intelligence with human oversight, judgement and empathy.

Illustrating this approach, the Minister referred to initiatives where AI-driven systems work alongside human professionals, including in healthcare delivery, to ensure better outcomes and public satisfaction. "One has to be intelligent enough to use artificial intelligence," he said, underlining that technology should be treated as an essential tool rather than a substitute for human responsibility.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also stressed the need for early linkage between innovation, academia, industry and technology transfer, warning that research without a clear application pathway risked remaining underutilised. Industry engagement, he said, should begin at the innovation stage itself rather than after technologies were developed.

In this context, he highlighted the role of CSIR as one of the few institutions globally that integrates innovation, academic research, technology transfer and industry engagement within a single framework, making it well placed to drive mission-oriented science aligned with national priorities.

Secretary, DSIR and Director General, CSIR, Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, described the conclave as a significant milestone for both DSIR and APCTT, noting that the second edition reflected a growing and structured partnership focused on AI for climate action and resilience. She said artificial intelligence should be viewed as a powerful tool guided by human and natural intelligence, enabling better understanding of climate impacts. Highlighting the international character of the conclave, she said APCTT's network spanning 53 member states and nine associate states had enabled participation from delegates of nine countries, underscoring the importance of cross-border collaboration. She called for responsible research and urged that the outcomes of the conclave be assessed in measurable terms to guide future initiatives.

Concluding his remarks, the Minister said the real value of the conclave would lie in the outcomes it generated and expressed his expectation that the discussions would lead to concrete conclusions and actionable directions for future collaboration in AI-driven climate action.

The high-level inaugural session was attended by senior government and United Nations officials, including UN Resident Coordinator for India Stefan Priesner, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences Dr. M. Ravichandran, Head of APCTT Dr. Preeti Soni, Joint Secretary, DSIR Mahendra Kumar Gupta, and senior officials and scientists from DSIR and CSIR.

NKR/AV

(रिलीज़ आईडी: 2219723) आगंतुक पटल : 184
इस विज्ञप्ति को इन भाषाओं में पढ़ें: Urdu , हिन्दी