



12 Years of Modi Government Have Created an Aspirational India: Dr. Jitendra Singh

Reflecting on Sh Modi's 4,399 days in office as a continuously serving elected PM, Dr Jitendra Singh highlights a range of measurable outcomes over the past decade:

Biggest Achievement of Modi Era Is India's Mindset Change, Says the Minister

From Recommendation to Merit: Governance Reforms Reshaped Public Aspirations

Opening Space and Nuclear Sectors to Private Participation Changed Innovation Landscape

Space Startups Rise to 400 as India's Innovation Ecosystem Expands

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Twelve years of the Narendra Modi government have transformed India into an aspirational nation driven by opportunity, innovation and self-belief, Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh said on Sunday while talking to media, asserting that governance reforms, technological democratisation and citizen-centric policies have fundamentally changed the way Indians perceive their prospects. The Minister also outlined the next phase of growth, stating that India's space economy, currently close to \$9 billion, is expected to expand to about \$45 billion over the next seven to eight years as the country advances towards the goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

Reflecting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 4,399 days in office as a continuously serving elected Prime Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted a range of measurable outcomes over the past decade. He said India's space startup ecosystem had grown from a single-digit number of startups a few years ago to around 400 today, with one startup recently attaining unicorn status. India's space economy is now valued at nearly \$9 billion and is projected to reach \$45 billion by the end of the next seven to eight years. The Minister said the country's startup ecosystem had expanded from about 350-400 startups in 2014 to more than 2.3 lakh at present, generating nearly 24-25 lakh jobs. Nearly half of these startups are located in

Tier-II and Tier-III cities, while 35-39 per cent are women-led. He also noted that a recent space launch witnessed the participation of around 1,500 media personnel and nearly 10,000 spectators, reflecting growing public engagement with science and technology.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said some of the government's earliest reforms symbolised a shift towards a citizen-centric governance model. He cited the decision to end the requirement of gazetted-officer attestation of documents and permit self-attestation as a landmark step that signalled trust in citizens, particularly the youth. The Minister also referred to the abolition of interviews in several categories of government recruitment, saying the move reduced opportunities for nepotism, discretion and malpractice while strengthening merit-based selection. These reforms helped create confidence that success could be achieved through ability and hard work rather than influence or recommendation, the Minister added.

Arguing that the most profound change of the past 12 years has been psychological, in addition to procedural, Dr Jitendra Singh said India had witnessed the rise of a new aspirational culture. "The change of mindset that has happened in the last 12 years under Prime Minister Modi is one of the biggest hallmarks," he said. "The kind of aspirational surge that has happened — 'I can also do it' — was not there earlier." The Minister said this shift was visible in the growing number of civil services toppers emerging from small towns and non-metropolitan backgrounds, reflecting the democratisation of opportunity through technology, transparency and fair competition.

The Minister also linked India's scientific achievements to this broader transformation. Referring to the Chandrayaan missions, he said the government had fostered a culture in which citizens increasingly identify with national scientific achievements and view innovation as a shared national endeavour. He recalled that Prime Minister Modi encouraged scientists after setbacks and celebrated their successes, helping normalise the idea that failure is a part of innovation and progress. Dr. Jitendra Singh said India's successful landing near the Moon's south pole had strengthened public interest in science, while earlier discoveries by Indian lunar missions had helped identify evidence of water molecules on the Moon.

Highlighting institutional changes, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the Modi government had opened strategic sectors such as space and parts of the nuclear ecosystem to private participation, ending decades of restricted access. He said these sectors had traditionally operated behind closed doors but were now integrated with industry, entrepreneurs and startups. According to the Minister, this policy shift had expanded career opportunities, accelerated innovation and aligned India's scientific ecosystem with global best practices. He also noted that initiatives such as Viksit Bharat reflected a broader emphasis on benchmarking India's progress against international standards rather than domestic comparisons alone.

The Minister further argued that welfare delivery had also moved towards universal and transparent implementation. Referring to housing and other welfare programmes, he said benefits were being delivered without discrimination based on caste, religion or any other affiliation, creating greater trust in public institutions and governance systems.

Looking ahead, Dr. Jitendra Singh said India's development journey would require deeper public-private collaboration, stronger participation of women and youth, continued expansion of emerging sectors such as space, nuclear energy and quantum technologies, and adherence to global standards of performance and innovation. The Minister maintained that the government's long-term objective was not merely economic growth but the creation of an empowered and aspirational society capable of contributing to the vision of a developed India by 2047.

The remarks place the government's 12-year record within a broader narrative of governance reform, institutional transformation and an effort to shift India from a culture of entitlement and dependence towards one driven by aspiration, merit and innovation.



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