



VC JU Prof Umesh Rai and other guests during land reclamation drive.

### JU VC inaugurates land reclamation drive

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
 JAMMU, Oct 21: In an initiative to reclaim the low-lying wasteland on the University Campus, Vice-Chancellor University of Jammu (JU), Professor Umesh Rai inaugurated the land reclamation drive.  
 In the first phase of the drive, land adjacent to the Vice-Chancellor lodge was reclaimed and planted with diverse saplings of fruit trees which included mangoes, mosambi, lemon, oranges, guava, custard apple, papaya, falsa, litchi, malta, etc.  
 The Vice-Chancellor lauded the efforts of the convener and members of the Arboriculture and Landscaping Committee, the Landscape Development Officer, and the whole staff of the Arboriculture and Landscaping Unit for the implementation of this significant initiative. He emphasized the need for fruit tree plantations to attract varieties of birds besides numerous other benefits.  
 There are some additional patches of land on the University campus that will be reclaimed and

beautified in the coming days. Padma Shri Prof Dinesh Singh, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi, Chancellor KR Mangalam University and Vice-Chairman, Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education Council was the chief guest on the occasion. They appreciated the various green initiatives adopted by the University of Jammu.  
 Prof Bechan Lal, Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu was also present on the occasion. Prof Naresh Padha, Dean Academic Affairs; Prof Meena Sharma, Dean Planning; Prof Neelu Rohmetra Director, DDE; Prof Arvind Jasrotia, Registrar, Prof Prakash Antahal, Dean Students Welfare; Prof Piyush Malaviya convener, Arboriculture and Landscaping Unit, Dr Daud Iqbal Baba, Director, Sports & Physical Education along with other faculty members, officers, Dr Rakesh Chib, president, Non-Teaching Employees Union and Pankaj Gupta, general secretary, Non-Teaching Employees Union graced the occasion.



Customers making purchases at a showroom of Zevar by RV Jewellers in Jammu.

### Zevar introduces exciting Dhanteras offer

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
 JAMMU, Oct 21: After 27 years Dhanteras is being celebrated for two days and is being considered favourable.  
 On this auspicious occasion Zevar by RV Jewellers are offering the lowest gold rate in whole of J&K with offers like flat 35 per cent off on diamond jewellery.

A handout stated that Zevar always talks about being a trust-worthy brand with Hallmark gold and transparency as their main pillars. They also deal only in certified diamonds and have a wide variety of silver jewellery as well.  
 Trust, purity and transparency remains of utmost importance while buying any type of jewellery.

### Mathur reviews progress of ongoing projects in Ladakh

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
 LEH, Oct 21: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, RK Mathur, reviewed the progress of ongoing projects and project proposals of Ladakh Renewable Energy Development Agency (LREDA), Kargil Renewable Energy Development Agency (KREDA) and Power Development Department (PDD), at Raj Niwas today. Advisor Umang Narula, further advised that proper measures may be taken to ensure there is no malpractice by the manufacturers while supplying solar water heating systems and other items.  
 Earlier, Project Coordinator, KREDA, gave a detailed presentation on their achievements and proposed plans, including solar water heaters, small hydro projects, solar photovoltaic projects, solar water lifting pumps and various works  
 Lt Governor Ladakh, R K Mathur chairing a meeting of officers at Leh on Friday.

Commissioner/Secretary, Ajeet Kumar Sahu; Secretary Ravinder Kumar; Chief Engineer, PDD, Ghulam Ahmad Mir; Executive Engineer, PDD, Tsewang Paljor and officials from LREDA and KREDA were present in the review meeting.  
 LG Mathur stressed the need for saturation coverage of solar water heaters and solar water heating under various schemes in Ladakh in a holistic manner so that the people can avail themselves of their benefits. He advised that a survey may be conducted to assess the Panchayat-wise requirement of solar water heaters in Ladakh. He suggested that both LREDA and KREDA may coordinate and get prior approval from Irrigation and Agriculture Departments to avoid duplication of solar water lifting projects in Ladakh.  
 LG Mathur advised that a pilot hydroelectric power project on the 'run of the river' along with a turbine that remains operational in the Winter may be carried out. He stated that sufficient solar power should be supplied to the public in remote areas of Ladakh so that they can use household appliances other than their lighting needs. He directed both LREDA and KREDA to replace the batteries of existing solar photovoltaic (SPV) plants, wherever due, to ensure 100 per cent saturation.  
 LG Mathur advised that proper irrigation plans may be prepared to ensure that SPVs with sufficient capacities can be installed to provide water to all existing and potential agricultural lands in Ladakh. He

### Traffic restored on Mughal road

**Excelsior Correspondent**  
 POONCH, Oct 21: The traffic movement on Mughal road has been restored by the authorities after two days of fresh snowfall at Pir Ki Gali Pass at Pir Panjal.  
 Official sources said that the snow on Mughal road was cleared by Mechanical wing of the PW(R&B) Department on Thursday, while about 30 stranded LMV's near Behrangala were allowed to move towards Kashmir today.  
 DySP Traffic Rajouri-Poonch, Syed Aftab Bukhari said that the movement of all Light Motor Vehicles shall be allowed from both sides from Saturday morning, while the movement of heavy motor vehicles shall be allowed from Poonch towards Kashmir side and later from Kashmir towards Poonch in the evening on Friday.

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