

# LG remembers sacrifices of Imam Hussain

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 28: On the eve of Ashoora, the 10th day of Muharram, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha remembered the sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS).

In his message, the Lt Governor said, "The sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and his companions in Karbala for upholding the values of truth, justice and equality has been guiding the entire humanity to follow the path of righteousness. "Let us on this day imbibe

the eternal ideals of Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) and work unitedly for peace, progress and prosperity of the people," the Lt Governor added.

Meanwhile Umar Jan, Secretary Bhartiya Janta Yuva Morcha called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

Umar Jan expressed gratitude for the historical decision of resumption of Muharram Procession on July 27 after a gap of three decades.

He also apprised the Lt Governor on various public importance issues.



Div Com and other officers at Machail Mata Shrine.

# Div Com visits Paddar, inaugurates various pilgrim facilities

Excelsior Correspondent

KISHTWAR, July 28: In light of the ongoing Machail Mata Yatra 2023, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar today along with Deputy Commissioner

Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav SSP Kishtwar, Khalil Ahmed Poswal, visited Paddar area and officially inaugurated various facilities meant for Yatries including the first of its kind 30 KW hybrid solar power plant at Machail, luxurious mushroom tents and the Sapphire guest house specifically intended to accommodate pilgrims during the Yatra.

ADC Kishtwar, Inderjeet Singh Parihar, SDM Paddar, Arun Kumar Badyal, CEO Kishtwar Development Authority, Dr. Rishi Kumar Sharma, Tehsildar Atholi, Satish Rana, SDPO Paddar, Manoj Kumar, DDC member Paddar, Hari Krishan Chauhan, Incharge Machail Mata Yatra Cell Lovemot Kotwal, and other PRIs, among others, also accompanied the Divisional Commissioner.

The first-of-its-kind 30 KW hybrid solar power plant at Machail has been set up to augment the electricity needs at the Machail Mata Bhawan, and its peripheral area, ensuring proper illumination and safety for the Yatries during the Yatra.

At Machail the Div Com Jammu also took the opportunity

to pay obeisance at the Machail Mata Bhawan, assessed the arrangements in place, and offered prayers for peace, prosperity, and overall development in the Union Territory besides interacted with pilgrims.

Div Com inaugurated the Sapphire Guest House at Gulabgarh, which, along with the mushroom tents, will collectively accommodate pilgrims with a luxurious experience.

He also inspected the Machail Yatri Bhawan at Gulabgarh and directed the concerned executing agencies to expedite the leftout work.

On this occasion, Div Com Jammu extended congratulations to the people of Paddar for the inauguration of these assets, as these assets will significantly enhance the convenience and successful conduct of the Yatra in the region, further promoting religious tourism.

He emphasized that these new assets will also boost local infrastructure, contributing to the overall developmental momentum of the area.

Div Com also conducted a comprehensive review of other essential facilities, including water and electricity supply, sanitation, chopper services, accommodation, transportation, security, and various other amenities for the pilgrims.

# Mukesh Singh reviews security arrangements for pilgrimages, I-Day

Excelsior Correspondent

REASI, July 28: Mukesh Singh, ADGP Jammu Zone, along with DIG U-R Range Suleman Choudhary, conducted security review meeting of arrangements for Shri Buddha Amarnath ji Yatra, Kousner Nag Yatra and Independence Day at District Police office Reasi.

Stress was laid upon joint operations and a coordinated plan to ensure smooth conduct of the Yatras and coming Independence Day function.

During the meeting, progress of investigation of UAP Act cases of Reasi was also discussed. Investigation into cases of drug abuse and strategies to

counter the drug menace was deliberated upon.

ADGP Jammu also stressed upon quality investigation in the cases and proper follow up of case till conviction.

SSP Reasi Amit Gupta briefed the ADGP about law and order situation of the whole District, preparation plan for upcoming Yatra and Independence Day. SSP also briefed about the present security scenario and strategy to counter the nefarious design of anti-national elements.

The meeting was attended by SP Katra Vipin Chandran; SDPO Amas Pritpal Singh, Dy SP Hqrs Reasi Neeraj Padyar, Dy SP Bhawan Bisham Dubey and SPO Himanshu Gupta.

# 2 SBI employees injured in road mishap

Excelsior Correspondent

KATRA, July 28: A young man was found dead under mysterious circumstances at Balini while two employees of State Bank of India (SBI) were injured when their bike was hit by a car on Jammu- Katra road, here today.

The injured SBI employees were identified as Bansil Lal, age 43 years, son of Vidya Sagar, resident of Ramnagar and pillion rider Ekta Devi, age 38 years, wife of Swam Singh, resident of Kun Kanyala, Panthal, tehsil Katra.

The duo was shifted to CHC Katra and after giving them first aid, doctors referred Bansil Lal to GMC Jammu for advance treatment. The pillion rider Ekta Devi had sustained minor injuries and she was discharged after first aid.

Both the injured are the employees of SBI Katra. As per car driver, a snake suddenly appeared in his car due to which he got frightened and lost control over the vehicle resulting into collision with the bike and one stranded car.

Meanwhile, a young man was found dead under mysterious circumstances at Balini, under the jurisdiction of Katra Police Station. The deceased was identified as Ahmed Din

(37), son of Samdhu, resident of Gran Morh.

Cause of death could not be ascertained while Police has registered a case in this connection for further investigation.

# Drug peddler held with poppy straw

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 28: Jammu and Kashmir Police today recovered 20 kilograms of poppy straw from an individual in the jurisdiction of Police Station Bakshi Nagar here.

A police spokesperson said that the police team, led by SDPO West, Vikram Singh and SHO Bakshi Nagar, Inspector Rakesh Sharma, made the arrest during their patrolling duty near Resham Ghar.

The suspect, identified as Davinder Kumar of F-520 Resham Ghar Jammu, was apprehended and found in possession of the illegal substance, he said.

A case FIR number 110/2023 under sections 8/15 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Bakshi Nagar, and the accused has been taken into custody.

Further investigations are underway.

# Chief Secy launches Artificial Intelligence Framework of J&K

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 28: In a momentous stride towards fostering technological progress and socio-economic development in J&K, Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta launched the Artificial Intelligence Framework of Jammu and Kashmir as part of Digital J&K Mission.

Commissioner Secretary, Information Technology, Prerna Puri; Director Information, Minga Sherpa; Additional Secretary, Information Technology Department and other senior officers of the department were present on the occasion.

Speaking after the launch, the Chief Secretary said that this pioneering framework sets a precedent in Jammu and Kashmir with an objective of harnessing transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in various sectors and elevate the lives of the citizens here. He added that unveiling of AI Framework marks a defining milestone in our vision to embrace cutting-edge technologies and enhance governance, public services, and economic growth which is one of the remarkable achievements in last couple of years.

Highlighting that the J&K has shown phenomenal growth in IT services, Dr. Mehta said that stand-

overall governance system across Jammu and Kashmir with the help of digital technologies.

The Chief Secretary further said that the Governance system in J&K has been transformed from the Panchayat level upto the Administrative level with impetus on involving all the citizens from the grass root level into the system. He added that with the unique platform of Jan Bhagidari (Empowerment) Portal, an accountable, transparent governance system has been established in Jammu and Kashmir which enables citizens to participate in monitoring of development progress.

He further said that with the launch of Artificial Intelligence Framework, Jammu and Kashmir will emerge as a leader in AI, fostering social innovations as well as realizing vision of a technologically advanced and digitally empowered Jammu and Kashmir.

On the occasion Commissioner Secretary Information Technology department, Prerna Puri gave a detailed presentation on AI Framework of J&K.

# Technology also helps in cracking around 15 minor crime cases Average 28-30000 traffic violators challaned every month using ITMS in Jammu

Bivek Mathur

JAMMU, July 28: Average 28000-30000 traffic violators are being challaned every month in Jammu District using the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) installed under the Jammu Smart City Project.

Under the smart system of traffic management, high-tech cameras have been installed in 73 city junctions with 44 junctions dedicated to noticing traffic violations and 29 additional junctions dedicated for surveillance purposes, especially to keep a check on VIP movements and to detect some crimes. A dedicated team of 7 police personnel monitor cameras installed on these junctions from the Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) of the Jammu Smart City Project hosted in the building of the Jammu Municipal Corporation.

"We're challannging every month between 28000 to 30000 people for violation of road safety laws. The smart cameras have also helped us crack some 15 minor crime cases like snatching, vehicle theft, and hit-and-run cases," SSP Traffic (City), Faisal Qureshi told the Excelsior.

Further, Raja Yaqoob Farooq, director, Tourism, Kashmir, shall hold the charge of the post of Chief Executive Officer, Tourism development Authority, Gulmarg and Managing Director, J&K Cable Car Corporation, in addition to his own duties, till further orders.

# Shruti Arora posted ASP Leh

Excelsior Correspondent

LADAKH, July 28: The Ladakh Administration today posted AGMUT Cadre IPS officer Shruti Arora as Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), Leh.

An order issued in this context read, "in the interest of administration, Shruti Arora, IPS (AGMUT: 2018), awaiting orders of posting, is hereby posted as ASP, District Leh against an available vacancy."

# Movie 'Lafzon Mein Pyaar' set for release on August 4 'Bollywood must return to Kashmir's enchanting beauty for filmmaking'

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 28: Bollywood actor Vivek Anand Mishra, while promoting his upcoming film 'Lafzon Mein Pyaar', today expressed deep admiration for the picturesque Kashmir valley and called upon the film industry to return to the region to explore its enchanting beauty.



Bollywood actors Kanchan Agnihotri, Vivek Anand Mishra and Lalit Parimoo displaying poster of a movie. -Excelsior/Shakeel

Addressing a press conference here, Mishra recounted his own experience shooting a film in Baderwah district back in 2017. He was captivated by the mesmerizing beauty of the J&K region and declared it a dream come true for any filmmaker to shoot in such breathtaking landscapes.

"I always loved visiting mountains, but the beauty of Kashmir left me spellbound when I landed in Srinagar yesterday," Mishra stated. He encouraged Bollywood filmmakers to consider Kashmir as a prime filming location, emphasizing that the natural beauty eliminates the need for artificial sets, making the filmmaking process even more appealing.

Highlighting the potential benefits for the Valley, Mishra expressed confidence that more film productions in Kashmir would boost tourism and generate employment opportunities for locals.

The actor, renowned for his roles in various TV shows and films, including the blockbuster 'Antaryatri Mahapurush,' shared his passion for the region and its

immense potential as a filming destination.

Mishra's co-star, Kanchan Agnihotri, also spoke highly of the local talent in Kashmir, praising artists like Waqar Khan and Kabir Bukhari for their remarkable skills.

To further promote the growth of talent in the region, Bollywood actor Lalit Parimoo, known for his work in the

acclaimed film 'Haider,' announced a forthcoming workshop for Kashmiri students interested in pursuing acting.

The workshop, scheduled from 21st to 27th August at Tagore Hall, Srinagar, aims to nurture raw talent and guide aspiring actors on how to break into the film industry.

The film 'Lafzon Mein Pyaar,'

\* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

directed by Dhiraj Mishra and Raja Randeep Giri, showcases the musical love story with family drama. Produced and written by Ashok Sawhny 'Sahil,' the film features a talented cast, including Anita Raj, Zarina Wahab, Prashant Rai, Sarwar Mir, Vaani Dogra, Megha Joshi, Mahima Gupta, Sachin Bhandari, Ismile Choudhary, and Avinash Kumar.

Kashmiri musician Kabir Bukhari, who composed and sang the film's songs and ghazals, expressed his pride in promoting a Bollywood film in his homeland. "Lafzon Mein Pyaar" is set to release on August 4th in the multiplexes of Srinagar and Jammu.

# Indresh Kumar releases Dr Vivek's book 'Buddhism in India and Abroad'

Excelsior Correspondent

JAMMU, July 28: Dr Indresh Kumar, National Executive Member of RSS and chief patron of Bharat Tibet Sahyog Manch (BTSM) released the book entitled 'Buddhism in India and Abroad' authored by Dr. Vivek Sharma during a seminar at Computer Science & IT Seminar Hall, University of Jammu.

The book release function besides, Dr Indresh Kumar was graced by Rajinder Sharma, Mayor Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Shakti Pathak DIG JSK Range and Dr. Vikrant Sharma, Prant Karyawah J&K, Prof Shohab Inayat Malik, HoD Buddhist Studies, Prof (Dr.) Neelu Rohmetra, Director DDE, Dr. Meenakshi Kilam, Rector Kathua Campus, Prof Rajeev Rattan, Director CDC, Prof Virender Kundal, Prof G.M. Bhat and Prof Mohd. Riyaz.

Giving brief account of his book, Dr Vivek Sharma, who is Academic Coordinator of JU Kathua Campus and Faculty at Buddhist Studies Department, said, "It is based on Theravada

Buddhism in India and abroad wherein the genesis of the Shakyra race in the matrix of historical Buddha's genealogy has been traced.

He further said that the book was a refreshing treatment of the Buddha's lineage. "The core



teachings of the Buddha are accorded in an authentic way from the standpoint of Pali Buddhism, which is the original source of Theravada Buddhism. The book vividly presents the Rainy Season Retreats of the Buddha, which is popularly known as the Vassava in the Buddhist tradition.

"I have enumerated four sacred places of Buddhism, which are directly related to the life of the Buddha. In fact, these four places, such as Lumbini, Bodhgaya, Samath and Kushinagar are mentioned in the Mahaparinibbana Sutta of the

Digha Nikaya of the Sutta Pitaka. The book has given the history of Pali literature - canonical and extra-canonical - in a detailed manner," he added.

Dr Indresh congratulated and lauded Dr. Vivek Sharma for authoring such a detailed study of Buddhism. He said "Lord Buddha taught us non-violence and mutual co-existence. His teachings are more relevant in the contemporary world and emphasized upon the people to follow his philosophy for peace all around."

Pertinent to mention that the book 'Buddhism in India and Abroad' has delineated almost all the Buddhist Councils beginning from the First Buddhist Council to the Sixth Buddhist Council in a critical way. The Buddhist Councils are considered as the watershed developments in the history of Buddhism.

The book also provides information about the contemporary kingdoms of the Buddha and post-Buddhica dynasties, which have fruitfully contributed to the spread and development of Buddhism in India and abroad. Mention may be made of a chapter of this book wherein the survey of the Buddhist population in the world is highlighted. "I have also discussed Mahayana and Hinayana tradition in the eighth chapter of this book", said the author.



Director NIT Srinagar Sudhakar Yedla, during a press conference in Srinagar on Friday. -Excelsior/Shakeel

# NIT to prepare development, environmental status reports for J&K: Director

Excelsior Correspondent

SRINAGAR, July 28: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar is envisioning new initiatives like a developmental report and an environmental status report to help the Jammu and Kashmir government to develop environmental and developmental strategies for Jammu and Kashmir.

The NIT Director Sudhakar Yedla today told a press conference here that besides strengthening the existing inter-disciplinary research centres such as water resources management centre and iDream, the NIT Srinagar is developing more centres in the areas of energy and environmental research, nano science and technology and tribology.

The NIT director said they were putting efforts to develop niche areas of work considering and converting the special climatic and geographic conditions to their unique strength.

The Director said that the institute has been faithfully implementing the National Education Policy (NEP-2020) for the past three years, and the changes brought about by the NEP can be categorised into "curriculum and governance" aspects.

"One of the major changes to the curriculum includes the restructuring of all B.Tech programmes, which took effect in 2023. The Credit system has also been rationalised, reducing the minimum number of credits required for the award of a B.Tech. degree to 160. This change provides the students with much-needed space for experiential learning," he said.

He further elaborated that, as part of the undergraduate curriculum restructuring, the institute offers certain mandatory non-credit courses, including Human Values and Professional Ethics, Health and Wellness, and Foreign Languages.

"In another significant development, NIT Srinagar has started implementing the multiple entry and multiple exit system at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. We are among the first institutions to implement this system in the entire country," he added.

The Director also mentioned that in a move to give flexibility and academic mobility to the students, NIT Srinagar has initiated the system of Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) in the National Academic Depository (NAD), and students from the 2022 batch have been registered on the ABC. "Their IDs have been generated, and certificates of B.Tech pass-out batches of 2018 and 2019 have been uploaded

\* Watch video on www.excelsiornews.com

on NAD," he stated.

Another important change in the curriculum structure is that NIT Srinagar has adopted the concept of digital learning, allowing students to opt for online courses like SWAYAM, NPTEL, etc., accounting for a maximum of 10 credits during their B.Tech. programme.

"Among other initiatives under the NEP, efforts are being made to offer various courses in a hybrid mode, introduce interdisciplinary courses in thrust areas, and promote institute-industry collaborations," he said.

He said that the Institute has also adopted Ph.D. regulations in line with NEP-2020. Direct Ph.D. admission after a bachelor's degree has been introduced. "Student mobility across institutions is one of the important components of the NEP. Implementing this in its true spirit, NIT Srinagar has signed MoUs with IIT Delhi, IIT Hyderabad, and IIT Jammu, and NIT Srinagar students have gone to these institutions to carry out coursework and thesis work," he explained.

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