

Satish Sharma inaugurates stakeholders meet on STI; launches innovation initiatives for J&K

GY CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, JULY 28
Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FSC&CA), Information Technology, and Transport, Satish Sharma, today inaugurated a major Stakeholders Meet on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) at IIT Jammu.

The event, jointly organized by the Northern Region S&T Cluster (PI-RAH) and the Jammu & Kashmir Science, Technology & Innovation Council (JSTIC), brought together the leading voices from academia, government, industry and the startup ecosystem to strengthen J&K's innovation landscape. On the occasion, the Minister launched three ambitious initiatives aimed at catalyzing innovation and research in the Union Territory which included GINI, Grassroot Innovators of Northern India, Innovation Ambassadors



Program and SPARK-J&K – Strategic Program for Accelerating Research and Knowledge, J&K. Sharma underscored the importance of innovation in governance and sustainable development. "Science and technology are integral to the progress and prosperity of any society. The government of Jammu & Kashmir is fully committed to create an enabling ecosystem that supports innovators, startups and researchers at every level," he stated. Highlighting the integration of technology into public service

delivery, Sharma pointed out the synergy between science, IT and citizen welfare, especially in sectors like agriculture, health, food security and transport. He stressed that such platforms are critical to build evidence-based policy, sustainable industries and a future-ready workforce. Scientific Secretary to the Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India, Dr Parvinder Maini, applauded the growing STI capabilities of the region and called for deeper collaboration among stakeholders. Technical sessions were held on diverse topics

such as AI in governance, waste-to-wealth initiatives, agri-tech and sustainable tourism. Senior officials including Dr. Nasir Shah (Additional Director, J&KSTIC) and Dr. Jatinder Kaur Arora (Advisor, PI-RAH) spoke on the transformative role of science and innovation in regional development. Faculty from IIT Jammu, SMVDU, SKUAST-K along with industry experts and policymakers, participated in the deliberations, reaffirming their collective commitment towards advancing J&K's STI mission.

Jt. Director Information Kashmir condoles demise of Bashir Ahmad Bhat (Kotur)

GY CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, JULY 28

Joint Director Information Kashmir, Syed Shah Nawaz Bukhari, has expressed deep sorrow and heartfelt condolences on the sad demise of renowned theater artist and comedian Bashir Ahmad Bhat, popularly known as Bashir Kotur, who passed away on Monday. In his condolence message, Joint Director described Bhat as a gifted performer who brought smiles to people through his powerful performances and distinctive comic timing. He added that Bhat's contributions to Kashmiri art, culture and theatre were immense and will be remembered for generations. Meanwhile, a condolence meeting was held in this connection under the chairmanship of the Joint Director Information, Kashmir, at the Joint Directorate of Information, Kashmir, Kothibagh, here.

During the meeting, participants offered their condolences to his family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul besides courage for the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss. Deputy Director Information (PR) Kashmir, Ahsanul Haq Chishti; Cultural Officer, Bathan Hussain and other officers and officials of Information Department Kashmir also extended sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed for peace to the departed soul.

CEO J&K reviews District Election Profile in Udhampur



GY CORRESPONDENT
UDHAMPUR, JULY 28

Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu & Kashmir, Sanjeev Verma, today conducted a comprehensive review of the District Election Profile of Udhampur during his visit to the district. During the meeting, Sanjeev Verma interacted with the Electoral Registration Officers and enquired about the status of Booth Level Officers training and other preparatory measures. He also sought updates on the ERO Net. The review meeting was attended by Additional

District Development Commissioner Rajinder Singh, SDM Chenani Dr. Ranjeet Kotalwar, SDM Ranmarg Rajinder Rana, Deputy District Election Officer Neeraj Bhargava and other concerned officers and officials. As part of the assessment, the CEO conducted a detailed review of key aspects including rationalization of polling stations, training of BLOs and availability of Assured Minimum Facilities at all polling stations. The CEO emphasized the need to provide the essential amenities such as drinking water, electricity,

toilets, ramps and proper signage at every polling location to ensure a smooth, inclusive and voter-friendly experience. Sanjeev Verma stressed the need for increasing the voter turnout in the district. He also instructed the concerned officers to intensify the Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation campaign. Earlier, the Deputy District Election Officer gave a detailed presentation outlining the existing status of polling stations, infrastructural requirements and ongoing rationalization proposals.

First Batch of Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra pilgrims warmly received at Sunderbani & Rajouri

GY CORRESPONDENT
RAJOURI, JULY 28

The first batch of Shri Baba Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra pilgrims was accorded a warm welcome today at the Yatra Ground Rajouri by Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma. The event was graced by the presence of Atal Pethadeshwar Shri Shri 1008 Swami Vishwatma Nand Saraswati Ji Maharaj. On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the arrangements made for the pilgrims during their brief halt at the Rajouri Yatra Station. The facilities reviewed included provision of drinking water, uninterrupted



power supply, clean and functional toilet facilities, langar services, sanitation, medical care and security. The DC directed all concerned officers to ensure that pilgrims do not face any kind of inconvenience and that all arrangements are

maintained efficiently throughout the yatra period. He emphasized coordinated efforts for seamless management and pilgrim facilitation. The devotees appreciated the comprehensive arrangements made by the Administration at both

Sunderbani and Rajouri transit points and expressed their gratitude for the warm hospitality and facilities extended to them. As part of the Yatra management, nodal officers have been designated to oversee the smooth functioning of services. ADC Sunderbani, Ramkesh Sharma has been appointed as the Nodal Officer for Sunderbani, while ADC Rajouri, Chander Prakash is overseeing the arrangements at Rajouri. The District Administration Rajouri, under the supervision of DC Abhishek Sharma, continues to work tirelessly to ensure the success and sanctity of the holy yatra.

Power Shutdown

GY CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR, JULY 28

According to the Chief Engineer, Distribution, KPDCI, in order to carry out the shifting of electrical utilities along the road, shutdown of 33KV Badampora Wangipora Tap line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Batwina, Wangipora, Nowgam shall remain off while power supply to Batwina, Nowgam, Wangipora, Zazna, Ahan, Waskura, Kharbagh, Guzama, Sumbal, Nesbal and adjoining areas will be affected from 08:00 AM to 12:00 Noon on 29 July, 02, 05 & 09 August, 2025. Also in this connection, shutdown of 33 KV Badampora Army Hakbara line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Hakbara, Hajin, Preng, Madwan, Army shall remain off while power supply to Hajin, Preng, Madwan, Banyar, Hakbara and adjoining areas will be affected from 08:00 AM to 12:00 Noon on 29 July, 02, 05 & 09 August, 2025. Moreover, the shutdown of 33 KV Badampora Lar Tulmulla line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Lar, Tulmulla shall remain off while power supply to Lar, Waliwar, Repora, Tulmulla, Dangepora, Larsun and adjoining areas will be affected from 08:00 AM to 12:00 Noon on 31 July, 03, 07 &

12 August, 2025. Similarly, in order to carry out the 11 KV Reconductoring, DT earthing and Tapping, shutdown of 33KV Badampora-Kurhama Dab line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Kurhama, Dab, GCET, Sainik School shall remain off while power supply to Kurhama, Youngpora, Baroosa, Old Dab, Checki Baba, Sainik School, Rabitar, Kondal, GCET, Safapora and adjoining areas will be affected from 06:00 AM to 01:00 PM on 30 July, 2025. Likewise, to facilitate Pole erection for Switchgear isolator, shutdown of 33KV Kangan Kangan line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Kangan, PDC Kangan shall remain off while power supply to Mammer, Wangath, Kangan, Akhal, Babanagri and adjoining areas will be affected from 09:00 AM to 12:00 Noon on 29 July, 2025. Further to carry out Installation of 33 KV isolator to avoid induction on both lines, shutdown of 33KV HMT line shall be observed due to which 33/11KV Receiving Stations at Nehalpora, Mirgund, Singhpora shall remain off and power supply to Nehalpora, Mirgund, Singhpora and adjoining areas will be affected from 08:00 AM to 01:00 PM on 30 July & 02 August, 2025.

Mega screening camp held at Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar

Awareness events, vaccination drives held across Jammu Division

World Hepatitis Day

GY CORRESPONDENT
JAMMU, JULY 28

World Hepatitis Day was observed at Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar by organizing a mega screening Camp. The Camp was inaugurated by Director Health Services Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar in presence of Chief Medical Officer Jammu Dr. Harbaksh Singh, Medical Superintendent Dr. Narinder Bhutyal and District Health Officer Dr. Samina Nazir. The event started with detailed power point presentations on implementation and challenges of National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP) in District Jammu by Dr. Rolly Sharma (RMNCHA consultant and District Nodal officer NVHCP), followed by PPT on Epidemiology, clinical features and treatment by Dr. Shri Ram (DNB Scholar) and key aspects on Prevention and control of Hepatitis by Dr. Ruchita Mahajan (Microbiologist Gandhi Nagar Hospital). The event also witnessed the screening of High risk patients for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C using Rapid Diagnostic kits. The healthcare staff members, unvaccinated against Hepatitis B were



also administered Hepatitis B vaccine. Director Health Services Jammu Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar, in his speech, highlighted the importance of early diagnosis and preventive measures to be taken through proper hygiene and timely vaccination to combat the spread of hepatitis viruses. The CMO laid stress on the risk factors and encouraged regular screening to fight this silent disease. The Day was also observed in health institutions of all Districts and Blocks of Jammu Division with active participation of Chief Medical Officers, Medical Superintendents and Block Medical Officers along with Officers & Officials. Awareness programmes regarding transmission

and control of Hepatitis were organized for patients, General Public and students in schools and colleges. Young students were made aware about safe injection practices, transmission of H7atitis B and C by using unsafe needles and they were also made aware about risks of IV drug abuse. Hepatitis B vaccine was also given to staff members who were previously not vaccinated, in continuation to previous vaccination drives launched in different blocks. Stress was laid on immunization of newborn with Hepatitis B vaccine and role of Hepatitis B immunoglobulins for high risk infants and patients for prevention and management of Hepatitis B.

Doda gears up for celebration of NEP UTSAV-2025

CEO discusses activity plan with heads of Educational Institutions

GY CORRESPONDENT
DODA, JULY 28

To discuss activity plan and preparations for celebration of NEP UTSAV 2025, Chief Education Officer (CEO) Mohammad Hafiz today convened a crucial virtual meeting with the Principals, Zonal Education Officers and Headmasters of educational institutions from across District Doda. The meeting focused on comprehensive planning and coordination for the upcoming week-long celebrations marking the fifth anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The Directorate of School Education Jammu has proposed a series of events from July 29 to August 2, 2025 under the theme, "Celebrating 5 Years of NEP 2020." The initiative aims to highlight the significant strides made in education since the policy's inception.

During the virtual session, the CEO emphasized the critical importance of showcasing the achievements, innovations, and ongoing transformations brought about by the NEP in schools in the district. He



urged all stakeholders to ensure the enthusiastic participation of students, teachers, parents and community members in the festivities. NEP UTSAV 2025 will feature dedicated thematic days designed to reflect the diverse aspects of the policy's impact: Community Involvement Day aims to strengthen the bond between schools and local communities through interactive engagements. TLM/FLN Day would focus on innovative Teaching-Learning Materials and foundational literacy and numeracy initiatives. Sports Day aims to promote physical fitness, discipline and teamwork

through various sporting events. Cultural Day would be held to showcase the rich cultural heritage and diverse talents of students through performances and exhibitions. Skill Day would highlight the advancements in vocational education, digital learning tools and pedagogical innovations. The meeting concluded with a collective commitment to make NEP UTSAV 2025 not just a commemoration, but a powerful reflection of the dedication towards building a learner-centric, skill-oriented and inclusive education system in the district.

DC Budgam chairs DLC meeting to discuss Change of Land Use cases

GY CORRESPONDENT
BUDGAM, JULY 28

A District-Level Committee (DLC) meeting regarding the conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes under the J&K Agricultural Land (Conversion for Non-Agricultural Purposes) Regulations, 2022, was convened today under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Budgam, Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat, here. All designated DLC members and concerned sectoral officers attended the meeting. The agenda of the meeting was to deliberate on pending land use conversion cases and to examine them in light of departmental remarks and statutory regulations. The committee discussed various cases related to set-up of different units such as, Establishment of Packaged Drinking Water Unit, Construction of Shops, Construction of Hotels, etc. DC directed all concerned

departments for prompt participation and responsiveness. He reiterated that such meetings must be conducted regularly to speed up decision-making and support planned infrastructure growth in the district. He directed all the concerned departments for forwarding the examined cases to the appropriate quarters along with consolidated departmental remarks for final decision under the framework of the J&K Agricultural Land Conversion Regulations. CEO Doodhpathri Development Authority, General Manager DIC Budgam, ACP, Chief Agriculture Officer, Chief Horticulture Officer DFO Pir Panjal Forest Division, Budgam, Executive Engineers of PWD (R&B) Budgam and Beerwah, Executive Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control Division, Budgam, Executive Engineer, KPDCI, Budgam, Executive Engineer, PHE Budgam, Pollution Control Board Officer, and other concerned officers were present in the meeting.