

# NIT Srinagar to host two-day 'Techvaganza 2024' Technical Fest from Oct 10



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar is gearing up to host its annual technical festival, Techvaganza 2024, from October 10 to 11 on the institute's campus.

The event will be organized by 'Student Gynkhana, and is expected to bring together students, tech enthusiasts, industry experts, and academia from all over the country to celebrate technology and innovation in a vibrant and

dynamic atmosphere. Dean of Students Welfare, Prof. Abdul Liman is the Chairperson of the event, with Dr. Malik Pervez Ahmad serving as the Convener. Dr. Iqra Altaf Gilani is the Coordinator, while Dr. Dinesh Kumar Rajendran and Dr. Janani L are the Co-Coordination. In a message, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. A Ravinder Nath said techvaganza has earned a reputation as a premier tech fest in the region.

"Such fests are not only a great way for students to showcase their skills but also an opportunity to learn from peers, industry experts, and the latest technological advancements," he said.

Institute's Registrar, Prof. Atikur Rehman described the two-day fest as an "electrifying experience" for attendees, aimed at engaging and inspiring students while promoting a vibrant and inclusive campus community.

"A wide range of workshops, seminars, and training sessions led by experts from various fields will be held during the event," he added.

Meanwhile the theme for this year's event is "Greener Innovation - Engineering a Sustainable World!", focusing on how engineering and technology can contribute to a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

It will feature a range of cutting-edge events, workshops, competitions, and exhibitions, all designed to inspire creativity and innovation in the tech world.

From hands-on sessions in emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and Web Development to thrilling coding competitions and hackathons, Techvaganza 24 promises to be an unmissable experience for participants of all levels.

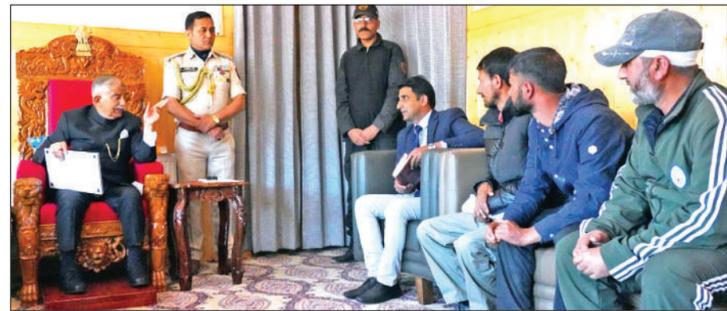
The fest will also include inspiring talks and keynote sessions by prominent figures from the tech industry, providing attendees with insights into the latest trends and advancements shaping the future, particularly with a focus on sustainability and green technology.

Participants will have the opportunity to interact with top professionals, network with like-minded individuals, and gain real-world knowledge that will prepare them for careers in tech.

In addition to workshops and talks, Techvaganza 24 will host a series of high-stakes competitions, including coding contests, robotics challenges, and gaming tournaments. This year, the event will also feature a first-of-its-kind drone soccer competition and stunning laser shows, setting it apart as an unparalleled experience in the world of tech fests.

Events including Remote Control Car Racing, Civil Engineering Quizathon, Bombsquad, Structure Battles: Bridge Building, Line Follower, Eeobuild Challenge, Science Experiments etc will be featured during the two day event.

## Delegations from Barchey and Shimsha call on LG Mishra



Barchey delegation calling on Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
LEH: A delegation from Barchey led by former BDC Sodh, Zakir Hussain and Nambardar, Barchey, Akbar Ali called on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (Dr) BD Mishra (Retd), at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Commissioner/Secretary to the HLG, Dr L Franklin; Secretary, PWD/I&FC, Michael D'Souza, and Chief Engineer, PWD, Mutalib were present in the meeting.

Zakir and Ali apprised the issue of the remodeling of the existing irrigation khul and mentioned that the said project has not been included in the project works. He also informed the LG about the Pithang to Chumik Ringmo Road and requested the LG's intervention in

the early completion of the Road. The LG asked Secretary, PWD/I&FC, Michael, to conduct a survey to assess the projects which need to be taken on a priority basis. He also asked Michael to ensure that infrastructure development work is not neglected in any areas of Ladakh. He also asked the Secretary PWD and Chief Engineer PWD to meet the delegates to look into the road construction issue.

A delegation from Shimsha, Kargil led by Nambardar, Shimsha, Mohd Ali called on the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brigadier (DR) BD Mishra (Retd) at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat. Commissioner/Secretary to the LG, Dr L Franklin, IAS; Secretary, PWD/PHE, Michael D'Souza, and Chief Engineer, PWD, Mutalib were present in the meeting.

Ali thanked the HLG for sanctioning the Shimsha link road and approving the lift irrigation project under SDP. He also raised issues such as making the BSNL tower erected in the village operational and making the proposed Jio tower functional to improve telecommunication connectivity; expediting compensation for the land acquired for project works, etc.

The LG asked Shafat Hussain from Jio to start work on the proposed installation of Jio tower in Shimsha at the earliest to resolve the issues of the villagers. He also asked Secretary, PWD, Michael to expedite the payment of compensation to the villagers.

## Three women candidates emerge victorious in J&K Assembly polls

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Three women, including former minister Sakeena Masood (National Conference), won elections on Tuesday to enter the male-dominated Assembly in Jammu and Kashmir.

While two women made it to the Assembly in 2014, three women, including Mehbooba Mufti, won elections in 2008.

Among them, the lone BJP female candidate Shagun Parihar won the Kishtwar Assembly seat, defeating veteran National Conference leader and former minister Sajad Ahmed Kitchloo.

Former Masood, who got 36,623 votes, won by a margin of 17,449 votes, defeating Gulzar Ahmed Dar, who polled 19,174 votes in the D H Pora Assembly seat in the Kulgam district, according to the ECI website. Sakeena had previously won the Noorabad seat (renamed as D H Pura seat) twice in 1996 and 2008, while her

father Wali Mohammad Itoo won this seat four times. Another National Conference candidate, Shamim Firdous, defeated BJP candidate Ashok Kumar Bhat by a margin of 9,538 votes in the Ihabbakadal seat of the Srinagar district. Shamim received 12,437 votes. Since 1977, the NC has won the Habba Kadal seat six times, with Shamim Firdous representing the constituency after victories in 2008 and 2014.

Twenty-nine-year-old Parihar garnered 29,053 votes, narrowly defeating Kitchloo by a margin of 521 votes. Kitchloo, who previously won the seat in 2002 and 2008 and his father three times, secured 28,532 votes. PDP's Firdos Ahmed 'Tak received just 997 votes, forfeiting his deposit.

"I bow before the people of Kishtwar for their faith in me and my party. Their support is deeply appreciated. I am humbled by their endorsement," Parihar told reporters after she was declared elected.

## Democracy revived in J&K where once reign of terror prevailed: Amit Shah

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said democracy has been revived in Jammu and Kashmir with the successful conduct of assembly election as promised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Congratulating people of the Union Territory (UT) for their participation in the polls, Shah also said for the first time since the advent of terrorism in the 1980s, the people of J&K witnessed such a transparent and peaceful election and participated in the elections in large

numbers. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir remember the 1987 assembly elections very well, when the Congress made a mockery of democracy by openly rigging the elections. Democracy has now been revived in the same Kashmir valley," he said in a series of post on X in Hindi.

Shah said Prime Minister Modi had promised the people of the country that peaceful and fair elections will be conducted in Jammu and Kashmir. "I am extremely happy that for the first time since the advent of terrorism in the 1980s, the people of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed such a transparent and peaceful election and participated in the elections in large numbers. "I heartily congratulate the Election Commission, Jammu and Kashmir Administration, security forces and the people of Jammu and Kashmir for these successful and historic elections," he said.

The senior BJP leader said in J&K, where under the Congress rule, there was only "reign of terror and democracy was being murdered every day", under the BJP rule, the great festival of democracy

was celebrated with full pomp and gaiety. "People elected their representatives without any fear of terror and panic. Heartfelt gratitude to Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji for this unprecedented change," he said. The elections to the 90-member J&K assembly was held after 10 years and for the first time after the abrogation of Article 370, which gave special status to the erstwhile state.

The three-phase polling was concluded on October 1 and the results were declared on Tuesday.

## Rattan Lal expresses gratitude massive public mandate to NC in Assembly Elections

people's unwavering faith in the National Conference's progressive and inclusive policies.

"We sincerely thank the people for standing with the National Conference. Under the guidance of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, the party will continue to work tirelessly to fulfill the aspirations of the people and stand firm on their expectations," he said.

The Provincial President reiterated that the National Conference, under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, is committed to the path of peace, progress, and equitable development.



NC leaders celebrating victory of party in Jammu.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of Jammu & Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), expressed heartfelt gratitude to the people of Jammu and Kashmir for their overwhelming support and trust in the party in the Assembly elections.

He credited the resounding success to the leadership of Party President Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah, whose vision and commitment to the people of J&K inspired confidence and solidarity.

In a statement issued here today, Rattan Lal Gupta emphasized that this massive mandate is a reflection of the

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NAGROTA: Sainik School Nagrota celebrated Indian Air Force Day with great zeal and patriotic fervour, paying tribute to the valour and dedication of the Indian Air Force.

The day began with a wreath-laying ceremony at the School's Shaurya Smarak, honouring the brave air warriors who have served the nation with distinction.

Vice Principal, Administrative Officer and School Cadet Appointment Cadet Brajesh Kumar carried out wreath laying ceremony at School War Memorial.

A special morning assembly was held at the school auditorium, where motivational documentaries showcasing the Indian Air Force's heroic operations were screened for the cadets. Cadets Anvi Mahajan and Cadet Path Mahajan delivered stirring speeches, highlighting the courage and sacrifices of the Air Warriors, which filled the hall with an atmosphere of pride and inspiration.

To mark the occasion, a cake-cutting ceremony was held, with officers and the junior-most cadet of the school participating. The event emphasized the unity

"This victory is not just for the National Conference but for every citizen who believes in the values of justice, dignity, and prosperity. We will ensure that this mandate translates into meaningful action, focusing on employment generation, development, and restoring the unique identity of Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Rattan Lal Gupta also acknowledged the efforts of party workers and leaders whose hard work and dedication were crucial to this electoral success.

"Our leadership, guided by Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, will ensure that the National Conference remains the voice of the people, especially the youth, women, and marginalized sections of society," he added.

The Provincial President reaffirmed the party's commitment to work for the upliftment of every section of society, ensuring that the trust placed in the National Conference is honored through sincere efforts and result-oriented governance.

## Sainik School Nagrota celebrates Indian Air Force Day



Sainik School Nagrota cadets and faculty members during celebration of Indian Air Force Day.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The individual performance of the Congress in the Jammu and Kashmir assembly polls has hit an all-time low as only one of its 29 candidates managed to win in the Jammu region, while its prominent leaders including two working presidents lost the elections.

The Congress is fighting the elections in a pre-poll alliance with National Conference (NC) and has fielded 32 candidates, mostly in Jammu region, compared to 51 by the regional party. Additionally, the CPI(M) and the Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP) have each been allocated one seat while both the Congress and NC had a 'friendly contest' on five seats.

In the Jammu region, the Congress has managed to win only the Rajouri seat as against a total of five seats in 2014. The Congress's Itikar Ahmed defeated his nearest rival, BJP's Vibodh Gupta, by a margin of 1,404 votes after securing 28,923 votes.

The NC did not field any candidate from the constituency according to the seat sharing agreement.

The performance of the Congress leaders in the Jammu region can be gauged from the fact that most of its senior leaders, including two working presidents, a former Pradesh Congress president and several ministers were humbled by the BJP rivals.

In his address, he also urged cadets to read about and draw inspiration from the lives of the nation's brave defenders, encouraging them to imbibe the spirit of service and sacrifice.

In a special message to the Nagrotaian fraternity, Capt (IN) Shibu Devasia, the Principal, extended greetings on the occasion and congratulated the cadets and staff for organizing such a meaningful event.

He emphasized the importance of remembering the selfless contributions of the Indian Air Force in safeguarding the nation's sovereignty.

The celebration concluded with a special lunch at the Cadets' Mess, where all cadets and staff members came together to commemorate the day with pride and unity.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) regarding restoration of wet land, a Division Bench of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court comprising Chief Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice MA Chowdhary directed Sr. AAG to file latest status with regard to demarcation as well as handing over four wetlands to Wildlife Protection Department, by or before the next date of hearing.

When the PIL came-up for hearing, DB observed that regarding, notified other wetlands namely Pargwal, Kukriani, Sangral and Nanga it is submitted that they are all reverine wetlands located near the Indo Pakistan Border.

These wetlands are not properly demarcated and handed over to the Department of Wildlife Protection by the revenue authorities and are being looked after by the Department of Wildlife Protection in respect of poaching related watch and ward incidences only.

As regards to nishandehi and handing over of these wetland, same has been taken up regularly with the Revenue authorities but nothing significant has been done till time in this regard. Regular demarcation and handing over requests are made by Wildlife Warden Jammu vide his office letter (a) No. WLWJ/1137-41

dated September 4, 2020, No. WLWJ/3495-97 dated September 9, 2021 and No. WLWJ/2215-17 dated July 21, 2023 to Dy. Commissioner, Samba for Nanga Wetland, and (b) No. WLWJ/2333-35 dated September 18, 2017, No. WLWJ/3550-52 dated December 12, 2017, No. WLWJ/1142-44 dated September 4, 2020 and No. WLWJ/2181-83 dated July 20, 2023 to Dy. Commissioner Jammu for Pargwal, Kukriani and Sangral Wetlands."

DB further observed that a perusal of above paragraph reveals that handing over of Parwal, Kukriani, Sangral and Nanga wetlands is not yet complete. The above paragraph is also suggestive of the fact that the issue regarding demarcation and handing over of the aforementioned wetlands has been taken up regularly with the Revenue Authorities but nothing has been done till today.

DB directed S.S Nanda, Sr. AAG is directed to file latest status with regard to demarcation as well as handing over of Parwal, Kukriani, Sangral and Nanga wetlands to Wildlife Protection Department, by or before the next date of hearing.

DB also directed S.S Nanda, Sr. AAG to file status with regard to Kousarnag lake and Salal Dam Reservoir situated in Reasi District by next date of hearing.

## JKSTIC Udhampur organises Science Model Exhibition



CEO Udhampur, Narender Mohan Suri inaugurating Science Model Exhibition.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: J&K Science, Technology and Innovation Council, Department of Science and Technology Udhampur, in collaboration with Government Higher Secondary School Tikri organised a grand Science Model Exhibition on the theme "A New Vision to Sustainability", here on Tuesday.

The exhibition was inaugurated by the chief guest of the event, Chief Education Officer Udhampur, Narender Mohan Suri.

District Coordinator J&K Science Technology & Innovation Council Udhampur, Shruti Khanna was the guest of honor on the occasion.

The objective of organizing the event was not only to inculcate scientific attitude but also to enhance the interest of students in Science and Technology. The students showcased static

## DB directives in PIL regarding restoration of wet land

and working models for teaching and learning scientific concepts. Government as well as private institutions of Tikri participated in the exhibition. The projects were displayed with the sub themes Rain water harvesting, solid waste management, plastic waste management, alternative sources of energy etc.

Principal GHSS Tikri, Monika Karlupia presented the welcome address.

The event concluded with the distribution of trophies, cash awards and certificates to the best performing schools.

The winners of the event were GHSS Tikri - First, Sainik Co-op School- Second, GMS Jakhar- Third. Consolation prizes were given to GMS Mand, GMS Lehn and GHSS Tikri.

The vote of thanks was presented by Sr. Lect, Anita Sharma.

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