

LG Ladakh calls on Dr Jitendra, discusses upcoming Night Sky Sanctuary

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NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brig. B.D. Mishra (Retd.) on Friday called on the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh at North Block here and discussed the progress of the upcoming India's first Night Sky Sanctuary in Ladakh, in addition to wide range of other issues pertaining to development of the region.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed the Lt. Governor that India's first Night Sky Sanctuary being set up in Ladakh will give a fillip to Astro tourism in the Union Territory and generate rev-



Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Brig B D Misra (Retd) interacting with Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh at New Delhi.

enue as well as livelihood. "Once the project is ready to become functional, on behalf of the Department of Science & Technology and CSIR, we will request Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inaugurate it at his convenient date," he added.

In December last year, the government had notified the proposed Dark Sky Reserve at Hanle village in Eastern Ladakh. Spread over 1,073 square kilometers, the Night Sky Reserve is located within

the Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary and adjacent to the Indian Astronomical Observatory, the second-highest optical telescope in the world, of Indian Institute of Astrophysics at Hanleat at an elevation of 4500 meters. "This Dark Sky Reserve is among only 15 or 16 of its kind in the world that will offer a spectacular view of the night sky. Because of its altitude and location across the Himalayas in the rain shadow area, this Night Sky

Reserve is the ideal place for star gazers almost throughout the year," said Dr Jitendra Singh.

The Night Sky Reserve aims to promote livelihood through eco-friendly activities of Astro tourism, spread awareness about astronomy and boost scientific research with reduced artificial light and wildlife conservation.

Dr Jitendra Singh said projects are afoot on developing food products from Leh Berry, the nutritionally rich and exotic fruit of the region.

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Science & Technology is promoting "Leh Berry" which is an exclusive food product of the cold desert and also a means of wide-ranging entrepreneurship as well as self-livelihood.

Dr Jitendra Singh referred

to PM Modi's visit to Ladakh in May 2018, wherein the PM had strongly advised for widespread cultivation of sea buckthorn, which is the source of "Leh Berry". He said, CSIR is also developing the harvesting machinery to be used by local farmers and Self-Help Groups, as currently only 10% of berry is being extracted from the wild sea buckthorn plant.

Dr Jitendra Singh said PM Modi accords highest priority to Ladakh and other remote regions of the country. "For the first time under the Modi government, Ladakh has been granted a University and an Engineering College and the Medical College has also started academic sessions since last year," he said.

The delegation also discussed strategic issues in the border region and local administrative matters.

BJP Human Rights Cell announces team for Jammu & Kashmir

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JAMMU: Parimoksh Seth, Convenor of J&K BJP Human Rights Cell announced Co-Convenors and Executive Member of the J&K BJP Human Rights Cell after consultation with J&K BJP President Ravinder Raina, BJP General Secretary (Org.) Ashok Koul, BJP All Cell Incharge Rakesh Mahajan and BJP All Cell Co-Incharge Ved Sharma. Arvind Khajuria, Ishan Sharma and Shahshi Pal Vaid are announced as the Co-Convenors of BJP Human Rights Cell.

Ankesh Chandel, Akshit Gupta, Vishal Mahajan, Shubam Sharma, Mohit Mahajan, Hitesh Gupta, Ravi Dogra, Rajesh Kumar, Nittin Gupta, Dinesh Verma, Varun Raina, Mohit Vaid, Ch. Nayaz Ahmed Naz, Gurdeep Singh Gill, Shamun Mahajan, Rahul Raja and Tejashwar Singh Chib are announced as the Executive Members of BJP Human Rights Cell.

TR Gupta Trust organises Langar



Trustees of TR Gupta Trust serving Langar in Jammu.

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JAMMU: TR Gupta Public Charitable Trust on Friday organised Langar at its Trust Building Marble Market Trikuta Nagar extension. About 450 people took Langar Prashad and many attended the free medical/ physiotherapy clinic which is being run regularly from Monday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm by multispeciality doctors in the Trust Building.

T R Gupta Founder Chairman of the Trust and

other trustees Dr Ashok Kumar Gupta, M M Gupta retired District & Session Judge, Kailash Langer, K B Jandial, Yash Pal Gupta and Er. Ajay Sabharwal were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, T R Gupta said this is the 4th Langar during this financial year & subsequently more such Langars would be organized in the near future for needy persons besides augmenting the new health facilities in the Trust's clinic.

JU's Economics Deptt organises symposium on 'Trends and Progress of Banking in India'



Participants and officials posing for a group photograph after symposium in Jammu.

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JAMMU: The Department of Economics, University of Jammu organized a symposium on "Trends and Progress of Banking in India" on Friday at Brig. Rajinder Singh Auditorium. A team of experts from Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai was there to deliberate on the issue. The team comprised of Shri Ashok Sahoo, Advisor, Dr. PS Rawat, Assistant Advisor, Snehal Harwadkar, Director, Ms. Arpita Agarwal, Manager, Ms. Sambhavi Dhingra, Manager from RBI.

The Head-In-Charge of the Economics Department, Professor Sunita Sharma talked about past glory of the Department and how it has been growing in leaps and bounds since then.

Dr. Manoj Bhatt coordinator of the event in his thematic address spoke about the resilience of Indian Banks even though banks in United States and Europe are falling. However, Dr. Bhatt said that banks have been a late starter as far as financial inclusion is concerned as post office due to its ubiquitous nature has been doing this work since long yet it is yet to get pride of place. He further raised concerns about the need for bank ATMs when white label ATMs are allowed moroso as cash disbursement is not part of the Bank Act and ATM of banks is more like bundled product and is technically not very correct. He also spoke about UPI and CBDC and the issue of privacy.

Ashok Sahoo, Advisor, Reserve Bank of India, Mumbai, set the ball rolling and talked about Banks and how Indian banking system is following BASIL-3 norms.

Arpita Agarwal, Manager, RBI talked about Global Banking Developments, Domestic Policy Environment and Operations and Performance of Commercial Banks. Ms. Sambhavi Dhingra, Manager, RBI spoke about the developments in Cooperative Banking and Non-Banking Financial Institutions. Dr. Snehal Harwadkar, Director, RBI concluded the discussion and presented a short talk on Research Internship at RBI for students and research scholars. Dr. PS Rawat, Assistant Advisor, RBI and Shri Ashok Sahoo answered all the queries of students, scholars and the colleagues. Dr. Shalini Sehgal presented a vote of thanks where she thanked the honorable guests. Shiny Gupta compared for whole of the event.

Ajatshatru, Ranvijay call on Swami Avdhesanand Giri Maharaj

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JAMMU: Spirituality is the backbone of Indian culture as it acts as the bedrock upon which the entire country is relying for its existence since ages and has established best practices of life forming the rich cultural heritage of the people of this land. This was said by Junapeethadhiswar A c h a r y a Mahamandleshwar Swami Avdhesanand Giri Maharaj during an interaction with the MK Ajatshatru Singh and Ranvijay Singh, Trustees of Dharmarth Trust J&K, here on Friday.

Ajatshatru Singh and Ranvijay Singh called on Swami Avdhesanand Giri Maharaj and held threadbare discussion on temples and shrines, and

rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir.

Avdhesanand Giri Maharaj, who is renowned spiritual Guru after getting the first hand information about the important religious destinations of J&K running under the aegis of Dharmarth Trust by the visiting Trustees, expressed satisfaction and applauded the over hundred years old Trust for rendering yeoman's service in providing state of art facilities to the devotees and also for preserving the culture and heritage of J&K. He assured wholehearted support in carrying forward this mission of Dharmarth Trust to care for the legacy of the past and great Indian traditions.



Trustees Dharmarth Trust, Ajatshatru Singh and Ranvijay Singh during a meeting with Avdhesanand Giri Maharaj.

Committed to fulfill PM Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas': Billawaria

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JAMMU: Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria visited Ward No. 73 Gadigarh Bhor Camp and started the work of boundary wall of tubewell which will prevent any untoward incident. Baldev Singh Billawaria, Deputy Mayor Jammu was accompanied by Arun Khanna, Chairman Public Health & Sanitation (JMC) and officials of the concerned departments.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria said that we are committed to fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath,

Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' by working towards creating a better, more equitable, and prosperous society for all. This vision encompasses the idea of inclusive growth and development, wherein all sections of society are included and benefit from the growth of the city. Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria also said that we are working hard to ensure that all citizens have access to quality infrastructure, services, and opportunities, while also making sure that the city's resources are utilized judiciously. During visit Deputy Mayor Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria also listened to the public griev-



Dy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria along with others starting development works.

ances and assured that all the necessary steps will be taken to improve the infrastructure

and he also informed that the development works in the area will be taken up soon.

Warm send-off accorded to officers of Traffic Police City Jammu



Send-off being accorded to officers of Traffic Police in Jammu on Friday.

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JAMMU: Senior Superintendent of Police Traffic City Jammu Faisal Qureshi on Friday presented a note of recognition to Inspector Rattan Lal Koul and Sub Inspector Daleep Singh on their superannuation after rendered 39 years of unblemished service in J&K Police.

Raj Pal Singh, Additional SP Traffic City Jammu congratulated them for having a successful career and wished them healthy and blissful post retirement life. On the occasion, DySP Traffic City North Farah Nishad recalled the services of the retiring officers and said that the officers worked with dedication throughout their career, who earned name and fame by the dint of their diligence, commitment and exemplary devotions towards their duties.

Insp Rattan Lal Koul & SI Daleep Singh thanked

all ranks of police for their love and cooperation in their service career. They said that they were proud to be a member of J&K Traffic Police.

Unfurl party flag at booth level during Foundation Day on 6th April: Rekha Mahajan

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JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu district south meeting was held under the vibrant leadership of BJP Jammu District south President Rekha Mahajan, scrutinizing upcoming programs in all organizational mandals and constituencies. She said Jammu District South is set to observe the 43rd Foundation Day of the Bharatiya Janata Party and clenched a meeting regarding forthcoming programs to be executed by Jammu district south at the party office, Trikuta Nagar Jammu. The meeting was chaired by Rekha Mahajan in the esteem presence of senior BJP leader and former Dy CM Kavinder Gupta, Former

Minister Sham Choudhary, District Prabhari Ayodhya Gupta, Former MLC Vikram Randhawa, Seh Prabhari Jammu North Vinay Gupta, District General Secretary Pushpinder Singh and Akash Chopra, Vistarak Ashok Naidu comprising of District office bearers, Mandal Presidents and Morecha Presidents.

BJP leader Rekha Mahajan, While addressing the meeting, threw light on the organizational matters. She said Bharatiya Janata Party was set up on April 6, 1980, by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, LK Advani, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, working for the creation of the country while realizing the ambitions of Pt. Deen Dayal



President BJP Jammu South, Rekha Mahajan and other senior leaders during a meeting in Jammu.

Upadhyay and Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee. She urged all party functionaries to celebrate the upcoming party extravaganzas on the 6th of April "Sthapna Divas" (Foundation Day) and on the 14th of April "Samarth Divas" (Ambedkar Jayanti) with enthusiasm and great Zeal with common abundances in every corner of Jammu district south.

Speaking about the preparations for the event on 6 April, Rekha instructed BJP cadres to unfurl the party flag at the residence of every booth President in presence of Senior leaders and prominent of the booth.

In his speech on the occasion, Kavinder said that BJP has planned to propagate Ambedkar's message on his Jayanti which is set to cele-

brate on the 14th of April as a mark of Samarth Divas which will be celebrated throughout the country, and party workers would take out Ambedkar's Shobha yatra's and garland Ambedkar statues across the Jammu region with enthusiasm. He lauded that BJP's Karyakarta is always dedicated to the progress and protection of the motherland. Kavinder

intensified that all the party programs are to be done with the involvement of the ground-level activists and the common masses. "Ground-level programs ensure that the party ideology reaches the public and public's expectations reach the party leadership", Kavinder added.

Shamlal Choudhary also discussed in length a slew of programs for government and politics that will help it make inroads into Jammu. Sharma, while addressing the meeting interacted with the karyekartas and sought first-hand information about various organizational workouts. He also emphasized taking the populace-friendly policies and programs of the party and Narendra Modi led the Union Government to every

nook and corner of Jammu.

Rekha Mahajan also announced the team for Samajik Nyay Saptah in which Akash Chopra District General Secretary, Jitendra Salathia Yuva Morecha District President, Umesh Kumar SC Morecha District President, Vijay Dogra District President OBC Morecha, Divya Jain Mahila Morecha District President, Mohd Rafiq ST Morecha District President, Salman Khan Minority Morecha District President Gourav Sharma as IT incharge for the pakhwada.

District Prabhari Ayodhya Gupta, Former MLC Vikram Randhawa, and Seh Prabhari Jammu North Vinay Gupta also spoke at length on the occasion.