

Khattar, Dr Jitendra convene meeting to discuss 100 GW Nuclear Energy strategies

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NEW DELHI: Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Union Minister Incharge Atomic Energy Dr Jitendra Singh today jointly convened a high-level meeting to discuss the 100 GW Nuclear Energy strategies.

The meeting follows up on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious target of expanding India's clean energy basket and reaffirming the country's commitment to achieving Net Zero emissions.

During the meeting, a thorough review was conducted on the roadmap to increase India's nuclear energy capacity from the current 8.8 GW to 22 GW by 2032, through the addition of 14 GW from various ongoing and upcoming projects.

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted the government's landmark



Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Union Minister Incharge Atomic Energy Dr Jitendra Singh jointly convening a high-Level meeting at Parliament House, New Delhi.

initiative to open the nuclear sector for private sector participation, emphasizing its pivotal role in strengthening India's energy security.

He also noted a strong and vibrant response from industries towards the Bharat Small Modular Reactor (SMR) program, leading to an extension of the Request for Proposal

(RFP) submission deadline to 30th September 2025 to encourage wider participation.

The outcomes of the 4th Consultative Committee meeting held in April were fast-tracked to ensure timely implementation.

Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Dr. Jitendra Singh outlined several key directives to

expedite progress, including streamlining regulatory clearances, standardizing documentation, optimizing processing timelines, emphasizing generic proposals, synchronizing licenses, and investing in technical upgradation and capacity building.

Dr. Jitendra further stressed the government's commitment to handhold-

ing and creating awareness among private sector players, many of whom were pleasantly surprised by the opening of the nuclear sector to private participation.

The Power Minister reiterated the importance of adhering to timelines and accelerating projects as per the established roadmap.

Senior officials present at the meeting included Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) & Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission (AEC); Shri Pankaj Agrawal, Secretary, Power; Shri Gurdeep Singh, Chairman and Managing Director of NTPC Limited; Shri Bhuwan Chandra Pathak, Chairman and Managing Director of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL); along with other senior officials from the Departments of Power and Atomic Energy.



Sanskrit is backbone of Indian culture, we must revive it: Sham Lal

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JAMMU: Dedicated to promoting Devavani Sanskrit and reviving Indian culture and Vedic traditions, Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Raipur (Thather), Jammu, successfully concluded the month-long Sanskrit Month - 2025 at Mishriwala in the Jammu North Assembly constituency.

The grand closing ceremony was held in an atmosphere of dignity and devotion, graced by Chief Guest Sham Lal Sharma, MLA, Jammu North; Special Guest Surinder Bhagat, MLA, Marh; Distinguished Guest Suresh Sharma, former judge and member of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Scholarly Guest Prof. R.D. Sharma, former Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu; Keynote Speaker Shakti Pathak, Chief Trustee, Chudamani Sanskrit Sansthan, Basohli; and presided over by Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of the Trust.

The event commenced with traditional Vedic chanting and lamp lighting. Highlights included free plant distribution, a free medical camp by the AYUSH Department, cultural performances like Dogri folk dances, devotional songs by Sonali Dogra, Vaidic recitations, and exhibitions showcasing Dogra culture and agriculture.

Mahant Rohit Shastri presented a detailed report on the month-long activities, which included Sanskrit conversation workshops, nameplate installations, Vaidic recitations, medicinal plant distribution, medical camps, and Sanskrit awareness events in schools, colleges, temples, and public



Sham Lal Sharma, MLA, Jammu North with other dignitaries at a programme.

areas.

Prominent individuals from various fields were honoured with mementoes and certificates, including Brijesh Sharma (SP Rural), Dr. Satya Priya, Dr. Vishu Gupta, Dr. Praveen Yograaj, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Dr. Vinod Khajuria, Rahul Sahay, Devyani Rana, M.L Verma, Vinay Jamwal, Satish Jandial, Akhil Gupta, Lucky Sharma, Narinder Trehan (President, J&K Arya Samaj Representative Sabha), Baldev Singh (Vice President, High Court Bar Association, Jammu), and Dr. Suresh (Deputy Director, AYUSH Department, Jammu).

In his keynote address, Shakti Pathak said Sanskrit is the soul of India's spiritual identity and is being studied globally. He lauded Mahant Rohit Shastri's dedication to Sanskrit revival. Surinder Bhagat emphasized Sanskrit's role in promoting cultural unity and assured continued government support.

Suresh Sharma highlighted Sanskrit's foundational role in India's justice and governance systems, urging its reintegration into daily life. Prof. R.D. Sharma called Sanskrit the most scientifically advanced lan-

guage, encompassing vast knowledge systems beyond religious use.

Sham Lal Sharma called Sanskrit the backbone of Indian culture and said that if we wish to bring our glorious past to life, we must revive Sanskrit. He lauded the Sanskrit Month organized by Shri Kailash Trust as a strong step towards nation-building, saying that such events inspire intellectual awakening and cultural consciousness essential for the unity and integrity of the country.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Prof. Sharad Chandra Sharma. The ceremony saw enthusiastic participation from scholars, youth, and community leaders.

Notable attendees included K.D Singh, Surinder Sharma, Pawan Khajuria, Sunil Sharma, Nigam Gupta, Naresh Raina, Ankush Sharma, Rakesh Gandotra, Uttam Chand Sharma, Kuldeep Kumar, Bhushan Jamwal, Pratap Singh, Rajan Sharma, Bhuvnesh Mehta, Sunil Singh Raipuria, Yash Seth, Rajinder Seth, Rajdev Singh, Vijay Kumar Sharma, Dev Dutt Shastri, Rakesh Singh, Dr Vivek Arya and Anjali Sharma, among others.

AIIMS Jammu hosts NAMS conclave on Healthcare Challenges and Policy



Prof. (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED & CEO, AIIMS Jammu posing with other dignitaries at a programme.

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JAMMU: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Vijaypur, Jammu, hosted a two-day Task Force Conclave of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India) bringing together leading medical experts, policymakers, and researchers from across the country.

The event was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, who emphasized the urgent need for structured policy implementation and public sensitization about various emerging healthcare issues.

Prof. (Dr.) Meeta Gupta, Dean (Academics), AIIMS Jammu, was the Nodal Officer for the NAMS

Conclave. The conclave was organized by the Departments of Physiology, General Medicine, CTVS, Ophthalmology and Nephrology, in collaboration with NAMS.

Participants engaged in thought-provoking sessions that addressed a wide spectrum of healthcare topics.

Experts presented the NAMS Task Force recommendations for improving healthcare delivery in high-altitude regions, especially for patients with pre-existing medical conditions.

An interactive case discussion highlighted the complex challenges of managing obesity in the Indian healthcare setting, while another session

focused on the prevention and management of Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) as per national guidelines.

A key highlight of the Conclave was the presentation of the NAMS Task Force Report outlining recommendations to enhance efficiency, transparency, and ethical governance in the organ transplantation system across the country.

The Conclave featured distinguished guest speakers, including Lt. Gen. Dr Velu Nair, President-Elected, NAMS; Prof(Dr) Y.K. Chawla, Ex-Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh; Dr. Vipin Koushal, Medical Superintendent, PGIMER, Chandigarh; Dr. S.P. Singh, Professor & Head, Department of Physiology, Amrita School

of Medicine, Faridabad; Dr. Latika Mohan, Professor & Head, Department of Physiology, AIIMS Rishikesh; Dr. J.S. Thakur, Professor, Community Medicine, PGIMER, Chandigarh; and Prof. (Dr). Naval K. Vikram, Professor, Medicine, AIIMS New Delhi. The insightful deliberations strongly aligned with AIIMS Jammu's ongoing efforts to foster a collaborative ecosystem focused on advancing patient care and promoting evidence-based medical practice.

The Organising Committee included Dr. Neena Sharma, Dr. Udit Gupta, Dr. Gaurav Gupta, Dr. Taranpreet Kaur, Dr. Sartaj Ahmad Guroo, Dr.

Radhika, Dr Bhavani Raina and Dr. Asheesh Kumar.

The organizers highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, research-backed policymaking, and public awareness in addressing evolving healthcare challenges. They also discussed the roadmap for developing a comprehensive transplant program, envisioning the initiation of transplant services at AIIMS Jammu.

The event concluded on an inspiring note, with participants motivated to convert shared knowledge into impactful action-further reaffirming AIIMS Jammu's role as a centre of academic excellence and progressive healthcare leadership.

LG Kavinder calls for boosting winter tourism, safeguarding Monasteries, upgrading road network

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LEH: Ladakh receives substantial numbers of tourists in summer months, but it is equally important to promote winter tourism to boost the footfall of tourists, particularly foreigners, as the majority of people from Ladakh are engaged in the tourism industry. Promote homestays to boost rural tourism, protect ancient monasteries possessing rich artefacts by installing CCTVs and digitise centuries-old scriptures. Also, ensure the script used in light and sound shows is vetted by history professors to provide factual information to tourists.

These were some of the directives issued by Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, during the introductory-cum-review meeting of the Department of Tourism and Culture, UT Ladakh, at LG Secretariat.

Among the other departments reviewed by Lt Governor during the day-long meeting included the Housing and Urban Development, Public Works Department (PWD), Mechanical Engineering, General Administration Department (GAD) and Inspector General of Registration.

In the morning session, Administrative Secretary, Sanjit Rodrigues, highlighted key projects, functions and schemes of the Housing and Urban Development



Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta chairing a meeting at Leh on Friday.

Department, including the upcoming GIS-based Master Plan for Leh/Kargil, proposal to upgrade the Municipal Committee to Municipal Council in Ladakh.

Highlighting the decline in footfall of tourists over the last two years, the Administrative Secretary highlighted various initiatives being taken by the Department to boost infrastructure, along with policy and incentives schemes such as Ladakh Homestay Policy 2023, STP Incentive Scheme 2024, among others. He also highlighted efforts being made to preserve museums and construct or upgrade new libraries at the sub-divisional level.

Post-lunch, Administrative Secretary, Michael D'Souza, IAS, informed the Lt Governor about various infrastructure projects carried out by PWD for better connectivity and promoting sustainable development, including the status of nine tunnels and roads/bridges being built under PMGSY,

CRIF, Special Development Package and State Capex, etc.

He informed the Lt Governor that various works, such as snow clearance, maintenance of heating spaces, oxygen plants, etc., are being carried out by the Mechanical Engineering Department.

Framing of Recruitment Rules, notification of exams, conducting recruitment exams through Ladakh Subordinate Services Staff Selection Board (LSSSSB), service-related matters of GAD were highlighted in the PPT presentation given by the Administrative Secretary.

In his concluding remarks, the Lt Governor emphasised early work on cleaning legacy waste in Kargil along with ensuring proper waste collection and segregation for environmental protection. He directed that sewage treatment plant (STP) projects constructed under AMRUT 2.0 can be done in phases to deal with financial crunches,

but there must be no compromise with their quality. He also asked the Executive Officer of Municipal Committee Leh to promote the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) Urban 2.0 scheme so that more people come forward to avail the benefit, keeping in mind the number of new municipal wards added in Leh town, which might see a surge in demand for housing loans.

The Lt Governor stated that utmost importance must be given to the construction, upgradation, and maintenance of strategic roads for the movement of troops throughout the year.

He emphasised the importance of maximising government employee registration on the Karmayogi Bharat portal to enhance civil service capacity building through the iGOT Karmayogi online platform for training. He emphasised filling up gazetted and non-gazetted posts for the efficient functioning of the UT Administration.

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SRINAGAR: In continuation of government's intensified campaign to ensure food safety and quality standards across Jammu and Kashmir, Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Satish Sharma, today led a comprehensive inspection drive in various parts of Srinagar. The inspection covered Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns, fair price shops, hotels, restaurants and street food vendors.

The Minister was accompanied by Director, FCS&CA, Dr. Owais Ahmad, senior officers from the Food Corporation of India, Food Safety Department and Legal Metrology Department.

Satish Sharma began his visit at the FCI godowns, where he reviewed the storage infrastructure, stock handling procedures and sanitation standards. He stressed that every stage of grain handling-from unloading to storage to distribution-must strictly adhere to prescribed quality control norms. There is absolutely no room for negligence. The safety and quality of these supplies is non-negotiable," he said.

He directed the officials to conduct regular internal audits, ensure pest control



FCS&CA Minister, Satish Sharma inspecting FCI godown.

and proper ventilation and maintain accurate stock records to prevent wastage and pilferage.

The Minister then visited multiple fair price shops, where he interacted with shopkeepers and beneficiaries under the Public Distribution System (PDS). He checked stock registers, verified availability of ration and inspected the quality of grains and other commodities. He emphasised the need for complete transparency in distribution and warned that any irregularities in quantity, quality, or pricing will invite immediate suspension of licenses and legal action.

Given recent reports and seizures of adulterated and unsafe meat in Kashmir, Satish Sharma carried out surprise inspections of hotels, restaurants and street vendors. These checks focused on meat

sourcing, storage conditions, hygiene practices in kitchens and the freshness of raw materials being used.

Concerned by the threat such practices pose to public health, the Minister issued a strong warning."Those involved in the storage, usage, or trade of adulterated meat are putting lives at risk. This is not a minor violation-it is a criminal act. I want to make it absolutely clear: the government will take strict and immediate punitive action against all offenders, including sealing of premises, cancellation of licenses and prosecution under relevant food safety and public health laws."

He also condemned the practice by some violators of dumping spoiled meat in abandoned places to evade penalties, calling it an unacceptable and dangerous tactic that will not shield them from legal con-

sequences.

Satish Sharma directed the enforcement squads to maintain heightened vigilance, especially in sensitive areas, and to carry out round-the-clock surprise inspections of high-risk establishments. He instructed that supply chain tracking be used to identify and dismantle entire networks engaged in the adulterated meat trade, from suppliers to retailers.

The Minister urged the citizens to remain alert and report any suspicious or unhygienic food practices to the authorities."This is a fight we will pursue relentlessly. Protecting public health is our top priority, but it requires community participation. Together, we can ensure that no unsafe or adulterated food reaches our people's plates," he said.

Reiterating the Government's zero-tolerance policy towards food adulteration, Satish Sharma assured that the enforcement campaign will continue in a sustained and intensified manner across all districts of the Union Territory.

"We are committed to eradicate unsafe food products from our markets and ensuring that every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir has access to safe, quality food," the Minister emphasized.