

LG Vinai Saxena inaugurates four new initiatives of Ladakh Police

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Lieutenant Governor, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, today inaugurated four new initiatives of the Ladakh Police aimed at strengthening public safety, emergency response, tourist assistance and technology-enabled policing in the Union Territory. The initiatives include the launch of Jullay 2.0 – Ladakh Police Tourist Assistance App; introduction of 20 e-Challan devices by the Traffic Wing; expansion of the Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) 112 network through five new Rescue Beats; and opening of Tourist Facilitation Centres-cum-Check Posts at North Pulu in Nubra and Serchu in Changthang.

Jullay 2.0 brings tourist assistance, safety services, weather information and other essential facilities onto a single digital platform. Its live notification system will provide tourists with real-time alerts, advisories and updates, particularly important in Ladakh where weather and road conditions can change rapidly. The app also enables tourists and local residents to lodge complaints and report incidents directly to the Police, including through anonymous reporting. The app has been rolled out for Android devices on the Play



Store, with its availability on the App Store expected shortly.

The introduction of 20 e-Challan devices marks a significant step towards digitising traffic enforcement. Integrated with VAHAN, Sarathi and the e-Challan system, the initiative will create a digital trail from identification of a violation and verification of vehicle and licence details to challan generation and receipt. Centralised digital records will also help monitor violations, identify repeat offenders and traffic-violation hotspots, and enable more evidence-based traffic management. The larger objective is to improve road safety and protect human life.

The ERSS 112 network has been expanded with five new Rescue Beats at Nimoo, Nyoma, Sankoo, Panamik and Tangtse, in-

creasing the number of Rescue Points from 11 to 16. The network is supported by 16 Emergency Response Vehicles of Ladakh Police, along with four additional ERVs of the Fire Department and UTDRE, equipped with GPS and Mobile Data Terminals. During July 2026, ERSS Ladakh received 3,375 calls and recorded 117 registered events, with an average response time of approximately 20 minutes.

The new Tourist Facilitation Centre-cum-Check Post at North Pulu, Nubra, has been established to strengthen police presence and tourist services in the remote area. Similarly, the Tourist Facilitation Centre-cum-Check Post at Serchu, Changthang, has been completed under the SDP through CPWD.

Taken together, the ini-

tiatives mark a significant advancement towards technology-driven, responsive and people-focused policing in Ladakh.

The Lieutenant Governor commended the Ladakh Police for introducing initiatives that are tailored to the Union Territory's unique geography, climate, connectivity challenges, high-altitude terrain and growing tourist footfall. "These initiatives demonstrate that Ladakh Police is not merely adopting technology for modernisation, but is using it to meet the specific needs of our people and visitors. By combining technology with infrastructure and trained manpower, these measures will make policing more responsive, transparent and accessible, particularly in our remote and strategically important areas," said L-G Saxena.

Apprenticeship Mela held at Govt Polytechnic College Reasi

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In a major push toward youth empowerment and skill development, a grand Apprenticeship Mela was successfully organized today at the Government Polytechnic College Reasi, in active collaboration with the Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Reasi under the directions and guidance of J&K Skill Development Department and District Administration Reasi. The event witnessed an overwhelming response, drawing more than 500 aspiring candidates from across the region looking to kickstart their professional careers. The primary objective of the Mela was to bridge the gap between local youth and the industry, bridging technical education with real-world employment opportunities. A central focus of the event was raising awareness about the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) 2.0, ensuring students know how to leverage



government platforms for career growth. The event was graced by Sh. Krishan Lal (ADDC Reasi) who highlighted the government's commitment to reducing unemployment and urged the youth to maximize the benefits of such interactive industry platforms and register for NAPS 2.0 scheme. Sh. Satyawar (General Manager, NHPC) emphasized the growing demand for skilled technical hands in major public and private sector projects. Dr. Arun Bangotra (Principal, Government Polytechnic College Reasi) welcomed the guests and stated that the

college remains dedicated to providing practical, industry-aligned exposure to its students. Er. Rajesh Banotra (Superintendent, ITI Reasi) spoke on the structural benefits of apprenticeship training in transforming students into industry-ready professionals. To ensure the candidates could seamlessly navigate the regulatory onboarding, a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation on the NAPS 2.0 registration process was showcased. The step-by-step visual guide walked the students through profile creation

, document verification, and applying for active apprenticeships online. The Mela provided a vibrant networking ground, featuring active participation from leading public and private establishments.

Top employers present at the venue to interact with candidates were NHPC, Creative Engineers, Great Elegants, Madan Electrical etc. The event concluded on a high note, with organizers reaffirming their commitment to hosting similar career-oriented drives in the future to continuously support the local student community.

GDC Ramnagar Organises Educational Botanical Tour to Marta, Gadsair Ramnagar to Study Rare Plant Diversity

RAMNAGAR, SEP 12: To bridge the gap between classroom learning and field research, the Department of Botany successfully conducted an extensive educational botanical tour to Marta, Gadsair Ramnagar. The highly academic excursion was organised under the visionary guidance and leadership of Principal Prof. Daljeet Singh Manhas, and expertly assisted by senior faculty members Dr. Ashni Devi (HOD, Botany) and Dr. Kewal Kumar.

The primary objective of the field trip was to familiarise students with diverse ecosystems, providing them with hands-on field experience in plant identification, collection methodologies, and ecological conservation.

During the intensive field studies, Dr. Ashni Devi and Dr. Kewal Kumar interactively taught the student cohort about lower and higher plant groups. The faculty deeply



acquainted the students with the structural adaptations of Bryophytes and Lichens thriving in microhabitats, as well as the evolutionary significance of various Gymnosperms integrated into the regional landscape.

A key highlight of the tour was the supervised, sustainable collection of plant specimens. Students were trained in standard field herbarium techniques, documentation, and preservation. The fac-

ulty members further enriched the students' knowledge by explaining in detail the ethnobotanical uses of the local flora. Students learned how indigenous communities historically utilised these wild plants for traditional medicine, culinary purposes, and cultural practices. Speaking on the successful culmination of the tour, Principal Prof. Daljeet Singh Manhas stated, "Such experiential field trips are indispensable for

young botanists. Observing these plant communities in their natural habitats instils a profound understanding of biodiversity and fosters a strong commitment toward global environmental conservation."

The immersive educational tour concluded with students compiling detailed field reports, enriching both their academic curriculum and their practical understanding of plant sciences.

Army conducts stitching course for women at Mahore in Reast

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As part of Operation Sadbhavana and its continued efforts towards skill development and economic empowerment of the local population in remote areas, the Indian Army commenced a 14-day Stitching Course for local women's at Mahore, Reasi on 11 September 2026.

The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from women and youth of Mahore and nearby villages. The skill development programme has been designed to provide participants with practical training in stitching and tailoring, enabling them to acquire vocational skills and explore opportunities for self-employment and livelihood generation.

During the course, participants will undergo structured practical sessions covering basic



stitching techniques, sewing machine handling, measurement and cutting, garment preparation, finishing methods and elementary designing skills. The training aims to enhance their technical proficiency, confidence and ability to undertake stitching-related work independently.

The programme focuses

on promoting self-reliance and financial independence by equipping participants with sustainable livelihood skills. Emphasis will be laid on quality workmanship, efficient utilisation of resources, time management and practical application of acquired skills.

The course will conclude with a practical as-

essment and interactive session to review the progress of participants. Through this initiative, the Indian Army reaffirms its commitment towards empowering local communities, promoting skill development and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities under Operation Sadbhavana.

Saroori Takes Up Power, Smart Meter and Employment Issues During Kuchhal Visit

KISHTWAR, SEPTEMBER 12: Senior Congress leader and former minister G. M. Saroori today undertook an extensive visit to Kuchhal in Tehsil Mughalmaidan, where he met local residents and interacted with several delegations representing different sections of the area. During the visit, Saroori heard the grievances of the people and discussed a range of issues affecting their daily lives, particularly electricity supply, smart meters, power bills, employment and development.

Addressing the gathering, Saroori said that people were now being compelled to assess the difference between the promises made to them during the last elections and the situation prevailing on the ground. He said the National Conference had promised 200 units of free electricity, but instead of receiving the relief that

was promised, people were increasingly concerned about electricity bills and the installation of smart meters.

Saroori said that the issues of smart meters and electricity bills had figured prominently during the election campaign, when people were given assurances that they would not have to face financial hardship on account of power bills. Referring to the commitments made by the elected MLA of Inderwal, he said that the people had been assured that their electricity-related concerns would be addressed. However, nearly two and a half years into the present government, he said, people were still waiting for these assurances to be fulfilled.

He said the large-scale installation of smart meters had further added to the apprehensions of ordinary consumers, many of whom were already struggling with rising household ex-

penses. The government, he said, must come forward and clearly explain what had happened to the promises made regarding free electricity and smart meters and provide people with a transparent account of the policy being followed. Turning to the issue of unemployment, Saroori said that the youth of the area were particularly disappointed by the lack of meaningful employment opportunities.

He stressed that the aspirations of young people could not be ignored and questioned why adequate opportunities were not being made available to local youth. Development, he said, should not merely be measured through infrastructure or official announcements but must also result in employment, livelihood opportunities and greater economic security for local families.

Army conducts Awareness Lecture on Cyber Crime in Ponch

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As part of its continued efforts towards community awareness and digital empowerment, the Indian Army conducted awareness lectures on Cyber Crime at Khanetar and Potha in Poonch. The initiative aimed to sensitise local residents and youth about the growing threats associated with online frauds and the importance of safe and responsible use of digital platforms.

During the sessions, participants were educated about various forms of cyber crimes, including online financial frauds, UPI scams, phishing and OTP attacks, fake government and banking calls, social media impersonation, identity theft and cyber bullying. Army personnel also highlighted precautionary measures such as safeguarding personal information, avoiding suspicious links, maintaining cyber hygiene and following re-



sponsible online practices.

Special emphasis was laid on the timely reporting of cyber fraud incidents through the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal to facilitate prompt action by authorities and minimise financial losses. The

participants were also briefed about basic cyber laws and their role in creating a secure digital environment.

The interactive sessions witnessed enthusiastic participation from locals and youth, including 20 participants at Potha, who

appreciated the initiative. Through such awareness programmes, the Indian Army continues to contribute towards the digital safety of citizens while further strengthening the bond of trust and cooperation with the local population.