

Jammu & Kashmir Digest

A Review of Developments in J&K



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- Gearing Up for G20 Summit of 2023
- Hundreds Take Part in Yoga Day Celebrations
- Kashmir Has its own Version of Coke Studio

More News and Analyses



Gulmarg's snow-capped landscape viewed from a spa inside a luxurious hotel. – Promotional pic

TOP STORY

Jammu and Kashmir has been chosen as one of the venues for G20's 2023 summit to be held across several states and Union Territories of India. World leaders are likely to convene in the union territory (UT) on the heels of India assuming the forum's presidency on 1 December, 2022. This will be the first such summit held in the country.

A five-member committee headed by the Principal Secretary to the Indian government, Housing and Urban Development department, will spearhead the coordination efforts regarding the summit. This will be the first high-profile event conducted in the UT after the 2019 constitutional reforms. This platform will be crucial in dispelling unfounded claims made by Pakistan regarding the ground reality in Kashmir.

It will also be invaluable in showcasing the growing normalcy and progress achieved by the local and central administrations in a short span. However, this opportunity will prove most fruitful for the local populace as it will allow international investors to tap into potential opportunities for trade and infrastructural development.

The UT has been booming with business opportunities for non-residents after August 2019 and the scope will widen with the congregation of world leaders next year. It will also hand India a crucial diplomatic victory. – [The Tribune](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [Deccan Herald](#)

GEARING UP FOR G20 SUMMIT 2023

Event to Stimulate Investment, Infrastructure Development

MEA STATEMENT



No Need to Speculate At This Stage: MEA

Days after China and Pakistan voiced concerns over reports of India planning to hold events relating to G20 in Jammu and Kashmir, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has said there is no need to speculate on the issue at this stage. The MEA Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that a large number of events will be held across India as part of its presidency of the grouping. Therefore, he stressed: "There is no need to speculate at this stage." — [Kashmir Observer](#)



File Picture

HEALTH AND FITNESS SECTION

Hundreds Take Part in Yoga Day Celebrations

Jammu and Kashmir Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha participated in the International Yoga Day 2022 on 21 June 2022 at the banks of the Dal Lake in Srinagar.

The Lt.-Governor, along with Union Minister of State Kapil Patil and senior officials of administration joined hundreds of people at the Dal Lake to perform Yoga.

Performing various ‘asanas’ himself, he urged the people of Jammu and Kashmir to embrace the ancient practice.

In his speech at the event he said, “I urge all to embrace Yoga as an integral part of life for a holistic approach to health and well-being.

The theme for this year, ‘YogaForHumanity’, emphasizes the message of universal brotherhood in trying times following the global pandemic.

“This invaluable gift to humanity is being used as a therapeutic intervention for various disorders and for bringing equilibrium of body, mind and intellect,” Mr Sinha said in his message.

Similar events were organized in various parts of the Union Territory on the International Yoga Day by the army, paramilitary forces, police, civil defence, schools and other educational institutions. — [Greater Kashmir](#)



FIRST HOGAM ATHLETICS COMPETITION HELD

Conducted under the supervision and with the support of the Chinar Corps, India’s Hogam Federation organised its first Hogam athletics competition in Kashmir. It began with a sprint from Dachigam National Park (located 22 km from Srinagar) to Chandpora Cricket Ground in Srinagar. The sprint was 3km long and participants also faced 20 obstacles.

Such category of sports rely on various landscapes, including mountains and forests, to acclimatise the participants in coping with challenging conditions, and develop physical fitness. – [Kashmir Observer](#)



Scene 1, Take 1 of the first ever Kehwa Beats

CULTURE SECTION

KASHMIR HAS ITS OWN VERSION OF COKE STUDIO

Overflowing with musical talent, Kashmir now has its version of Coke Studio, called Kashmir Originals. As an independent label, it aspires to provide a platform to budding and passionate musicians and singers countrywide. This has been perceived by its founder, Sanna Bhatt, as a crucial way of showcasing Kashmiri folk music and multi-faceted aspects of its multicultural society worldwide.

The label's initial season, referred to as Kehwa Beats, has attempted to emulsify Punjabi, Rajasthani, and Kashmiri folk songs with hip-hop and pop music to reach a much broader audience than one would anticipate. Six songs are being featured in the first season, three of which have been licensed on its official YouTube channel. Moreover, Zartasha Zainab, one of the rare Kashmiri female singers, has received widespread acclaim for her cover of Asha Bhosle's Lalas Wantai.

Describing her journey of selecting the perfect combination of songs and singers to be the face of her launch, she explained that "We contacted popular singer and music composer Kabul Bukhari for the composition of songs. Overall, it was teamwork to decide which songs to choose and which singers would collaborate to sing a particular song so that we could bring the best pairs suited for the songs." – Rising Kashmir



Credit: Rising Kashmir

Woman Entrepreneur Ruhaab Meer Revives Cultural Cuisine

The revival of a century old Kashmiri cultural cuisine has been undertaken by a female entrepreneur, Ruhaab Meer. By reintroducing Shahi Sheera through her food unit, Khyen Khoardan by Ruhaab, she has restored the Kashmiri cuisine's rich heritage. The unit was launched in 2018.

Besides her family members, she has also financially empowered five women who are employed by her at the unit. – Greater Kashmir