

Jammu & Kashmir Digest

A Review of Developments in J&K



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- Pre-G20 Summit Meet in Kashmir of 27 states
- Aragam to soon be India's largest 'book village'
- Over 200 movies, series shot in J&K last year

More News and Analyses



G20 SUMMIT SECTION

TOURISM WORKING GROUP MEET TO HOST DELEGATES FROM 27 NATIONS

The G20 tourism working group meeting to be held from May 22 to 24 in Srinagar, the capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has filled the local population with great joy.

They anticipate that the meeting will generate increased employment prospects and contribute to the overall development of the region. The G20 meeting serves as a platform for the largest economies worldwide to convene and discuss crucial matters affecting the global economy.

With G20 member states accounting for over 80 percent of the world's GDP, their decisions hold substantial influence across the global economic landscape. The decision to hold the meeting in Srinagar serves as a testament to the region's potential and the resilience displayed by its people in the face of adversity.

The government of Jammu and Kashmir has been exerting relentless efforts to ensure a smooth and comfortable stay for the delegates. The G20 meeting presents an excellent opportunity for the delegates to witness the region's captivating beauty and experience the rich Kashmiri culture. Additionally, the G20 meeting allows the people of Kashmir to exhibit their talents and skills. Delegates will have the chance to witness some of the world's most exquisite handicrafts, appreciating the painstaking efforts invested in creating them. The people of Kashmir hope that the meeting will attract more investment to the region, generate additional job opportunities, and contribute to its overall development. — *Greater Kashmir, Live Mint*

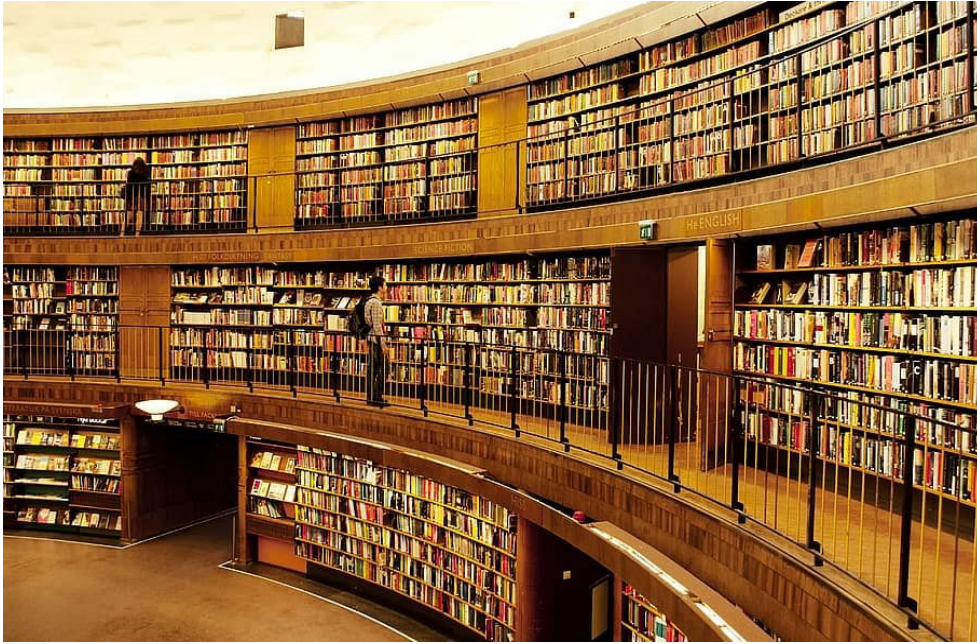
TWG MEET (22-24 MAY 23)



Lt-Gov. Manoj Sinha will address international delegates attending the G20 pre-summit on Tourism Working Group (TWG) scheduled for Srinagar from May 22-24, 2023.

Delegates from around 27 non-G20 member states, five to six foreign-based NGOs and Tourism Secretaries from 12 States/Union Territories are reportedly participating at the event.

The event will be held at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar. — *Kashmir Life*



Representative Picture

A Pune-based NGO based in Pune, 'Sarhad', plans to transform Aragam village, located in the Bandipora district of North Kashmir, into the largest book village in India through a partnership with the Jammu and Kashmir government.

The NGO has submitted a proposal and held discussions with the district administration to establish the book village in Aragam.

According to the NGO, the 400 houses of the village will house books in nearly six languages. There will be a library building that will house a plethora of books ranging from fiction to non-fiction. In addition, visitors will discover books throughout the village and will have leisurely and scenic spaces to read.

There are also plans to construct a room for literary discussions and cultural shows, featuring rotating displays of artwork from various artists. Moreover, audiobooks will be available for visitors to listen to while walking or hiking.

The NGO representative also mentioned that Sarhad has envisioned Apple Tourism and Border Tourism initiatives in Jammu and Kashmir. They believe that integrating the Book Village into existing tourist circuits will attract more visitors and raise awareness about this literary haven. Notably, the village already has over six schools, two hospitals, and one panchayat, making it feasible to make books accessible in these locations. — *Greater Kashmir, ANI News*

EDUCATION SECTION

ARAGAM IN NORTH KASHMIR TO BE INDIA'S LARGEST 'BOOK VILLAGE'

HI-TECH 'NADAKKAVU' SCHOOLS

The J&K government has signed an MoU with Faisal and Shabna Foundation in Kozhikode to establish the 'Nadakkavu' model of modernised schools in the Union Territory.

Prestigious institutions like Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), IIM Kozhikode and NIT Calicut are involved in the implementation of this projects at various levels. The model comes with world class amenities, such as well-equipped science labs, hi-tech classrooms, computer labs, IT rooms, gymnasium and stadia for basketball, volleyball, badminton, astro-turf hockey and football grounds etc.

Over ten years since its inception, more than 1,200 government schools in Kerala and Tamil Nadu have adopted this model. A few schools in West Africa have implemented the Nadakkavu model. — *Daily Excelsior*



Superstars Shahrukh Khan and Taapsee Pannu recently shot for Raju Hirani's upcoming Bollywood movie 'Dunki' in Jammu and Kashmir

Jammu and Kashmir will draw film industries in a major way, as the government has identified and is developing 300 hitherto unexplored scenic destinations for film shootings.

With the revival of film tourism in the state, the Union Territory aims to attract filmmakers and production houses to shoot their movies, web series or serials on satellite television channels in J&K.

“We are projecting 300 destinations for film shooting so that the production houses can choose any destination for their shooting. The government will facilitate them in all possible ways,” said Syed Abid Rasheed Shah, Administrative Secretary of the J&K Tourism Department.

Last year, more than 200 films, web series and serials were shot in the Union Territory.

The government has ensured a streamlined system which facilitates the shooting of movies through a convenient process for gaining proper permission and regulatory requirements through a one-stop centre.

The government has also developed an online portal to facilitate the production houses for their shooting in Jammu and Kashmir.

“Major film stars were recently here in Kashmir for a week and shot across the valley. I give an open invitation to all of them to shoot their films here, Shah said. — *The Hindustan Times*

CINE-TOURISM SECTION

OVER 200 MOVIES, SERIES SHOT LAST YEAR; 300 NEW SHOOTING SPOTS

ANTI-DRUGS KASHMIR MOVIE



A Hindi movie titled ‘Welcome to Kashmir’ having an all-Kashmiri star cast is now ready for release. It is the first movie of its kind in which native Kashmiris have been involved in all aspects of production, including writing, direction and acting.

The story of the movie is said to deal with issues facing women’s empowerment and the problem of drug abuse.

Mateena Rajput is playing the female lead, while Ahmad Shahab is the male lead of the movie. — *Rising Kashmir, Daily Excelsior*