



Haryana Governor Visits Srinagar's Vachar Nag Temple

Why in News?

Recently, **Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya** visited the ancient **Vachar (Vichar) Nag Shiva temple in Srinagar** and joined **Kashmiri Pandits** in a special puja on the occasion of [Navreh, the Kashmiri New Year](#).

Key Points

- During the visit, he released a special calendar to commemorate 5,100 years of the '**Saptarishi system**'.
- The **Vachar (Vichar) Nag temple** was closed in the 1990s when Pandits left the Valley in the wake of rising militancy.

Navreh

- It is celebrated on the first day of the **bright half (Shukla Paksha)** of the month of **Chaitra (March-April)** in the Kashmiri Hindu calendar.
- It is the Sanskrit word '**Nav-Varsha**' from which the word '**Navreh**' has been **derived**.
- Kashmiri Pandits dedicate the Navreh festival to their **Goddess Sharika** and pay homage to her during the festival.

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