

## **NEAT - 2021**

On 5<sup>th</sup> of January, in a meeting under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Union Tourism Minister, Shri Prahalad Singh Patel, a decision was taken to celebrate National Tourism Day at Kargil on 25<sup>th</sup> January and the task was entrusted to IITTM and IISM. Accordingly, IITTM and IISM Gulmarg planned a National Level Event of Winter Sports despite a short notice to do so. Col J S Dhillon, consultant IISM immediately went to Ladakh to liaison with the local administration and to initiate the preparations. A temporary office was setup at Kargil and necessary arrangements were made related to the activities of the NEAT-Kargil.

The team contacted and invited various ice hockey and ice skating clubs across the country to participate in the program. Despite short notice all Logistics and accommodation arrangements were made for them at Kargil. On-site preparations were made for the sports activities by making the Ice hockey rink operational as well as making the area conducive for other adventure sports activities. Later the events commenced as per the schedule with an overwhelming response. Another team under the leadership of Prof Alok Sharma, Principal I/C IISM & Director IITTM reached Ladakh to manage the event related activities. Around 12 Ice Hockey Teams and 37 Ice Skating participants registered for the events.

The Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Shri Prahalad Singh Patel arrived Kargil on 24<sup>th</sup> January, a day before National Tourism Day and visited the Mulbekh Monastery along-with the Snow Bound Slopes at Naktul, Kargil and interacted with the tourism stakeholders.

On 25<sup>th</sup> January, Hon'ble Union Tourism Minister attended and graced the occasion as the chief guest during the valedictory function organised by IITTM & IISM on National Tourism day. On that day, Honourable Minister for Tourism, Shri Prahalad Singh Patel and the Local Government announced the opening of IISM Kargil center at Naktul. Trophies, Medals and Prizes were given to the winners and Participants. Prizes included Ice Hockey sticks, Skate bags and Rucksacks, which have a functional utility and were well appreciated by the players and coaches. Besides this the team IITTM also Promoted Tourism Education Programs, IITFC program and conducted Sap activities at Kargil.