

**JANSAMPARK**  
PRINTING PRESS

BYE PASS SIDHRA, JAMMU  
Mob. 9419104223

**DENGUE**  
WARNING SIGNS

Many people with dengue can be cared for at home with adequate rest and hydration. But, if you experience any warning signs, go immediately to the nearest medical center.

Watch out for dengue warning signs!

A drop in body temperature accompanied by any of the following symptoms:

- Severe and continuous abdominal pain
- Diarrhoea
- Persistent vomiting
- A rapid rise in temperature
- Disorientation
- Bleeding from gums or nose, blood in stool, urine or vomit
- Redness on the skin

If you have any of these symptoms, go to the nearest medical center IMMEDIATELY.

# JINDRAH IMAGES

DAILY | JAMMU | VOL NO: 12 | ISSUE NO: 178 | PAGES: 12 | PRICE: Rs 2/- | RNI NO: JKENG/2013/49471 | POSTAL REGD. NO. L-29/JK-497/25-27 | dailyjindrahimages.com/Epaper.php | jindrahimages123@gmail.com

## Op Sindoor proved there is no safe haven for Terrorists, enemies of India: PM Modi

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
GANGAIKONDA CHOLAPURAM, JUL 27

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday showed the world the way India would respond if its sovereignty was attacked and that the cross-border military offensive has created a new self-confidence across the country.

Operation Sindoor also proved that for enemies and terrorists targeting India, there is no safe haven, Modi said in his address at an event here to honour the Chola emperor Rajendra Chola.

The event marks the birth anniversary of the iconic Chola king Rajendra Chola-I which is celebrated as the 'Aadi Thiruvathirai' (the birth star of the king is Thiruvathirai in the Tamil month of Aadi festival).



Regarding Operation Sindoor, "the world saw how India responds if someone attacks its security and sovereignty."

"Operation Sindoor proved that for enemies of India, for terrorists, there is no safe haven. When I came here from the helipad, the 3-4 km distance suddenly became a roadshow, and everyone was praising Op Sindoor."

"Operation sindoor has created a new awakening, a new self-confidence across the country. The world has to realise India's strength," the PM asserted.

Modi further said the names of emperors Raja Raja Chola, and his son Rajendra Chola-I are synonymous with India's identity and pride and announced that grand statues would be built for them in Tamil Nadu. These statues will be "modern pillars of our historic awakening," he added.

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## Alumni must empower and guide Youth: Lt Governor Manoj Sinha

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 27

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed the Mega Alumni Meet-2025 at University of Kashmir.

Chief Justice of India, Shri Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai; Union Minister for Parliamentary & Minority Affairs, Shri Kiren Rijiju; Judge Supreme Court, Shri Justice Surya Kant; Judge Supreme Court, Shri Justice Vikram Nath; Judge Supreme Court, Shri Justice Pankaj Mithal; Judge Supreme Court, Shri Justice Rajesh Bindal; Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Shri Justice Shri Arun Palli; Chief Minister, Shri Omar Abdullah; Former Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court, Shri Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey; Vice Chancellor, Kashmir University, Prof. Nilofer Khan and distinguished alumni of University of Kashmir graced the occasion.



In his address, the Lieutenant Governor extended his felicitations to the Alumni and lauded the University of Kashmir for nurturing brilliant minds who have achieved tremendous accomplishments across the domains and are driving societal transformation worldwide.

"Alumni is not just a network of former students, but a network of human potential which is dedicated towards nation building. Today, we are honoured to have among us the alumni who have truly made the nation proud. They are a living testament to the 77-year legacy of Kashmir University," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon distinguished Alumni to come forward to strengthen the

higher educational institutions of J&K and use their expertise and network in various sectors to contribute to peace and progress of the UT of Jammu Kashmir.

The tradition of selfless sharing is an integral part of our culture. I believe that, in the era of globalization, alumni connections are the most effective strategy for the growth of any institution and region.

University of Kashmir must create an institutional mechanism for the alumni which will provide them with an

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## Deputy CM visits family of slain youth in Jammu, calls for impartial probe

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 27

Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, who on Sunday visited the house of a youth killed in police firing recently, called for an impartial inquiry into the incident.

He asked the senior police officers to fulfil promises made to the bereaved family, including Rs 35 lakh compensation and a job, and sought registration of a murder case against the erring personnel.

Parvez Ahmad (21), a Gujjar hailing from Nikki Tawi area of Jammu, was killed in a crossfire when police were allegedly chasing drug-peddlers in Sattwari area on Thursday. Ahmad's killing has sparked protests by the community, with his family accusing the police of

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## SIA files chargesheet in 46 Kg heroin seizure case in Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 27

The State Investigation Agency (SIA) has filed its first chargesheet in a narco-terror case involving the seizure of 46 kg of heroin in Jammu and Punjab in August last year, exposing the role of Pakistan-based proscribed outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), an official said on Sunday.

The case originated with the arrest of Sartaj Singh, a resident of Tarn Taran in Punjab, along with more than 33.580 kg of heroin from the Bus Stand area in Jammu, based on

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## J&K statehood must be restored for constitutional respect: Farooq Abdullah

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JUL 27

Veteran politician and president of National Conference, Farooq Abdullah, has said if the Constitution of the country has to be respected, statehood for Jammu and Kashmir should be restored and that the recent Pahalgam terror attack could have been prevented had the local government been in charge of the security.

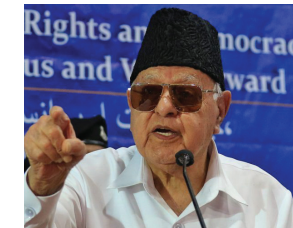
"It's not a question of being hopeful," Abdullah said in reply to a query about the growing demand for the restoration of statehood in the Union Territory.

"If the Constitution of India is to be respected, states are never converted into UTs. A UT is converted into a state. The tragedy is that they converted a state into a UT. And what did they achieve?" he told PTI here recently.

Abdullah recalled that "promises" were made when Article 370 was abrogated six years ago on August 5, 2019, that "terrorism would disappear".

"Has militancy disappeared? Or has it increased?" he said, adding, "The Centre should answer this in the parliament".

Abdullah said that the people were



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## Lieutenant Governor addresses inaugural session of Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra in Jammu

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha today addressed the inaugural session of Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra, at Abhinav Theatre, Jammu.

The first batch of the holy pilgrimage will be flagged off tomorrow morning on Monday July 28 at 6 am from Yatri Niwas Bhagwati Nagar.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor extended his greetings and best wishes to the devotees, Baba Amarnath and Budha Amarnath Yatri Nyas, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Bajrang Dal, and other stakeholders involved in the preparations and management of the yatra.



The Lieutenant Governor welcomed the devotees from across the country to pay obeisance to Lord Shiva.

"The sacred pilgrimage to Budha Amarnath Ji Temple at Poonch has great spiritual significance. Divisional Commissioner, Tourism Department, District and Police Administration, and all the stakeholder departments and organisations have made

adequate arrangements for the safe, comfortable and hassle-free pilgrimage," the Lieutenant Governor said.

More than 3.77 lakh devotees have paid their obeisance at the holy cave during the ongoing Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra. I am proud that we are collectively discharging our responsibility, he said.

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## 30th July 'NISAR' launch to upscale ISRO's international collaborations: Dr Jitendra

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, JUL 27

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh said here today that the 30th July "NISAR" launch from Sriharikota will upscale ISRO's international collaborations.

Briefing the media, the Minister for Science and Technology disclosed that the much-anticipated launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite mission is scheduled for July 30, 2025 at 17:40 hrs from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. As the first joint Earth observation mission between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the United States' National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the event marks a defining moment in the journey

of Indo-US space cooperation as also in ISRO's overall international collaborations, he said. The mission will be launched aboard India's GSLV-F16 rocket.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, who has been monitoring the mission closely, said the launch reflects the maturing of strategic scientific partnerships and India's emergence as a credible global player in advanced Earth observation systems.

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## CM hails Kashmir University's legacy at Mega Alumni Meet-2025

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
SRINAGAR, JULY 27

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today commended the University of Kashmir for being an eminent institution of learning and for the achievements of its alumni, stating that the institution has matched the best universities in the country.

He was addressing a distinguished gathering at the Mega Alumni Meet-2025 held at the University of Kashmir campus.

The event was also addressed by Chief Justice of India, Justice B R Gavai, Union Minister for Parliamentary & Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Vice Chancellor of University of Kashmir Prof. Nilofer Khan, Former Chief Justice of J&K High Court Justice



Ali Mohammad Magray presented the welcome address to the dignitaries. The mega event also witnessed presence of several Judges of the Supreme Court of India invited as distinguished guests, Chief Justice of J&K and Ladakh High Court Justice Arun Palli, Judges of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh, former Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, Member of Parliament

Mian Altaf Ahmad along with a large number of alumni from across disciplines.

In his address, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah highlighted the fundamental indicators of an academic institution's success.

"There are two primary criteria by which we should assess any educational

institution. The first direct unlocking system has been installed at Dinanagar railway station in Northern Railway's Jammu division, a step that is expected to improve efficiency and safety in railway operations, a senior official said.

Divisional Railway Manager, Jammu, Vivek Kumar said the system, installed on Saturday, directly controls the railway signalling and point machinery, thereby reducing the risk of human error.

The direct unlocking system ensures that the safe passage of trains is ensured, thereby reducing the risk of accidents, he said, adding that the system also streamlines the movement of trains, and improves the efficiency of train operations.

"We are proud to

## Jammu Railway division gets first direct unlocking system to improve efficiency, safety in Operations

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 27

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"This is an important step towards making



Indian Railways modern, safe and efficient," he said. Meanwhile, a spokesperson of the railways said Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing rapid upgradation of rail tracks and coaches after Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off two Vande Bharat Express trains between Katra and Srinagar, connecting Kashmir with the railway network of the country, on June 6.

"Over and above the

new train services, opening of this (Kashmir) line has made a fundamental change in the ability to maintain rail tracks in the valley. The railway link has enabled movement of track maintenance machines to Kashmir," the spokesman said.

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He said maintenance is now being done with modern machines, unlike manual maintenance earlier. This is leading to significant improvement in track quality, he added.

To strengthen track maintenance activities in Kashmir, a tamping machine has been deployed since early June, which packs the stone chips under the tracks to ensure proper alignment and stability of the tracks.

It has so far tamped approximately 88 km of track in the valley, he said, adding this has

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## Fresh batch of over 2,000 pilgrims leaves Jammu base camp for Amarnath

**JI NEWS SERVICE**  
JAMMU, JUL 27

The 25th batch of 2,197 pilgrims, including 365 women, left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here on Sunday to pay obeisance at the holy Amarnath cave shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

The pilgrims, including 49 sadhus and 10 sadhvis, left for the twin base camps of Nunwan-Pahalgam in Anantnag and Baltal in Ganderbal in separate convoys under tight security arrangements in the early hours of the day, they said.

While 1,624 pilgrims are heading for Pahalgam base camp in a convoy of 62 vehicles, 573 pilgrims onboard 38 vehicles have preferred the Baltal route, officials said. The 38-day annual

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# IIM Jammu launches 'Bandhan' - A First-of-its-Kind Cultural Immersion Initiative in India Celebrating the Spirit of Jammu and Dogri Heritage

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the visionary leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, inaugurated a deeply meaningful and transformative cultural initiative titled 'Bandhan - A Cultural Immersion with Local Families of Jammu' at the Mandapam Auditorium, Jagti Campus on 26th July 2025. This first-of-its-kind initiative marks a pioneering step in promoting emotional connection, social learning, and celebrating the vibrant Dogri heritage of the Jammu region. The Inaugural ceremony was graced by Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu along with other noted dignitaries.

Rooted in the heart of Jammu, the City of Temples, Bandhan is a first-of-its-kind cultural immersion initiative launched by IIM Jammu to promote social sensitization, community bonding, and celebration of Dogri culture and heritage. This unique program offers students a transformative learning experience by bridging academic rigor with grassroots realities. To begin with, 412 first-year MBA students will participate, with students grouped in 4-5 and hosted by local families. More than 100 families have already shown interest, and 100 families joined the institute today for the formal launch, showcasing overwhelming community

support for this powerful cultural movement.

The inauguration began with a traditional tilak, garlanding, and arti ceremony, expressing mutual respect and welcome, followed by a campus tour that introduced families to IIM Jammu's academic facilities, including the Nalanda Library, modern classrooms, and the Vedanta MDP Centre.

Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, warmly welcomed all attendees, calling Bandhan a long-awaited dream realized—"a day of joy, pride, and purpose." Reflecting on the remarkable journey of IIM Jammu, he shared how the institute has grown from just 47 students in 2018 to becoming one of the fastest-growing third-generation IIMs in the country. He graciously acknowledged IIM Jammu's remarkable milestone as the only second- and third-generation IIM to receive both the EFMD Program Accreditation for its MBA Program and the BGA Institutional Accreditation in the same year—underscoring commitment to academic excellence and global standards. He expressed gratitude to the Government of India and Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for their unwavering support in building a strong educational ecosystem in the region of Jammu and Kashmir with IIM Jammu working in close synergy alongside IIT Jammu and AIIMS Jammu.

Describing Bandhan

as more than a cultural exchange, Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, called it "a soulful bridge that connects people, not just places—a step toward nation-building through empathy and tradition." He positioned IIM Jammu as Mini India with Global Vision—deeply rooted in Dogra heritage and aligned with the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat mission. He proudly shared that more than 100 families have shown interest in this unique program to promote Jammu's Dogri culture and heritage. To begin with, 412 first-year MBA students of IIM Jammu will participate in this initiative. More than 100 families are joining today in the launch of the program, reflecting the enduring spirit of Dogra hospitality and cultural pride. "Bandhan stands for—where hearts meet, stories unfold, and the soul of India is reflected through cultural amalgamation," he concluded.

The ceremony was graced by esteemed dignitaries who lauded the initiative. Padma Shri Dr. Jitendra Udhamprai, a renowned Dogri scholar, brought poetic elegance to the ceremony as he spoke of Jammu as a land where culture lives in every home and tradition. Reflecting on India's freedom and the national flag, he highlighted the unity in diversity that defines the nation. He urged the youth to carry forward the spirit of Duggar Pradesh, reminding them that "the



future belongs to those who remember their roots while dreaming of the skies." Lt. Gen. Rakesh Kapoor (Retd.) President, J & K Ex Services League commended IIM Jammu and the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu calling it one of the country's finest institutions. He emphasized the need for deeper cultural immersion and suggested adopting widows and their children as a social initiative. Citing heroes like Gen. Zorawar Singh and Brig. Rajinder Singh, he urged integration of Jammu's military legacy into academic discourse.

Shri Sojanya Sharma, Former Civil Servant spoke of Jammu's rich heritage—from the tales of Jambu Lochan to historic routes like Katra-Jagti—and invited students to explore the cultural and spiritual soul of the region. Maj. Gen. Sunita Kapoor (Retd.), Executive Member, J & K Ex Services League highlighted Duggar Pradesh's traditions of

revering women, such

as Kanya Pujan and Jashakti Puja, emphasizing the region's cultural balance of Shakti and Shiva. Padma Shri Dr. S.P. Verma lauded Bandhan as a bridge across generations and cultures, drawing parallels with Gandhian ideals and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. He emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting Dogra heritage and announced his intent to internationalize the Bandhan initiative by involving Dogras living abroad, deepening global community engagement and cultural exchange.

Shri Praveen Pargal, President, Laghu Udyog Bharti, J & K praised Bandhan's vision and urged students to celebrate local festivals like Lohri and visit fairs like Baba Jitto Mela and Chamyal Mela and explore sites like Akhnoor Fort. Dr. Alka Sharma, Women Activist described Bandhan as a bond of love and belonging, inviting students to experience Dogra hospitality and traditional dishes like saag, and rajma chawal. "You'll

become one of us," she said warmly. Shri Rakesh Wazir, Chairperson, PHD Chamber of Commerce (Jammu Region) and President, Hotel and Restaurant Association, Katra, praised the visionary approach of Director, IIM Jammu and IIM Jammu's world-class infrastructure, noting it surpasses even five-star experiences and proposed hosting 100 students for immersive cultural and culinary experiences. He echoed the vision of Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji, emphasizing that true love lies in sacrifice and community spirit.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean, Faculty and Research, IIM Jammu, described Jammu as both the City of Temples and a rising hub of higher education. He highlighted IIM Jammu's rapid growth, introduction of diverse programs, and pursuit of global accreditations, including moving towards the prestigious Triple Crown International Accreditation. Emphasizing local collaboration, he reaffirmed the institute's

commitment to blending Indian values with global academic standards.

As part of Bandhan, students of IIM Jammu engage in a thoughtfully curated series of experiential activities that immerse them in the cultural and social fabric of the region. The initiative begins with home visits, where students are warmly welcomed into local households, sharing authentic home-cooked meals and engaging in heartfelt conversations that reflect the warmth and hospitality of Dogra culture. Through story-sharing sessions, students and host families exchange personal journeys—stories of resilience, values, and aspirations—building powerful emotional bonds rooted in mutual respect.

Students also participate in a variety of cultural activities, immersing themselves in traditional rituals, folk music, crafts, and culinary practices, gaining hands-on exposure to the rich heritage of Jammu. These experiences are followed by reflective sessions, including group discussions, presentations, and written reflections, where students internalize and articulate the insights gained during their cultural immersion.

The impact of this initiative is both deep and far-reaching. It fosters empathy and cultural awareness, enabling students to understand the nuances of local traditions and socio-economic realities. Bandhan also strengthens the connection between

IIM Jammu and the local community, reinforcing mutual goodwill and cooperation. Most importantly, it contributes to the personal growth of students, nurturing humility, gratitude, and a broadened worldview—hallmarks of socially responsible and culturally grounded leadership.

Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu delivered the vote of thanks, reaffirming Bandhan as a platform where the boundaries between classroom and community dissolve to create holistic and transformative learning. The ceremony ended with a standing ovation for the dignitaries and the first of its kind unique Bandhan initiative, followed by the National Anthem. This was followed by a group photograph. The master of the ceremony was Shri Ankush Varma, CIO, Srinagar Campus, IIM Jammu who extended a warm welcome to all the dignitaries and everyone present on the occasion.

Through Bandhan, IIM Jammu reaffirms its commitment to nurturing intellectually sound, culturally rooted, and emotionally grounded leaders. The initiative aligns strongly with the spirit of Viksit Bharat, as envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and stands as a model for how education can become a tool for human connection, cultural preservation, and mindful leadership.

## Prof. Uma Kanjilal appointed as First Woman Vice Chancellor of IGNOU

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) proudly announces the appointment of Prof. Uma Kanjilal as its Vice Chancellor, marking a historic milestone as she becomes the first woman to hold this prestigious position in the University's history. She has been serving as the Acting Vice Chancellor since July 25, 2024.

With over 36 years of distinguished service in the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system, Prof. Kanjilal brings a wealth of academic leadership, digital innovation, and institutional knowledge to the helm of one of the world's largest open universities.

Before assuming the role of Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Kanjilal served as Pro Vice Chancellor (March 2021 - July 2024). Her long-



standing association with IGNOU spans various key leadership roles, including Director, Centre for Online Education (2019-2021); Director, Inter-University Consortium for Technology Enabled Flexible Education (2016-2019); Director, Advanced Centre for Informatics and Innovative Learning (2012-2013); Director, School of Social Sciences (2007-2010); and University Librarian (2004-2006).

A Professor of Library

and Information Science since 2003, Prof. Kanjilal is nationally recognized for her expertise in e-learning, ICT in libraries, digital libraries, and multimedia courseware development. She is currently the National Coordinator for SWAYAM and SWAYAM PRABHA, flagship digital education initiatives of the Ministry of Education, Government of India.

Her global contributions include a Fulbright Fellowship at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (1999-2000), consultancy for the Commonwealth of Learning, and digital education work for UNRWA in Jordan. She has received multiple accolades including the Manthan Award for e-Education, an Australia-India Council Grant, and a DANIDA Fellowship.

Prof. Kanjilal has been instrumental in expanding IGNOU's digital infrastruc-

ture and online education offerings. Her leadership as the Principal Investigator of the National Virtual Library of India Project and her current role as Coordinator of IGNOU's Project Management Unit under NMEICT Phase-III reflect her deep commitment to digital empowerment in education.

Her appointment comes at a crucial juncture as IGNOU continues to implement the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, contributing toward the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 through inclusive, flexible, and technology-enabled education.

IGNOU congratulates Prof. Uma Kanjilal and looks forward to her continued leadership in guiding the University into a future of academic excellence, digital transformation, and inclusive growth.

## Sadguru's grace transforms life beyond Karma

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Today, Sadguru of Sahib Bandagi Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, while delighting the congregation with the nectar of his discourses in Ranjdi, said that even if millions of suns rise, there cannot be light in life without Sadguru. If you see your earlier life, you will feel that you were crazy. Now the name has changed you.

Niranjan has created the structure of the world in the same way. Sahib is saying that whom should I explain, the whole world is blind. Everyone is feeling the same hunger. Everyone is entangled in the business of earning a living. Everyone has similar tendencies. But why don't everyone seem the same. Some have compassion, some have forgiveness, some have satisfaction.

Till now I have been seeing that all the vehicles



that have been made are almost the same. There is a little change. All living beings are the same. The difference that is visible is from the behavior. Every person's world is made. His own world is made from the point of view. Everyone's point of view is different. You are being affected by your food habits, situation and place. Some are black, some are fair, God has not made this. Dharamdas ji is saying that O Lord, when everyone is the same, then

what is this that someone is calm, someone is angry. What is this? Man's food, his method of worship is due to geographical situation. Otherwise all humans are the same. Everyone experiences happiness and sorrow in the same way.

Sahib is telling Dharamdas ji that one who comes from the yoni of lion, jackal, vulture etc., becomes ferocious. Because the past sanskars come with him. You see that whenever someone gets sorrow, he says that brother, what should I say, this is the earning of past karma.

Like a writer first writes a script, then it is churned to find out what is right and what is wrong. After that its characters are searched to find out which artist can work well in it. In this way, this whole work is made according to a plan. Now all the saints have said that there is a web of karma here. This whole world

is the land of time. That is why the saints said, O swan, come to the immortal world of the soul. There is no death there. There is no time there.

You say that the feet of a child are visible when he grows up. How your child will be, it will be known from childhood itself. He brings with him some earnings from the past. The account of a person of at least 100 births is with him.

We have got these things according to the situation and according to the past deeds. Even relations etc. are according to the deeds. The rest of this has nothing to do with our soul. Everyone's bundle is red.

You must be experiencing one thing that after attaining the name, your nature changed. Even if you were ferocious, you became good. Your mind itself changed. The name has such a great power.

Sadguru removes the filth of past lives.

## Great initiative by various clinics for the free health camp in Jammu East: Sawhney

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

A major free multi-specialty health checkup camp was organized at Chowgan Slathia, Ward No. 1, Jammu East on Sunday, offering a wide range of free medical facilities to the residents of the area. The health camp was an initiative supported by the Chowgan Slathian Welfare Committee and SIBA Event Management & Innovations Cooperative Ltd in association with several reputed health organizations and clinics, including Sharp

Sight Eye Hospitals, Path Square Labs, Embrace Dental, the Indian Association of Physiotherapists Women Cell, the Indian Association of Physiotherapists, Emphoria Clinic, Dr. Arora, and Dr. Balvinder Singh (MBBS MD Medicine, Physician Specialist). The initiative was organised by Ram Magotra, Senior Vice President, DCC Jammu (Urban). Medical services such as general checkups, physician specialist consultations, eye checkups, dental checkups, physiotherapy, general tests like blood pressure and sugar

screening, and free medicines were provided.

Senior Congress leader and ex-MLA Jammu East, Shri Yogesh Sawhney, also visited the camp and interacted with doctors, volunteers, and beneficiaries. He appreciated the noble initiative and praised the collective efforts of the organizing bodies and medical professionals involved. "This is a commendable step toward community welfare. At a time when healthcare costs are rising, such camps are a true service to humanity, especially for underprivileged



citizens who may not have easy access to medical services," Sawhney said. He lauded the initiative of Ram Magotra and expressed

hope that such people-centric healthcare efforts continue to be encouraged and supported at all levels.

The camp witnessed an

overwhelming response from the local population. Residents of Chowgan Slathia and neighboring areas turned up in large

numbers to avail the free health facilities being offered. People from all age groups, including senior citizens, women, and children, participated and benefitted from the expert consultations and diagnostic tests. The medical professionals conducted thorough examinations, gave health advice, and distributed free medicines as required. The seamless coordination among volunteers, doctors, and supporting organizations ensured that the camp ran smoothly and efficiently throughout the day.

By the end of the event, hundreds had received medical assistance free of cost, and many expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the organizers. The health camp not only provided immediate relief and care to those in need but also raised awareness about preventive healthcare and regular medical checkups. The effort was widely appreciated by the community, reinforcing the importance of public-private collaboration and volunteer-driven initiatives in strengthening the grassroots healthcare system.

## Seminar and Lecture series on “Cyber Crimes” organised on the occasion of Sanskrit Month

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

In celebration of Sanskrit Month and with the aim of promoting the Sanskrit language while raising awareness on pressing social issues, Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust, Jammu & Kashmir organized a special seminar and lecture series on the topic “Cyber Crimes” at Girls High Higher Secondary School, Shastri Nagar, Jammu.

The event commenced with a tree plantation drive, organized in collaboration with the Social Forestry Department, Jammu, in which distinguished guests and students actively participated. Following this, the seminar was held in the school auditorium, where students, teachers, and guests shared their thoughts and insights on the subject. The central theme – “Cyber Crimes” – addressed one of the most critical issues in today’s digital era.

The chief guest, Dr. S.P. Vaid, former Director General of Police, Jammu & Kashmir Police, and the special guest, Shri Kameshwar Puri, SP Operations & Cyber Crime, Jammu, graced the event with their presence and



valuable guidance.

In his keynote address, Dr. Vaid remarked, “The digital revolution symbolizes progress, but it also casts the challenging shadow of cyber crime. It is vital for students today to be educated on cyber security, digital etiquette, and self-restraint. While the internet and technological advancements have brought great convenience, they also pose risks such as hacking, data theft, online fraud, fake social media accounts, dissemination of obscene content, and identity theft. In this context, the timeless moral values found in the Sanskrit language can serve as a beacon for societal safety.” He lauded Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim

Vedic Sansthan Trust, for his commendable efforts in not only promoting Sanskrit but also addressing vital contemporary issues.

SP Operations Jammu, Shri Kameshwar Puri, emphasized, “Cyber crime is not merely a technical issue—it is a matter of public awareness. Children, youth, and parents must stay vigilant. Schools and social organizations should collaborate to cultivate a culture of ongoing education and guidance on cyber security. As cyber crime threatens individual privacy, economic stability, and national security, public awareness, adherence to laws, and preventive measures are essential.”

Program Coordinator and President of the Trust, State Awardee

Mahant Rohit Shastri, stated in his address “Sanskrit is not merely a language but a profound philosophy of life. Principles such as ‘Satyam Vada, Dharmam Chara’ (Speak the truth, Follow righteousness) found in Sanskrit literature guide us towards discipline and ethical living. If today’s youth internalize such values, challenges like cyber crime can be naturally mitigated. This lecture series aims to demonstrate the enduring relevance of Sanskrit in today’s world.”

School Principal, Ms. Anu Bhardwaj, also shared her perspective “A school’s responsibility goes beyond academic instruction. It plays a pivotal role in shaping responsible citizens. Programs like this help students understand real-world issues and prepare them to face them confidently.”

The event was attended by Professor Sharad Sharma, Rakesh Sharma, Darshan Sharma, Aditya Abhiraj Sharma, Amit Jamwal, Honey Singh, Lucky Sharma, as well as members of the school staff, students, and respected members of the local community.

## Free medical camp organized on occasion of Sanskrit Month

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Sanskrit is not merely a language of communication; it is the lifebreath of Indian culture, medicine, yoga, Ayurveda, lifestyle, and spiritual awareness. With this spirit at its core, a one-day free medical camp was organized by Shri Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Raipur (Thather), Jammu & Kashmir, on the auspicious occasion of Sanskrit Month at the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Office, located at Shri Panchmukhi Hanuman Temple, B.C. Road, Jewel, Jammu.

In this service camp, around 260 citizens received health check-ups and expert consultations, which included tests and treatment for blood pressure, diabetes, bone and joint issues, Ayurveda, general ailments, etc. Free medicines were also distributed.

The event commenced with Vedic chants and lighting of the ceremonial lamp. The chief guest on this occasion was Hon’ble Vice Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (SKUAST-J), Jammu, Prof. B.N. Tripathi, and the special guest



was S.P. Rural Shri Brijesh Sharma.

In his inaugural address, Prof. B.N. Tripathi said, “Organizing a free medical camp during Sanskrit Month is not just public service—it is a unique confluence of Sanskrit and the spirit of service. Sanskrit is the consciousness of our sages. If we wish to return to our roots in today’s times, we must align ourselves with Sanskrit, Yoga, and Ayurveda. The Trust has taken a commendable and exemplary step by integrating medical services with Sanskrit Month. This initiative not only promotes the language but also raises awareness about public health. The Trust President, Mahant Rohit Shastri, is playing a vital role in promoting the divine language Sanskrit in

the region. All members of the Trust deserve heartfelt congratulations for this effort.”

S.P. Rural Shri Brijesh Sharma remarked, “Today’s program is not just a health camp—it is a confluence of values, service, and culture. Such efforts are essential for building a drug-free, healthy, and aware society. When the promotion of Sanskrit extends beyond education and connects with service, its social impact becomes manifold. This is a highly commendable initiative by Shri Kailakh Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust.”

Program coordinator and Trust President Mahant Rohit Shastri stated, “Sanskrit is not just a language of speech, but a language of service.

We do not see Sanskrit Month as a mere formality—we have transformed it into a medium of community service. Our motto is ‘From Sanskrit Service to Social Service’. The enthusiastic participation of citizens today reflects the public’s deep-rooted emotion towards our culture, language, and the spirit of service.”

A team of senior and experienced doctors rendered selfless services during the free medical camp, including Dr. Vishva Gupta, Dr. Praveen Yograj, Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Dr. Vinay Khajuria. These doctors not only examined patients but also provided guidance on lifestyle management, healthy diet, and the importance of daily yoga. Free medicines were distributed to all attending patients.

The presence of several eminent personalities from the social sphere enhanced the dignity of the event. Notable among them were:

Baldev Singh (Vice President, Jammu & Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu) Pramod Sharma, Bhushan Jamwal, Naresh Raina, Kaushal Sharma, Sunil Singh Raipuria, Lucky Sharma, Honey Singh

## NCC Girls Wing GGM Science College Pays Tribute through Art on Kargil Vijay Diwas

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

To commemorate the valour and sacrifice of Indian soldiers during the Kargil War, the NCC Girls Wing of Government Gandhi Memorial (GGM) Science College, Jammu, organized a Poster Making Activity on the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas. The event was held under the overall guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal of the college, and was effectively supervised by Dr. Shafia Saleem, ANO, NCC Girls Wing. The activity was aimed to instill patriotism among cadets and educate them about the historical



significance of Kargil Vijay Diwas. Through powerful visuals and creative expressions, the cadets paid tribute to the bravery, dedication, and supreme sacrifices of the Indian Armed Forces.

In his message, Prof. (Dr.) Romesh Kumar Gupta, Principal, appreci-

ated the efforts of the NCC cadets and emphasized the importance of remembering national heroes. Dr. Gupta further added that, Kargil Vijay Diwas is a reminder of our armed forces’ extraordinary courage and determination. Such initiatives not only honour their sacrifice

but also help instil a deep sense of nationalism and pride among the younger generation.

Dr. Shafia Saleem, in her remarks, expressed pride in the cadets for their participation and creativity. She added that, it is heartening to see our cadets express their emotions and respect for the nation through art. The poster-making activity served as a platform for them to connect with history and honour the legacy of our brave soldiers. The event concluded with a collective pledge by cadets to uphold the spirit of patriotism and contribute positively towards nation-building.

## Shiv Sena demands monthly allowance to medal winners

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit has demanded to give monthly allowance to national level medal winners till they get a government job, use the experience to hone the talents of young players.

In a press conference held today at the party’s state central office, state chief Manish Sahni said that after raising the issue of the much-awaited all-weather swimming pool of MA Stadium in Jammu,



the sports administration came into action, hopes that its work will be completed in January 2026 (new deadline) and our swimmers will be seen

in the pool. Sahni said that the medal winners who have brought laurels to Jammu and Kashmir at the national and international level

have been waiting to get a government job for the last decade. There is a constant delay in giving jobs by the government. He said that till the government does not fulfill its promise, they should be given a monthly allowance of minimum Rs 15,000. Along with this, their experience should be used to enhance the talents of young players. Sahni demanded an inquiry into the ongoing mismanagement in Fencing (Centre of Excellence) and the delay in construction of the hostel.

## A Musical Tribute to Martyrs on Kargil Vijay Diwas held in Tagore Theatre, Chandigarh

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

In a collaborative effort of Swar Sadhana and the Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi in association with Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh, a soulful musical program themed on the songs of Sawan (monsoon) was organized at the prestigious Tagore Theatre. This special event, held on 26th July - Kargil Vijay Diwas, was dedicated to the martyrs of the nation.

The moderator of the event was Mr. Vikrant Seth (Vice President) Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi, From Aryans Group of Colleges Dr. Garima Thakur, Deputy Director was present and was honored in the event. The event was supported by Organic Sharing, The Hills Kasauli, Waltz Furniture, Malik Jewellers, Adv. Rajeev Sharma.



The program was hosted by Pandit Vinod Pawar.

Distinguished guests included Sudesh Sharma (President, Chandigarh Sangeet Natak Akademi), Rajesh Atri (Secretary), Architect Shikha Verma, Shivani Verma, Advocate Rajeev Sharma, Dr. Amit Gangani, along with numerous eminent citizens and esteemed artists of the city were present.

The program began with Jaspreet Kaur’s ren-

dition of “Sawan ke jhoole pade”. This was followed by Akash Pundir’s performance of “Aaj mausam bada beimaan hai”, Shivani Angrez’s “Nainon mein badra chhaye”, and a duet by Atul and Priyanka “Chha gayi ghata, baahar aa ri hai duty”.

Further adding emotion to the evening, Aarti presented “Kajrare badra”, Jannat sang “Jade karein saawan ki baatein”, and Khushi performed “Ae

hawa ae ghata, kya tujhe hai pata”. Jaspreet Kaur also sang “Haay haay ye majboori, ye mausam aur ye doori”, followed by Atul and Priyanka’s touching duet “Megha re megha re”.

The event concluded with a soulful violin accompaniment by Aarekh, who joined Akash in two stirring performances - “Jeena yahan marna yahan” and “Ek pyaar ka nagma hai”, leaving the audience deeply moved.

## JKATA monthly meeting highlights long-pending demands of agriculture technocrats in J&K

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

The Jammu and Kashmir Agriculture Technocrats Association (JKATA), led by its president Dr. Surinder Radotra, convened its monthly meeting today to address several critical and long-standing issues affecting agriculture graduates and professionals across the Union Territory. The meeting focused on unresolved matters that continue to impact the morale, career progression, and service conditions of over 2,600 technocrats working in the field.

One of the key demands reiterated by the association was the inclusion of temporary service rendered under the Rehbar-e-Ziraat scheme towards benefit eligibility, along with the immediate restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). The association recalled that the National Conference, in its election manifesto, had promised to reinstate OPS if elected to power. Following the formation of the NC-led government under the leadership of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah,

JKATA welcomed the government’s intent. However, despite recent assurances during a meeting between the association’s delegation and the Chief Minister at the Civil Secretariat, a formal cabinet decision on OPS is still awaited. JKATA appealed for immediate follow-up and final implementation of OPS for all eligible agriculture technocrats.

Another major concern discussed was the delay in holding the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meetings for in-charge Junior Agriculture Extension Officers (JAEOs), who have been awaiting retrospective promotions since April 2017. JKATA criticized the administration for its prolonged inaction, pointing out that the tentative seniority list has been published twice but the final list remains pending. This delay, according to the association, has directly affected the professional growth and recognition of thousands of technocrats who serve at the grassroots level.

The association also called for the framing and implementation of

a fair and transparent transfer policy for Agriculture Extension Assistants (AEAs) and JAEOs. In the absence of such a policy, many field staff members have faced arbitrary postings and frequent transfers, resulting in administrative inefficiencies and unequal treatment across the cadre.

Strong opposition was also expressed against the continuation of the government’s re-employment and service extension policies, particularly at the director and senior administrative levels in the Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department. JKATA argued that such practices block promotional opportunities for in-service officers and demoralize hardworking professionals who have been waiting for upward mobility for years. The association urged the administration to immediately discontinue these policies to protect merit-based progression and maintain administrative transparency.

Dr. Surinder Radotra emphasized that despite several meetings with top

officials, including Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha, Chief Secretary Shri Atal Dulloo, and Principal Secretary of the Agriculture Department Shri Shailendra Kumar (IAS), most issues remain unresolved. He called for personal intervention by the LG to address these long-standing concerns in a time-bound manner.

In a strong appeal to the administration, JKATA reiterated its demand for an end to post-retirement extensions, the implementation of a transparent promotion and transfer mechanism, and the safeguarding of the institutional integrity of the Agriculture Department. The association underscored that these steps are essential not only for the welfare of technocrats but also for ensuring an efficient and motivated workforce that can better serve the farming community of Jammu and Kashmir.

JKATA concluded the meeting with a unanimous resolution demanding immediate government action on all pending issues to uphold justice, fairness, and career security for the agriculture technocrat community.

## FROM THE FRONT PAGE...

## Op Sindoor proved there...

Further, Modi said several people spoke about UK's Magna Carta while commenting on democracy. However, the Chola-era 'Kudavolai system' predated it, he said. The system followed during the Chola era was over a 1,000 years ago. (Agencies)

## Alumni must empower...

opportunity to give back to the University," he said. The Lieutenant Governor emphasised on implementation of National Education Policy 2020 in educational institutions, in letter and spirit, to restore the past glory of India.

Jammu Kashmir has done tremendous work in this direction. Our innovative programmes like Design Your Own Degree are serving as inspiration for other higher educational institutions in the country, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also congratulated the University of Kashmir for securing the coveted A++ Grade in the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) recently and securing its place among the top institutions in the country.

The meet honoured the exemplary contributions of Dr Karan Singh, former Union Minister; Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, former Chief Minister of J&K; Shri Mian Altaf Ahmad, Member of Parliament; Shri Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul, Shri Justice Sanjay Dhar, Shri Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Shri Justice Mohd. Yousuf Wani-Judges High Court of J&K and Ladakh, and other eminent alumni of University of Kashmir.

Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court and High Court of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, former Vice Chancellors, heads of various educational institutions, senior officials of Police & Civil Administration, faculty members, non-teaching staff and students of Kashmir University were also present.

## Deputy CM visits family...

murdering an "innocent" man in a "staged" encounter.

A magisterial probe has already been ordered, while two policemen involved in the incident were suspended. An inquiry, headed by sub-divisional police officer of Jammu South, is also pending.

"This is a day light murder committed by the special branch of police in civilian clothes. Since police is under the administrative control of Lieutenant Governor, we request an impartial probe and stern action against the erring personnel," Choudhary told reporters after expressing his condolences to Parvez's family.

"Where is the Rs 35 lakh compensation and job letter promised to the family? Our police force is highly respected for its contribution in fighting terrorism. It has never harmed innocent people before. The Omar Abdullah government will not tolerate such incidents now," Choudhary said, adding that the matter was not over with the youth's funeral.

He asked who has given permission to armed policemen to roam in civilian clothes "like gangsters" and kill an "innocent" person, who was married only one-and-a-half months ago.

The deputy chief minister said he had heard that the family was involved in wrestling in an effort to keep local youths away from drugs. (Agencies)

## SIA files chargesheet...

precise intelligence inputs on August 9 last year. Swift follow-up investigation led to the identification of a second accused, Amritpal Singh alias Fouji, who initially escaped the scene with another consignment but was later arrested by Punjab Police, yielding an additional 12.626 kg of heroin.

Owing to the international dimensions and emerging terror linkages, the case was transferred to the SIA Jammu, and an investigation was taken up under the provisions of the NDPS Act and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

The SIA filed its first chargesheet before the competent court in the case, with investigations unearthing critical evidence connecting Amritpal Singh to a Pakistan-based handler affiliated with the LeT, establishing a direct narco-terrorism linkage, the official said.

He said the breakthrough was achieved through meticulously employed technical, scientific and human intelligence.

"The chargesheet substantiates grave offences under the NDPS Act and UAPA against the accused duo and other involved individuals, the official said.

"This case marks a major success for law enforcement in the fight against narcotics-fuelled terrorism and highlights the continuing threat posed by transnational criminal-terrorist syndicates exploiting drug trafficking routes to fund and support terror activities in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir and beyond," he said. (Agencies)

## J&amp;K statehood must...

"expecting" that statehood for Jammu and Kashmir would be announced soon. "Already, all the opposition parties are fighting for us also in the Parliament...You have seen recently, (Congress President Mallikarjun) Kharge and Rahul Gandhi's letter to the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) asking that the statehood must be restored." Abdullah recalled that the central government has made promises "to us in Parliament and also committed themselves in the Supreme Court".

The veteran politician, who has been the chief minister of the erstwhile state three times and also a Union Minister, questioned the Centre's motive behind "downgrading" the state.

"And what did they achieve? When they did this, they said that the militancy would die because 370 is responsible for militancy. For the last six years, they have been ruling for all 5 years before the election came. "And even today, they are in control of the security and all the rest. Has militancy disappeared? Or has it increased?" he asked.

Reflecting on the current situation, Abdullah lamented the lack of control the elected government has over security and administrative matters and went on to say that the recent Pahalgam terror attack could

have been prevented had a local government been in charge of the security.

Referring to admission by the Lieutenant Governor admitting security failure for Pahalgam, Abdullah said, "I am glad the Lt Governor has accepted his failure. He should have had the courage to resign." Abdullah pointed out the glaring silence from Jammu and Kashmir in the Rajya Sabha as four seats remain vacant, terming it a "tragedy".

"Why was Jammu and Kashmir denied election to the Rajya Sabha?" he said. "Not only that, two seats are vacant in the Assembly. What is the Election Commission doing?" The National Conference chief dismissed talk of internal discord in the party.

"This party is a democratic party. It is not like the BJP, which has become an autocratic party. Here people have the right to speak what they want," he said while answering a question about the difference of opinion between the party and Srinagar MP Aga Ruhullah Mehdi.

On Pakistan's role, Abdullah's stance was firm. "Pakistan is not going to give up. Therefore, what is the way forward? War is never a solution to any problem," he said.

He advocated for a peaceful solution that would be "honourable for India, honourable for Pakistan, and honourable for the people of Jammu and Kashmir".

To a question about separatist leader Bilal Lone announcing joining the mainstream, he said, "I am very glad, very happy that they have realised that J-K is a part of India", and expressed the hope that the leader could now contribute to the welfare of the people after "years spent in the wilderness". (Agencies)

## Lieutenant Governor...

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the gathering of devotees and saints for the spiritual journey serves as a reminder of our timeless wisdom, cultural heritage, and rich traditions, which have long guided the world toward peace, progress, and unity.

India gave the message of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam-world as one family. Our culture has always emphasized on global welfare and peace. Now the time has come when the glorious legacy of our rich ancient traditions should be handed over to the new generation in Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also paid homage to the innocent civilians killed by Pakistan-Sponsored Terrorists in Pahalgam.

"Operation Sindoor still continues. Our police, security forces, administration are working with determination to foil the efforts of enemy," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Mahamandaleswar Swami Rameshwar Das; Organising General Secretary, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, Shri Milind Parande; President Baba Amarnath & Budha Amarnath Yatri Niyas, Shri Pawan Kumar Kohli; President Vishwa Hindu Parishad (J&K and Ladakh), Shri Rajesh Gupta; National Convenor Bajrang Dal, Shri Neeraj Douneriya, religious leaders, heads of various religious and social organisations and pilgrims in large number were present.

Shri Yudhvir Sethi, Shri Vikram Randhawa, Shri Gharu Ram Bhagat- Members of Legislative Assembly; Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Shri Ramesh Kumar; IGP Jammu Shri Bhim Sen Tuti, senior officials and prominent citizens from different walks of life were also present.

## 30th July 'NISAR' launch...

While expressing his wish to be physically present at Sriharikota to witness the historic event, the Minister acknowledged that the ongoing Parliament session may hold him back in Delhi.

"This mission is not just about a satellite launch—it is a moment that symbolises what two democracies committed to science and global welfare can achieve together. NISAR will not only serve India and the United States but will also provide critical data for countries around the world, especially in areas like disaster management, agriculture, and climate monitoring," said Dr. Jitendra Singh.

Dr Jitendra Singh further noted that this mission lives up to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of India becoming a 'Vishwa Bandhu'—a global partner that contributes to the collective good of humanity.

The NISAR mission combines the technological expertise of both agencies. NASA has contributed the L-Band Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), a high-rate telecommunication subsystem, GPS receivers, and a deployable 12-meter unfurlable antenna. ISRO, on its part, has provided the S-Band SAR payload, the spacecraft bus to accommodate both payloads, the GSLV-F16 launch vehicle, and all associated launch services. The satellite weighs 2,392 kg and will be placed in a sun-synchronous orbit, offering repeat imaging of the entire Earth's land and ice surfaces every 12 days.

From an applications standpoint, Dr. Jitendra Singh highlighted that NISAR's capabilities extend well beyond traditional Earth observation. "It will allow continuous monitoring of ecosystem disturbances and help assess natural hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, and landslides. It will track even subtle changes in the Earth's crust and surface movement. Importantly, the satellite's data will also be used for sea ice classification, ship detection, shoreline monitoring, storm tracking, crop mapping, and changes in soil moisture—all of which are vital for governments, researchers, and disaster management agencies," he said.

A key feature of the mission is that all data generated by NISAR will be made freely accessible within one to two days of observation, and in near real-time in case of emergencies. This democratization of data is expected to support global scientific research and decision-making, especially for developing countries that may not have access to similar capabilities.

Notably, the NISAR mission is the first time a GSVL rocket is being used to place a satellite in sun-synchronous polar orbit, signalling ISRO's growing technical sophistication in supporting diverse space missions. The dual radar payload aboard NISAR will employ SweepSAR technology for high-resolution, all-weather, day-and-night imaging of the Earth's surface with a

## Former MLC extends greetings to Buddha Amarnath Yatris, raises questions over deplorable road condition to Poonch

JNEWS SERVICE  
SUNDERBANI, JULY 27

Extending heartiest welcome to the pilgrims on the eve of holy Shri Buddha Amarnath pilgrimage starting tomorrow, former MLC and Chief Spokesperson JKPCC Shri Ravinder Sharma, has expressed great concern over the deplorable condition of Jammu Poonch road at number of places enroute which would be a cause of great hardships to visiting pilgrims and sought urgent attention of the Lt Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief

Minister Omar Abdullah to take up the with the BRO for urgent repairs.

The first batch of holy pilgrimage would leave Jammu tomorrow morning and would receive a traditional welcome at Sunderbani by the citizens and civil society members as well political leaders of different shades under the august presence of Pethadeeshwar Rajguru Mahamandaleswar Swami Vishwatmanand Sarwati and who shall later flag off the yatra towards Poonch during the day.

Ravinder Sharma regret-

ted that the long delay in the completion of different tunnels, roads stretch of various kms enroute, between Jammu to Nowshera and ahead on Rajouri Poonch, is a cause of great hardships to passengers on the road but the authorities are negligent.

The repairs and improvement of the Jammu Poonch road undertaken. Over three years ago, was to be completed last year but there is much delay. The condition of the road has worsened at various places causing huge breakage and deep

pits on the road at numerous places, making it very difficult to bear the jumps, especially by the aged and ailing pilgrims and passengers who have greater risk of disc slips and other serious injuries in such situations.

Senior Congress leader demanded immediate repairs and required fillings etc to improve the road condition and urged the Lt Governor and the Chief Minister to immediately take up the matter with the concerned agency to do the needful, till its completed.

## BJP delaying statehood to continue Proxy: Ch Lal Singh

JNEWS SERVICE  
KASTIGARH (DODA), JULY 27

Former MP Ch Lal Singh has blamed BJP of deliberately delaying the restoration of statehood to J&K in order to continue to rule by proxy and loot the natural resources, which is right of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a well attended gathering of people and Congress workers at Kastigarh of DCC Doda Doda as part of party's campaign 'Hamari Riyasat Hamara Haq', in which DDC member satosh Devi along with several supporters joined party, Ch Lal Singh lashed out at BJP govt at the centre for the betrayal of the people after getting mandate from Jammu region on the promise of restoring our dogra state, immediately after Assem-



bly elections but even after more than ten month of elections Modi government is silent on its repeated promises and ignoring the most rightful demand of people. Ex MLA Dina Nath Bhagat PCC Coordinator, District President Sheikh Mujeeb. Sham Lal Bhagat Ex MLC, Shakeel Shah, Pradeep Bhagat, PYC General Secretary Swarn Veer Singh, Vijay Pathania and Several senior leaders and block Presidents attended.

Lal Singh asserted that statehood is the right of people, as the dogra rulers

and warriors made a vast & historical Dogra state after lot of struggle and Several wars but BJP ruthlessly disbanded, divided, downgraded the dogra state and degraded the status of people.

From proud citizens of a historical Dogra identity, we have been reduced to the residents of UT. This is the gift of BJP to people of Jammu and now our resources of land, sand, forests, mountains and other minerals are being looted for six years now.

Senior congress leader

wide swath of 242 kilometres.

Dr. Jitendra Singh also underlined the importance of Earth observation missions in the context of climate resilience and sustainable development. "Missions like NISAR are no longer confined to scientific curiosity—they are instrumental in planning, risk assessment, and policy intervention. As climate change impacts intensify, timely and accurate data from satellites like NISAR will be indispensable for governments to act proactively," he said.

While the mission has seen a long gestation period of over a decade and a joint investment exceeding \$1.5 billion, the payoff in terms of global utility and technological advancement is expected to be transformative. The launch of NISAR is being closely watched by space agencies, environmental researchers, and policymakers worldwide.

As the countdown to July 30 begins, Dr. Jitendra Singh reiterated that India's space programme under the guidance of Prime Minister Modi is steadily transitioning from traditional utility-based missions to those that position the country as a knowledge contributor to the global commons. "NISAR is not just a satellite; it is India's scientific handshake with the world," he said.

## CM hails Kashmir...

institution," he stated. "The first is the scope and caliber of its research output; the second is the tangible accomplishments of its alumni. By both standards, the University of Kashmir is not behind any university in the country."

He noted that several of the University's alumni have excelled in the realms of law, politics, administration, medicine, social work, business and other fields earning respect and recognition both nationally and internationally.

Calling on the alumni to continue their association with the university, the Chief Minister remarked, "Kashmir University has given you a lot. If you could, even occasionally, return the favour through your efforts and experience, it would greatly benefit the students who are currently studying here, as well as those who will secure admission in the future."

He urged the alumni to serve as role models and enablers for the next generation. "Just as you have brought pride to Jammu & Kashmir and to India, may the future students of this university continue this legacy," he added.

CM Omar Abdullah also extended warm congratulations to all alumni who were felicitated during the event. "I heartily congratulate all those who have been honored with citations and recognition today," he said, concluding his address with words of encouragement.

## Jammu Railway division...

improved the ballast cushion and will make the ride smooth.

In addition, he said two ballast cleaning machines (BCMs) have also been deployed. Ballast is the stone chip collection on tracks.

These machines are working in tandem and have deep-screened around 11.5 km track. Cleaner ballast leads to safer operation, the spokesman said.

Two additional BCMS were sent to the valley in July, 2025 and these machines have undertaken deep screening and have executed approximately 2.5 km of track.

To supplement the tamping and deep-screening work by recouping of ballast, 17 ballast rakes were sent and unloaded in Kashmir tracks from ballast depots at Kathua, Qazigund, Madhopur and Jind. Consequently, 19,000 cubic meters of ballasting was done, he said.

He said track recording car (TRC) and oscillation monitoring system (OMS) runs were also conducted in June and July, respectively to assess track quality and identify track stretches requiring attention. All these work have significantly improved track quality in Kashmir, he added.

Along with track upgradation, the spokesman said a paradigm shift has happened in the maintenance and upgradation of passenger coaches in Jammu and Kashmir.

Till the opening of Jammu-Srinagar rail link, there was no rail connectivity of Kashmir valley with the rest of the Indian Railway network.

The DEMU/MEMU rakes in Kashmir could not be brought to the workshop for periodic maintenance and upgradation, the spokesman said.

He said periodic overhauling (POH) was being done by transporting bogies from Budgam in central Kashmir to Lucknow on road trailers, adding this was sub-optimal.

For the first time, rakes from the valley have been brought to Lucknow through rail for POH, the spokesman said, adding the condition of all the rakes in Budgam is being improved in a time-bound manner.

He said the upgradation work of passenger coaches in Kashmir will be completed by August-end, and all rakes in service will be renovated and upgraded within this timeframe.

Indian Railways is often called the 'lifeline of the nation'. With the opening of Jammu-Srinagar rail line and the ongoing upgradation work, it will provide a new lifeline to Jammu and Kashmir, the spokesman said. (Agencies)

## Fresh batch of over...

pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre high cave shrine started from the two routes on July 3 and is scheduled to end on August 9, coinciding with the Raksha Bandhan festival.

Over 3.70 lakh pilgrims have so far visited the shrine. (Agencies)

## BSP workers' conference strengthens party base in J&K and Punjab

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) state president Darshan Rana along with BSP state coordinator Sunil Majotra, Charanjit Chargotra, General secretary S. Raja Singh, Tilak Raj Bhagat, Haji Shak Mohammad, district president Raman Kumar and Tarsem Lal and other state unit leaders also participated in the one-day workers' conference organized by the Bahujan Samaj Party in Manyavar Kanshi Ram Bhawan (BSP office) in Jalandhar to strengthen the organization in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. Let us tell you that Bahujan Samaj Party Chief National Coordinator Akash Anand was present as the chief guest in this workers' Conference, while National Coordinator Randhir Singh Beniwal along with many big national level leaders were present in



this workers' conference. On this occasion, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) state President Darshan Rana discussed in detail with the party Chief National Coordinator Akash Anand about the activities being carried out by BSP across the state and told him that the party is working day and night to strengthen the Bahujan Samaj Party at the grassroots level in Jammu and Kashmir and thousands of people have

been given party membership under the membership campaign. Rana said that for the last two months, review meetings are being held with workers in every assembly constituency of Jammu and Kashmir and workers are being appealed to take the party's policies to the people. Apart from this, the party is continuously selecting those people in the Rural and urban areas of Jammu and Kashmir

who can participate on behalf of the party in the Panchayat and Municipal elections. On this occasion, the party's Chief National Coordinator Akash Anand praised the party president Darshan Rana and his entire team for continuing the party's activities in Jammu and Kashmir in a better way and said that he is constantly getting information that the party is moving forward strongly in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that we need to spread the ideas of party founder Kanshiram and party supremo Mayawati to the people and for this the workers will have to play their active role. On this occasion, National Coordinator Randhir Singh Beniwal, Dharmveer Singh Ashok and Central coordinator Daya Chand along with other party leaders also praised the members of the state Jammu and Kashmir unit.

## Raju Jandyal social activists organized a grand Langer at Tirupati Balaji Temple Jammu

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY

A grand langar was organized today, Sunday, at the Tirupati Balaji Temple in Jammu. The langar was arranged by social Activities Raju Jandyal Ji Saranjeet Singh Bhatia ( MD) Anmol goods carriers And Gurneet Singh with the presence of Tirupati Balaji Temple Authority Superintendent R.C. Subramaniam ji , kiran ji And ramesh babu ji



Raju Jandyal Ji mentioned that this langar is organized every Sunday, with the temple administration playing a significant role in it. After having the darshan of Lord Venkateswara, devotees par-

ticipate in the langar and receive the prasad. The devotees expressed their gratitude to the temple authority and appreciated such religious initiatives. Mr. Saranjeet Singh Bhatia (MD, Anmol Goods Carriers) and Mr. Gurneet Singh were honored by the temple with a photo of Lord Venkateswara. During the occasion, Mr. Saranjeet Singh expressed his gratitude to Superintendent R.C. Subramaniam and kiran ji for honoring him and presenting him with a token of appreciation. Mr. Saranjeet Singh also stated that he would always be ready to offer his support for any work related to the temple in the future.

## NDS musical tribute celebrates Dogri poet Gopal Krishan 'Komal'

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Nami Dogri Sanstha (Regd.), a prominent literary and cultural organisation devoted to the preservation and promotion of Dogri language and heritage, organised a soul-stirring Musical Programme at KL Sehgal Hall, Jammu, celebrating the lyrical brilliance of noted Dogri poet Shri Gopal Krishan 'Komal'.



Renowned singers included S. Parvinder Singh 'Apple', Prof Chanakya Sharma, Sh. Suraj Singh, Shyam Manyal and Ms. Supriya Sharma. They captivated the audience with melodious renditions, each performance deepening the appreciation of Komal's lyrical craftsmanship. The heartfelt melodies echoed through the hall, leaving a lasting impression on the listeners and reaffirming the beauty and relevance of Dogri language in contemporary times. The rhythmists S. Parvinder Singh 'Apple' and Prof Chanakya Sharma (Harmonium), Shri Joginder Pal (Tabla) and Shri Rakesh Anand (Flute) enthralled the audience with their superior performance. The programme was presided over by Shri Om Prakash 'Vidyarthi', IFOs, Former PCCF, who advocated the importance of

staying connected to one's roots and follow the true calling as career. The Chief Guest Shri Darshan 'Darshi' (Shri DK Vaid, IAS), Former Director School Education emphasised the role of language in the intellectual growth of youth. Guest of honour Prof. Parveen Sabharwal, Former Principal, GDC, Thanna Mandi, hailed NDS for doing wonderful service towards promotion of Dogri language, local music and culture. Special invitee Shri Ravinder Koul, senior journalist stressed upon spreading the awareness of events of NDS among the masses to increase the participation by Dogri lovers. Shri Gopal Krishan 'Komal' shared his literary journey and also sung one of his favourite compositions. Shri Narinder Singh Chib read the paper on his life highlighting prominent works. The programme

concluded with a vote of thanks by Wing Commander Nirmal 'Nimbal', Secretary NDS and a call for greater participation in cultural events that celebrate the linguistic and artistic wealth of the Dogra community. Dogra Harish Kaila, Advocate, President NDS along with his core committee, continues to display his pursuit of maintaining the NDS as a leading cultural organization working to preserve and promote the Dogri language, literature, and performing arts. Through literary meets, musical events, publications, and outreach programs, the Sanstha continues to be a torchbearer for Dogri heritage under his selfless service and true leadership. Prominent among those present were Dogra Harish Kaila, Advocate, President NDS, Shri Shiv Kumar Sharma, Chairman Senior Citizen Welfare Board, Katra and President Indian Style Wrestling Association, J&K, Advocate HC Jalmeria, Abdul Qadir Kundria, Smt. and Shri Raghuraj Sehgal, Shri Channe Ram ,Former ZEO, Dr. Surinder Singh, S. PD Bali, Former ZEO, Shri Ajay Sharma, Shri Amarnath, Former Principal, and Shri Sukhdev Singh.

JI NEWS SERVICE  
RAJOURI, JULY 27

A meeting was organized by Shiv Sena Hindustan in village Karal (Gangol) of Nowshera, District Rajouri, under the chairmanship of State Chief, Jammu and Kashmir, Pandit Rajesh Kesri. The meeting aimed to raise awareness among the youth about the dangers of drug abuse and to encourage them to stay away from it. The meeting saw participation from local residents, youth, and dignitaries, including Sarpanch, Panch, Gram Pradhan, and Lambardar. The meeting was attended by prominent dignitaries, including Nowshera President Rakesh Kumar, Rinku Chaudhary, Vikash Chaudhary, Kuldeep Choudhary, Meenu Devi, and several Shiv Sainiks. Kesri emphasized the need for collective efforts to combat drug abuse, stating that it is a challenge that requires cooperation from the community, police, and government. He highlighted the role of Pakistan in promoting



drug abuse among the youth, using it as a tool to destabilize the region. Kesri praised the police for their efforts in taking action against drug peddlers and smugglers, including demolishing their properties. Kesri stressed that community participation is crucial in the fight against drug abuse. He urged the residents to work together with the police to identify and report cases of drug abuse, and to support the youth in staying away from it. Kesri's message to the youth was clear: "Stay away from drugs and focus on building a strong and prosperous nation. Remember, a strong nation is built by strong and healthy citizens."

Kesri said that drug abuse is a serious issue that can have long-lasting and far-reaching consequences for individuals, families, and communities. The impact of drug abuse on younger generations is particularly concerning, as it can affect their physical and mental health, education, and future prospects. Drug abuse leads to physical dependence and addiction, which can be challenging to overcome. Drug abuse causes a range of health problems, including mental health issues, cardiovascular problems, and increased risk of overdose. Drug abuse also leads to social and economic problems, including strained relationships, loss of employment, and financial instability. Prevention and support are critical in addressing drug abuse among younger generations, added Kesri. Kesri maintained that educating young people about the dangers of drug abuse and the benefits of a healthy lifestyle is crucial. He suggested providing access to support services, such as counseling and treatment programs, for individuals struggling with drug abuse besides encouraging community involvement and support in preventing drug abuse and promoting healthy lifestyles. It is essential that we take a proactive approach to addressing drug abuse among younger generations. By working together, we can provide young people with the support and resources they need to make informed choices and lead healthy, productive lives. Let's join hands to prevent drug abuse and promote a healthier, safer future for our younger generations, said Kesri.

## Suresh Sharma holds Janata Darbars in remote Villages, assesses Rain damage and grievances

JI NEWS SERVICE  
AKHNOOR, JULY 27

Senior BJP leader and District Development Council (DDC) member, Pandit Suresh Sharma, conducted a comprehensive public outreach programme across the remote areas of Block Maira Mandrian, visiting Queer, Kathar, and Gharatal Panchayats. Accompanied by senior administrative and departmental officials, Sharma held Janata Darbars to directly engage with residents and assess the impact of recent heavy rains and floods. During the interactive sessions, locals shared a range of pressing issues, particularly related to the



Jal Shakti Department, Power Development Department, PWD, and the Flood Control Department. Residents highlighted severe damage to roads, public infrastructure, and private homes due to relentless rainfall. Sharma listened to the concerns with empathy and urgency, and issued on-the-spot instructions to the concerned departments for immediate redressal. He emphasized swift restoration of connectivity, repair

of damaged infrastructure, and adequate compensation for affected families. Speaking to the public, Suresh Sharma assured, "Every voice matters. We are fully committed to ensuring that no one suffers due to this natural calamity. We are actively coordinating with the administration to provide timely relief and lasting solutions." Later, he undertook ground inspections of flood-hit areas, evaluating

road washouts, land erosion, and water ingress into homes. He instructed field officials to maintain constant communication with residents and act promptly. Sharma reiterated his commitment to transparent governance, efficient service delivery, and grassroots-level participation in development and disaster recovery. The outreach program witnessed the presence of senior officials from various departments and enthusiastic participation from local communities. Sharma's proactive approach was appreciated by villagers, who expressed hope for timely solutions under his leadership.

## Trikuta Nagar Development Council visits Arya Samaj, performs Hawan

JI NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Members of the Trikuta Nagar Development Council (TNDC) today visited Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar and performed a Hawan ceremony to promote spiritual harmony and community bonding. The event was marked by the presence of BJP J&K UT Vice President Rekha Mahajan, who also joined the Council members Trikuta Nagar Development Council namely Chairman Ashok Gupta, President Shubchander Verma, Narinder Gupta, Krishan Lal Gupta, T.P Puri, T.C Taggar, Ramesh Gupta in offering prayers and extending support to the Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar. Earlier, the visiting members were warmly welcomed by the President of Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar Ravinder Rekhi, Vice President Bharat Bhushan, Secretary Subash Arya, and renowned Vedic scholar Ranvijay Shastri. Speaking on the occasion, Rekha Mahajan appreciated the combined efforts of Arya Samaj and the Development Council. She said, "Arya Samaj has always been at the forefront of preserving our cultural and spiritual values while advocating for progressive reforms. Their contribution to society, especially in education and moral upliftment, is inspiring. I also commend the Trikuta Nagar Development Council for standing in solidarity with such institutions and playing a proactive role in community service." She further stated that BJP's core values align



with empowering cultural institutions and strengthening grassroots development, adding that religious places like Arya Samaj are not just places of worship but also pillars of social transformation. The Trikuta Nagar Development Council assured continued help and cooperation for the Arya Samaj, recognizing its vital role in promoting Vedic teachings and social service in the region. The management of Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar

expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Trikuta Nagar Development Council for their visit and support. President Ravinder Rekhi thanked the council members for their proactive approach in encouraging religious and cultural institutions. He acknowledged the council's consistent efforts towards the development of the area and their assurance of future cooperation, stating that such gestures strengthen community ties and inspire collective progress.

## EDITORIAL

## Boiling clues to origins of life on Earth

Nestled in the remote, high-altitude wilderness of Ladakh, the bubbling geothermal springs of Puga Valley are now drawing global scientific attention—not for their mystique or their mineral wealth, but for what they may tell us about the very dawn of life on Earth and the tantalizing possibility of life beyond it. In a groundbreaking study as reported in media reports, a team of Indian scientists has uncovered compelling evidence suggesting that these hot springs could be natural laboratories for prebiotic chemistry—the chemistry that preceded and possibly led to the emergence of life. Conducted by researchers from the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences and supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the study may well shift the paradigm in origin-of-life research. By focusing on calcium carbonate deposits, specifically travertine formations found in the hot springs of Puga, the scientists discovered encapsulated prebiotic compounds—amino acid derivatives, formamide, sulphur compounds, and fatty acids—within the calcite structures. This is a significant departure from prevailing global theories that prioritize silica as the primary catalyst for life's early chemistry. This pioneering work suggests that calcium carbonate, particularly in high-UV, geothermal conditions like those in Puga, can serve not only as a crucible for synthesizing life's building blocks but also as a natural storage system capable of preserving these delicate biomolecules across millennia. The implications are profound, both for our understanding of how life might have emerged on a young Earth and for future space exploration, especially missions aimed at discovering biosignatures on planets like Mars. The Indian team's interdisciplinary approach—melding palaeoscience, geochemistry, and astrobiology—opens new frontiers in understanding life's cosmic possibilities. By replicating early Earth-like conditions in a real-world setting, they have provided empirical validation for theories that had, until now, largely been confined to lab simulations. In essence, Ladakh has become a living, breathing analogue for planetary environments that space agencies, including ISRO, are targeting in their hunt for extraterrestrial life. Moreover, the research offers practical value beyond theoretical insights. It enhances our grasp of natural biomolecule preservation mechanisms—knowledge that could inform the development of better life-detection technologies for use in planetary probes. As ISRO expands its interplanetary ambitions, such findings could play a pivotal role in designing instruments capable of distinguishing real biosignatures from inorganic lookalikes on Martian terrain or the icy moons of Jupiter and Saturn. What makes this discovery particularly meaningful is its origin in India's own scientific landscape. In a world where space and planetary science is often dominated by global giants, this study positions Indian research institutions at the forefront of astrobiological innovation. It is a testament to the value of indigenous scientific exploration and the untapped potential hidden in our own natural heritage. The Puga hot springs, once considered a geothermal curiosity, are now portals to some of the deepest questions humanity has ever asked: Where did we come from? Are we alone? With every mineral deposit and every molecule preserved in the travertine of Ladakh, we inch closer to those answers. In the silence of the Himalayas, the Earth may be whispering its oldest secrets. We must listen—carefully, and with curiosity.

## A Democracy deserves acculturated and active mind

JS RAJPUT

The 20th century was, along with great strides in science and technology, World War I and World War II, also the witness of liberation movements, social reforms, democracies taking root, and—most importantly—the emergence of high aspirations, hopes of progress and development in practically every newly liberated country.

There were great expectations for the creation of a world of peace, harmony, social synchronisation, and religious amity. Gandhi, Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr, and many others on the political side, along with scientists like Einstein, Niels Bohr, and several leading personalities on various fronts, ignited a picture of a beautiful, better, and harmonious world.

The UNO (now UN) was created and was projected as the global decision-making body that would be morally and ethically equipped enough to prevent hatred, violence, and wars. There would be social, moral, and ethical emancipation, and inhuman practices like apartheid, untouchability, and racial and religious discrimination would vanish from the face of the earth. This was the general perception also during the Indian freedom struggle. Unfortunately, the dawn of independent India was swathed in bloodshed, hatred, violence, and terrible loss of human life. India suffered immensely in partition. Worst was the distrust generated between the two major communities—the removal of which has certainly impacted the pace of India's progress.

There were challenges of poverty, illiteracy, lack of resources, and many others. But hopes did not diminish at any stage. They remained high

not only in India but among the people of all the exploited and humiliated nations that had been squeezed for centuries by the inhuman colonial regimes all over the world, particularly by the Europeans. In India, the common man perceived a system of governance that would be free from corruption, infliction of humiliation in Government offices, and where the police would no longer be a dreaded entity. How could our own people in routine Government jobs exploit us when they would be working in a Government headed by our own people? People had full faith in the sincerity, honesty, and integrity of their leadership. In India, expectations were extremely high: once we were a free nation, there would be no corruption, no injustice, no humiliation or discrimination on the basis of caste and creed—and, most importantly, no untouchability; no ban on entry into temples or denial of movement on certain roads. Who could have envisioned the future of India in greater depth than Mahatma Gandhi? In a letter he wrote in 1922, he envisioned the realistic situation that was to unfold once independence was achieved: “We should remember that immediately on the attainment of freedom, our people are not going to secure happiness. As we become independent, all the defects of the system of elections, injustice, the tyranny of the richer classes, as also the burden of running administration, are bound to come upon us. People would begin to feel that during those days, there was more justice, there was better administration, there was peace, and there was honesty to a great extent among the administrators compared to the days after independence. The only benefit of indepen-

dence, however, would be that we would get rid of slavery and the blot of insult resulting therefrom.”

Further: “But there is hope, if education spreads throughout the country. From that, people would develop from their childhood qualities of pure conduct, God-fearing nature, and love. Swaraj would give us happiness only when we attain success in the task. Otherwise, India would become the abode of grave injustice and tyranny of the rulers.” I could never properly comprehend the first one of the above four: defects of elections! How could he talk of the defects of elections in 1922? His apprehension has proved most accurate on this count, and it is impacting the other three just as menacingly. Having gone through numerous elections at the national, state, and panchayat levels, it has become fully clear to one and all that democratic functioning—and reaping its fruits judiciously—requires elections to be conducted in a transparent manner with honesty and integrity, in a purely sound moral and ethical environment.

The nation has repeatedly witnessed how political parties focus attention on openly attempting to create their own clusters of people on the basis of all that was not expected of them by the Constitution of India, and in fact, was clearly prohibited.

The caste combinations, communal angle, regional and linguistic appeals to the voters are being openly practised. The rise of such practices began to flourish only after the dilution of Gandhian values became visible all around, after around two decades of independence. Luminaries like Sardar Patel, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Dr Bidhan Chandra

Roy, and Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant had gone. The generations of young leaders had witnessed that winning elections was the first step towards power, authority, perks, and privileges—and finally, assets and the rise of their near and dear ones. Drifting towards that was not tough. Gradually, they witnessed that power meant personalised economic blooming, and law—exceptions apart—could not touch you once you had held positions of power.

My keenness to understand this transformation—and how Gandhi could predict it—led me to the privilege of interacting with several fortunate persons who had worked with him in their younger days. They told me two things. Firstly, he had studied the British election system very carefully and thoroughly. Secondly, he understood the psyche of Indians very well. The British, as a part of their unwritten policy, permitted the “universalisation of corruption” in the lower administrative Government positions, including judiciary, police, and administration. These two, taken together, gave him a very clear futuristic picture. Now it is widely understood how he could visualise what we are witnessing today in practically every election. Every Indian knows what the “defects of elections” are.

I had the privilege of listening to Pandit Nehru waving at the admiring public from the train in Hardoi during the 1952 elections, as a nine-year-old. It was only by the third general election of 1962 that I understood what it really meant—and how it ought to be conducted.

By this time, some of my university friends had devoted considerable time and energy to understanding politics and political ideologies, and some

had even acquired membership of certain political parties.

There was tremendous respect for individual leaders—they had given their all but had snatched nothing from the people for themselves. This was so very well presented in the Lok Sabha by Acharya JB Kripalani while presenting the first no-confidence motion against the Nehru Government after the Chinese invasion and the routing of the Indian armed resistance—and, more importantly, the total dismantling of the non-alignment policy, as well as India's China policy. Kripalani referred to a statement by ex-Congress President UN Dhebar, who had publicly stated that our Plans had made “the rich richer and the poor poorer.”

He went on to state that the Prime Minister accepted that the rich had become richer but refused to accept that the poor had become poorer. Where do we stand today on these counts? If 800 million people need free ration, their life is certainly deficient in self-respect. Another former Congress President, taking part in the debate, was Purushottam Das Tandon, whom Pandit Nehru never liked because of his admiration for and adoption of Indian cultural traditions. He also highlighted the menacing presence of corruption and its rise. He said openly that within the Congress Party, there were people who had no assets at all and were now multimillionaires. It is high time that the millennials—completing their education and ready to take over the reins of the nation shortly—delineate and redefine their role and responsibility to the self, society, community, and the nation.

**(The author works in education, religious amity and social cohesion)**

## Monsoon musings in an age of climate crisis: Between peril and possibility

HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

In Alfred Tennyson's *Morte d'Arthur*, a wounded and dying King Arthur tells Sir Belvedere, one of his most loyal knights and the only Knight of the Round Table to survive the battle of Camlann, “I am going a long way.../ To the island-valley of Avilion;/ Where falls not hail, or rain, or any snow,/ Nor ever wind blows loudly; but it lies/ Deep-meadowed, happy, fair with orchard lawns/ And bowery hollows crowned with summer sea,/ Where I will heal me of my grievous wounds.”

Clearly, King Arthur did not associate rain—as indeed hail, snow and loud wind—with an idyllic place. Many, this writer is sure, would share his view. Rain can be trying, putting one under house arrest while it pours. And it can pour for a long time. This writer had once been stuck in the mountains for 36 hours when sheets of water descended from the sky causing a flash flood below and burying 18 persons in a couple of landslides.

Things, doubtless, are rarely so grim, though cloudbursts and flash floods are becoming increasingly common as climate change progresses apace, with leaders pontificating, and action hobbling far behind expressions of resolve to take much-needed steps. Floods are becoming a regular feature of life and taking a deadly toll. The one sweeping through parts of Texas in the United States on July 4, 2025, has claimed at least 135 lives.

Flash floods are set to becoming regular occurrences (say, at least once a year), at a time when profit and

not necessity is the mother of invention and necessity is increasingly defined by advertising and the possessions of the Joneses. Deluge management, therefore, is set to spawn new products and perhaps, even industries. Consider, for example, houses designed like mini-Noah's Arks to float with surging waters.

The question arises as to what happens when the water recedes and the floating homes are stranded far away from where they were originally. Ingenuity, however, can move homes as faith can move mountains. Caterpillar tracks, as in tanks, would enable them to return negotiating rough terrains and battery-driven engines can move them forward.

Mao Ze-dong would perhaps frown in the hereafter (one wonders whether he has made it to heaven!) watching a thousand companies bloom against his hundred flowers.

Or would he? He may have ceased to care given the capitalist trajectory China's economy has taken in the post-Deng Xiaoping era. In any case, history shows that nostrums are ephemeral and arguments on politics and economics can stretch from here to eternity. Hence, back to the monsoon and rains, celebrated both in poetry and songs, ranging from the resonant majesty of Tagore's song-and-dance drama, *Barshamangal*, to the lilting sound of Robert Redford as Sundance kid cycling and singing “Raindrops keep falling on my head” in the 1969 film, “*Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*” in which Paul Newman acted as the former.

The celebration of the monsoon is hardly surpris-

ing. It is a cliché that the world would die without it. It is, however, a cliché with more than a massive kernel of truth, which becomes clear when one ponders the havoc—from crop failure to forest fires—that droughts inflict. While the increasing frequency of droughts is a cause for worry, so are the deluges that follow monsoons. But then the season of rains can also be fun. Consider dancing and getting drenched as the skies open up. It is a special time for romance. A famous poem by Rabindranath Tagore runs, “Emon dine tare bola jaye/ Emon ghor ghana barishaye/ Emon dine mon khola jaye/ Emon meghshware badal jharjhare/ Tapanh ghana tamashaye.” This writer's translation of the same would read, “One can tell her on a day like this/ In this intense and dense rain/ One can open one's heart on a day like this/ Amid the voice of clouds and the pouring rain/ In this sunless and dense darkness.”

Even otherwise, rains have inspired the muse. William Wordsworth wrote in “*How Beautiful is the Rain*,” “How beautiful is the rain! / After the dust and heat, / In the broad and fiery street, / In the narrow lane, / How beautiful is the rain!” And, of course, there is “*Rainy Night*” by Irene Thompson which reads, “I like the town on rainy nights/ When everything is wet/ When all the town has magic lights/ And streets of shining jet! / When all the rain about the town/ Is like a looking-glass/ And all the lights are upside-down/ Below me as I pass.”

Much, no doubt, would depend on where one is. A Bedouin in the Arabian Peninsula would have no idea

of a monsoon which has a special charm in the hills, where one can see the rains advancing across valleys and over hill tops like silver curtains, hear the wind roar down valleys and susurrate among leaves of pines, oaks and deodars, and see the anaemic mountain streams of summer turn into roaring rivulets.

All this will vanish and a tremendous blight come over India if the monsoon disappears from the country, a possibility one cannot rule out. The irregularity of its arrival and intensity is already causing concern.

The Reserve Bank of India's Bulletin titled *Monsoon and Indian Agriculture—Conjoined or Decoupled?* dated May 11, 2015, observes, “Over the years, the volatility of monsoon outcomes has, in fact, increased undermining the accuracy of forecasting and contingent planning. Structural factors such as climate change and rising greenhouse emissions could be at work alongside one-off events such as El Nino.”

In India's case, the major cause of monsoons is the heating of the Indian subcontinent's landmass during summer.

As the warm air above it rises upwards, cool, precipitation-laden air from the Arabian Sea in the Southwest and the Bay of Bengal in the South-east moves in and takes its place. The danger lies in the fact that the temperature difference driving this movement will decrease if, thanks to global warming, ocean waters continue to become hotter, which is what seems to be happening in the equatorial area.

The landmass, on the other hand, is getting cooler, thanks, among other

things, to the massive presence of aerosols—minute particles suspended in the atmosphere—makes things worse. Caused by fossil fuel combustion, smoke from the burning of post-harvest plant stubble, the working of incinerators, smelters and power plants, and increase in the presence of dust particles following droughts, deforestation and over-grazing, aerosols absorb solar radiation—some of them even deflect them outwards—reducing the quantum of it reaching the earth's surface, making it cooler.

The possibility of the monsoon vanishing from India, therefore, cannot be ruled out. The results would be disastrous. As early as 1925, the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture described India's economy as a gamble on the monsoons. Earlier, Viceroy Lord Curzon had said the same thing.

According to Economic Survey 2024-45, the area under irrigation increased from 49.3 per cent to 55 per cent of the gross cropped area between 2016 and 2021. Agriculture also accounted for 46.1 per cent of those employed and 16 per cent of the GDP. A fall in the income of such a large section would adversely affect its purchasing power and the demand for a wide range of manufactured products. Decline in food production would be another serious consequence. Even though the percentage of irrigated area in India has increased to 55 per cent, 45 per cent is without it. Clearly, difficult times are ahead.

**(The writer is consulting Editor with national newspaper)**

# APS Akhnoor hosts Major DP Singh on Kargil Vijay Diwas

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

On the solemn and patriotic occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas, Army Public School Akhnoor had the honour of hosting Major DP Singh—Kargil war hero, India's first blade runner and a living embodiment of courage, resilience and determination—on 26 July 2025. His visit proved to be an indelible source of inspiration for students, staff and faculty alike.

Major DP Singh, who was grievously injured during the Kargil War and subsequently underwent amputation, redefined the essence of perseverance by emerging as one of India's most acclaimed para-athletes. His remarkable journey of transforming adversity into strength and pain into purpose deeply moved the entire audience.

In his stirring address, Maj Singh recounted his



extraordinary life journey—from the battle-scarred mountains of Kargil to the global tracks of international marathons. His words resonated powerfully with the students, as he underscored the power of positive mindset, the value of tenacity and the importance of self-belief. "It's not the physical challenge that defines you; it's how mentally strong you are to face it," he stated, leaving a profound impact on the gathering.

Mrs Geeta Devi, Principal of the school, extended

heartfelt gratitude to Maj DP Singh for visiting the school on such a significant day. "Having a real-life hero in our midst on Kargil Vijay Diwas is a moment of immense pride and deep inspiration," she remarked.

Brig Ankur Banga, Chairman, APS Akhnoor, also graced the occasion and commended Major Singh's unwavering efforts in motivating the youth of the nation. He emphasised that such engagements not only foster patriotic fervour but also encourage students to rise above personal chal-

lenges and commit themselves to the service of the nation with honour and determination. His presence added gravitas to the occasion.

An interactive session followed, marked by enthusiastic student participation. Thoughtful questions were posed, and insightful experiences were shared by the decorated war veteran. The event concluded with a standing ovation—a heartfelt tribute to Major Singh's valour, indomitable spirit and inspirational legacy.

# BJP Minority Morcha pays tributes to Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, felicitates Ranjodh Singh Nalwa on reappointment

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

BJP Minority Morcha, under the leadership of its President Sardar Ranjodh Singh Nalwa, paid rich tributes to Bharat Ratna and former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam at the BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

J&K BJP President Sat Sharma, General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, National Vice President Minority Morcha Shri Ajmal Zaidi, General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, and MLA Vikram Randhawa, among others.

Sat Sharma led the tributes and described Dr. Kalam as "a true son of India who continues to inspire generations with his humility, intellect, and patriotism." He said, "Dr. Kalam's life is a shining example of how knowledge, simplicity, and dedication can uplift a nation. We remember him today not just as a former President but as the 'People's President' who earned the love and respect of every



Indian."

Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), said Dr. Kalam's life journey, from a newspaper boy to India's Missile Man and President epitomizes the essence of New India. "He stood for innovation, youth empowerment, and national pride. His ideals align closely with the vision of our party," Koul added.

Ajmal Zaidi, National Vice President of the BJP Minority Morcha, highlighted Dr. Kalam's inclusive vision. "He believed in unity beyond caste, religion, or region. Today,

as we remember him, we must also commit ourselves to build a society where every Indian feels empowered."

On the occasion, a felicitation ceremony was held to honour Sardar Ranjodh Singh Nalwa on his reappointment as the State President of the BJP Minority Morcha (JKUT). Senior Morcha leaders and enthusiastic activists from across the region joined in to celebrate the moment.

Addressing the gathering, Sat Sharma lauded Nalwa's relentless efforts in expanding the party's

base among minority communities and said, "Nalwa ji's energy and dedication during the recent elections significantly contributed to our organizational success."

Ashok Koul appreciated Nalwa's grassroots connect and strategic approach, which earned him the title for consecutive term.

Ajmal Zaidi said that Nalwa, with his leadership has effectively carried party policies to the minorities across the region.

In his address, Ranjodh Singh Nalwa expressed gratitude to the party leadership for their continued faith and reaffirmed his commitment to serve the organization with full dedication. "I will strive to strengthen BJP's reach among all sections of society and uphold the ideals of our great nation," he said.

The event concluded on a patriotic note, with a collective pledge to carry forward the mission of the BJP with unity and determination.

# Swim N Survival Society hosts successful Underwater Championship

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JULY 27

The Swim N Survival Society-Kashmir (SNSS-K) successfully concluded the RAK Therm 7th Underwater Sports Championship on Sunday at the scenic Water Sports Centre, Nigeen. The event, sponsored by RAK Therm Global, saw enthusiastic participation from over 150 swimmers, aged between 6 and 58 years, who competed across various age-appropriate categories.

A total of 12 events were held—8 for boys and senior men, and 4 for girls—highlighting the Society's inclusive approach to promoting underwater sports and water safety across all demographics. The championship served as a platform for athletes to showcase skill, stamina, and competitive spirit.

The valedictory function was graced by Mr. Azad Ahmad Bhat of RAK Therm, who served as the Chief Guest, along with Mr.



Imran Yousuf Wani, Senior Sales and Marketing Manager, RAK Therm. Both dignitaries congratulated the winners and runners-up and lauded the efforts of the organizers and coaches.

Also present were JKMAC Secretary Sayed Tahir, SNSS-K President Haji Shakeel Ahmad Shah, Vice President Dr. Sheikh Tariq, Secretary Yasir Yousuf Makhdoomi, and renowned swimming coach Riyaz Wani, alongside the dedicated team of SNSS-K experts: Mohammad Faaliq Najjar, Mudassir Jeelani Chasti, Owais Rashid, and Mohsin Fayaz. Their ongoing early-morn-

ing training sessions and commitment to nurturing talent were acknowledged with great appreciation.

In his remarks, Mr. Azad Ahmad Bhat emphasized the importance of supporting grassroots sports development, while Mr. Imran Yousuf Wani praised the coaching team's dedication, calling their passion "an inspiration for the community."

President Haji Shakeel Ahmad Shah applauded all participants for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship, and thanked the entire organizing team for conducting the event seamlessly.

A vote of thanks was

extended to the SDRF team, the Underwater Sports Association of J&K, all officials, sponsors, and volunteers for their invaluable support.

This championship adds to the growing list of impactful initiatives by Swim N Survival Society-Kashmir, following the success of the 100 Days Swimming Camp, the observance of World Drowning Prevention Day, and numerous water safety awareness drives. The Society remains steadfast in its mission to promote swimming as a life-saving skill and a recognized sport throughout Jammu and Kashmir.

# Dr. Tariq Ahmad Shera conferred with Uttam Bharat Puraskar 2025 for Excellence in Art & Culture

JINNEWS SERVICE  
SRINAGAR, JULY 27

In a proud and momentous occasion for Jammu & Kashmir, Dr. Tariq Ahmad Shera, a distinguished socio-cultural activist and advocate for artistic heritage, was conferred with the Uttam Bharat Puraskar 2025 for his exceptional contributions in the field of Art & Culture.

The prestigious award was presented by the August hands of Dr. Darakhshan Andrabi, Chairperson of the J&K Waqf Board; Tauseef Raina, prominent political and youth leader; and Dr. H.R. Rehman, Chairman GHRT. The event was held at Tagore Hall, Srinagar, and organized by the Global Human Rights Trust, drawing luminaries from literature, arts, civil society, and academia.



Dr. Shera, the founder and president of Angel's Cultural Academy and Shahr-e-Khaas Literary & Cultural Welfare Society, has worked tirelessly over the past two decades to preserve and promote the rich cultural legacy of Jammu & Kashmir. His efforts span across organizing cultural festivals, youth forums, street theatre, and literary seminars—all aimed at empowering the youth and reviv-

ing traditional arts, music, and languages.

He has been instrumental in nurturing emerging poets, writers, and artists, offering them platforms for expression and growth. Through his work, he continues to champion peace, unity, and cultural identity across the region.

In his heartfelt acceptance speech, Dr. Shera remarked:

"This award is not just a personal achievement,

but a recognition of our collective efforts to keep our cultural roots alive. I dedicate this honor to the youth of Kashmir and to every artist working tirelessly for the betterment of society."

The Uttam Bharat Puraskar is a nationally recognized honor awarded annually to individuals demonstrating outstanding service and impact in their respective fields. Dr. Shera's name was unanimously chosen from among numerous nominations across the country, highlighting the enduring influence of his cultural activism.

The event concluded with a series of vibrant cultural performances by local artists, beautifully echoing the spirit of heritage that Dr. Shera has dedicated his life to preserving.

# Exercise bold Kurukshetra 2025 to kick off at Jodhpur: Advancing India-Singapore defence cooperation

JINNEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, JULY 27

The 14th edition of the India-Singapore Joint Military Exercise, Exercise Bold Kurukshetra 2025, is set to commence today at Jodhpur and will continue till 04 August 2025. The exercise will witness the participation of the 42 Singapore Armoured Regiment of the 4 Singapore Armoured Brigade and the Indian Army's Mechanised Infantry Regiment.

The exercise will be conducted as a Table Top Exercise and Computer-Based Wargame, aimed at validating operational procedures for mechanised warfare. It will culminate in an equipment display by the Indian Army. The objective of the exercise is to enhance interoperability and joint training capabilities of



both armies under United Nations mandate, thereby strengthening bilateral defence cooperation.

The opening ceremony will be marked by participation of senior officers from both sides. Colonel Arjun Ganapathi, Commanding Officer of The Mechanised Infantry Regiment, will lead the Indian contingent, while Lieutenant Colonel Khiew Zhi Yoong, Battal-

ion Commander of the 42 Singapore Armoured Regiment, will head the Singaporean side. Brigadier Pritam, Commander of 340 (I) Mechanised Brigade, and Colonel Wong Zeng Yu, Commander of the 4 Singapore Armoured Brigade, will be present as chief guests.

A symbolic handing over of the Regimental Flag by the 42 Singapore Armoured Regiment to

the Indian contingent will also take place, signifying the formal transfer of command to the Indian formation for the duration of the exercise.

Exercise Bold Kurukshetra 2025 will further consolidate the strong defence ties between India and Singapore and foster greater mutual understanding and collaboration at both tactical and strategic levels.

# Kargil Vijay Diwas commemorated with patriotic events in Rajouri, Poonch & Reasi

JINNEWS SERVICE  
POONCH, RAJOURI & REASI: 27 JUL 25

Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed every year on 26th July to commemorate India's resounding victory over Pakistan during the Kargil War of 1999. On this historic day, the Indian Army courageously reclaimed strategic outposts along the Line of Control (LoC), showcasing extraordinary valor and commitment. The day honours the indomitable spirit and supreme sacrifice of the nation's brave soldiers. As part of the observance, the Indian Army organized a commemorative event at Government school situated in Rajouri, Poonch and Reasi district. The programme commenced with an awareness lecture that shed light on the significance of Kargil Vijay Diwas and paid homage to the heroes of the conflict.



The lecture served to educate and inspire the students about the sacrifices made to preserve the nation's sovereignty. A motivational video highlighting the courage and resilience of Indian soldiers during the Kargil War was also screened. The emotional and powerful visuals resonated deeply with the students, instilling a strong sense

of patriotism and pride in the armed forces. In addition, a drawing competition was held on the theme "Tribute to the Indian Soldier", encouraging students to express their gratitude and admiration through art. The activity provided a creative outlet for students to reflect on the sacrifices made by the armed forces in safeguarding

the nation. The event saw enthusiastic participation and served as a valuable platform for interaction between the Indian Army and local youth. It not only strengthened the bond between the armed forces and the community but also emphasized the importance of national security and civic responsibility in preserving peace and unity.

# Oro-Facial pain webinar conducted by IDA Jammu

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JUL 27

A webinar was today organised by the Indian Dental Association (IDA) Jammu, under the presidency of Dr. Nipun Gupta, on the topic of 'Challenges in the Oro-Facial pain and its management.'

The resource person was Dr. Rahul Rupapara, Oral Pathologist, Professor in Govt Medical College, Rajkot, Gujrat. He has

done his masters in orofacial pain TMD and dental sleep medicine, Roseman University, U.S.A.

Dr Rahul deliberated on various topics like diagnosis of oro-facial pain, odontogenic and non-odontogenic pain, management of the persistent pain after RCT, TMJ issues Vs TMDs.

He also stressed that a BDS is not only a dentist but a physician plus a dentist. So a dentist must treat a patient wholesome and

not only the dental part. Dr Bhupinder Singh, President, Dental Council of J&K and Ladakh was chief guest.

Dr Gautam Sharma, Periodontist, Incharge Dental Department, Jammu University, former President IDA Jammu and Dr Sharda Yadav, endodontist, former professor, IDS, Sehora, Jammu, were scientific chairpersons.

Dr. Vibha Raina, Secretary, IDA, Jammu, formally introduced the speaker

and dignitaries.

Dr Payal, convener CDE, conducted the proceedings of the webinar. Dr Niharika, convener CDH, provided technical support for the online session.

This was the first ever online session conducted by IDA, Jammu. Queries of the participants were resolved by the speaker at the end of the session. This webinar was conducted in association with Jenburkt Pharmaceuticals.

# Empowering Health: The crucial role of lifestyle and behavioral choices in preventing CVD: Dr Sushil

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

In view of the ever increasing incidence of cardiac ailments and lifestyle diseases Head Department of Cardiology GMCH Jammu Dr Sushil Sharma held a day long cardiac awareness cum health Check-up camp at Sidh Peeth Hanuman Khaatushyam Dham, Badyal Qazian , R S Pura Jammu for educating masses regarding the importance of primary prevention in decreasing mortality and morbidity associated with cardiovascular diseases

While interacting with the people Dr Sushil stated that Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) remain the leading cause of mortality worldwide, posing immense challenges to public health. Increasingly, scientific research underscores the significant role of lifestyle and behavioral factors in determining cardiovascular risk, often surpassing genetic predisposition and other non-modifiable elements. By synthesizing findings from recent articles published in Circulation, it becomes apparent that a proactive approach emphasizing healthy habits offers immense potential in mitigating cardiovascular risk and saving millions of lives.

He elaborated that growing body of evidence connects certain lifestyle behaviors with markedly reduced risks of hypertension and heart failure.



Drawing on data from the longitudinal Nurses' Health Study II, researchers identified six pivotal lifestyle factors: maintaining a healthy body mass index (BMI < 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>), consuming a low-sodium diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and low-fat dairy products, engaging in an average of 30 minutes of vigorous exercise daily, moderate alcohol consumption, infrequent use of nonnarcotic analgesics (less than once per week), and regular folic acid supplementation (≥400 µg/day). Adherence to these habits correlated with a substantially lower incidence of self-reported hypertension, suggesting that cardiovascular risk is highly modifiable through deliberate lifestyle choices.

He added that beyond individual habits, broader behavioral patterns emerge as the number one factor driving premature death, outpacing genetic, social, and environmental contributors. The American Heart Association (AHA) has distilled these critical behaviors into "Life's Simple 7": avoid-

ing cigarette smoking, controlling hypertension, preventing obesity, engaging in regular physical activity, maintaining healthy blood glucose and cholesterol levels, and following a nutritious diet. The preventable death toll linked to each factor is staggering—smoking alone claims 465,000 lives annually, while hypertension and obesity account for 395,000 and 216,000 deaths, respectively. Collectively, these patterns offer a clear roadmap to reducing CVD burden on both personal and societal levels, He said

Dr Sushil Sharma in his concluding remarks called for action for Healthier Living. Our daily choices wield immense power over our cardiovascular health. While genetics cannot be altered, lifestyle and behavioral interventions offer a practical and effective route for securing better health outcomes and extending life expectancy. Adopting a balanced diet, prioritizing regular exercise, avoiding harmful substances like tobacco, moderating alcohol use, and manag-

ing body weight are not just individual preferences; they are lifesaving decisions supported by robust scientific evidence. As healthcare systems and individuals alike seek to confront the rising tide of cardiovascular disease, there is no intervention more accessible or more effective than cultivating healthy behaviors starting today.

Management Committee of the Dham Shri Narinder Dass Ji and Sitarman Dass appreciated the efforts of Dr Sushil and his team for conducting cardiac awareness cum health Check up camp in their area shows their heartfelt gratitude.

Others who were part of this camp include Dr Venkatesh Yellupu , Dr Dhaneshwer Kapoor and Dr Neeraj Kumar Mishra . Paramedics and Volunteers include Kamal Sharma, Ranjeet Singh , Rajkumar, Gourav Sharma, Paramveer Singh, Makhan Sharma, Maninder Singh , Sanjay Singh, Shubham Sharma , Rajinder Singh , Vikas Kumar and Nirvair Singh Bali.

# Natrang stages Chekhov's 'Ek Kalakriti' in Sunday Theatre series

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

'Ek Kalakriti', a play in Hindi originally written in Russian by Anton Chekhov and translated by Satyendar Sharat was presented here today at Natrang Studio Theatre in its Sunday Theatre Series. The play was directed by Neeraj Kant and presented the real gist of the story in a comprehensive manner.

The play opens at the home of one elderly lady who is searching the old stuff belonging to her dead husband. Her young son stops her by terming all such old and useless stuff as garbage which offends her as she is very nostalgic and emotionally connected with that stuff. From the store, she gets a very beau-



tiful sculpture of Venus (goddess of love & beauty). Though the sculpture was very beautifully crafted with clean intentions of the artist who wanted to portray the maximum beauty but it appears obscene to most of the people depending upon their sensibilities. The mother tells her son to present the same to the doctor who saved his life as a gesture of gratitude as they could not pay him well. Doctor was happy to see the gift but was uncomfortable to keep it

with him as he thinks it to be seductive and not as per the standard of his patients. He gets rid of the same by further presenting to his advocate friend who had done some favour to him. But unable to display the uncovered sculpture at his chamber, advocate forwards it to a famous actor. The actor liked the gift but was criticized by his wife for keeping such material he decides to sell it further and the cycle continues. In a very beautiful manner the writer has expressed that

things may appear different from different perspectives. The same thing which appears noble and beautiful piece of art to one may look obscene and vulgar to another. Sometimes the filth is not in the things, it is in the mind of people.

Natrang artists who presented a wonderful performance included Kananpreet Kaur (Mother), Aryan Sharma(Son), Pawan Verma (Doctor), Kushal Bhat (Advocate), Shivam Singh (Shoshkin), Meenakshi Bhagat (Natasha), Adaksh Bagal(Make up Man) and Kartik Kumar (Kabadi Wala). The lights were designed and operated by Neeraj Kant and the music of the play was scored by Vandana Thakur. The show was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen.

# J&K contingent for Youth Exchange Programme returns home with flying colours

J I NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

A 30-member contingent from Jammu and Kashmir returned home with flying colours after participating in the All India Interstate Youth Exchange Programme (YEP) held at Kurukshetra in Haryana.

The contingent comprising of 23 young participants and 7 escorting officials represented J&K through folk songs, folk dances, and a PowerPoint Presentation on culture, promoting the region's rich heritage at the national scene.

The participants from Jammu and Kashmir showcased exceptional skill and cultural richness through their Folk Song and Folk Dance performances, besides displaying a great show in PowerPoint Presentation.

The folk song performance captivated the audience with its melodious tune, traditional lyrics, and soulful presentation that truly reflected



the vibrant heritage of the region.

The folk dance presentation was equally enthralling, marked by colorful attire, rhythmic movements, and high energy. The performance received widespread appreciation and enthusiastic applause from the audience and dignitaries present.

With extraordinarily exceptional oratory and vocabulary skills, the trio of Muntaha, Avishee and Simran made the entire UT of Jammu and Kashmir proud by displaying a fabulous show, casting spells on the audience and car-

rying forward the legacy of rich cultural heritage of Jammu and Kashmir through PowerPoint Presentation.

All the three performances served as a powerful medium to promote unity in diversity, cultural exchange, and the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

While congratulating the J&K contingent, Director General Youth Services and Sports, Anuradha Gupta emphasized that such programs offer invaluable exposure to young minds, encouraging cross-cultural learning and unity.

Termining the participants as cultural ambassadors, DG Sports said these platforms help them grow, learn, and share the uniqueness of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of India.

"Hats off to you for producing some stellar performances, thus bringing laurels to the Department and the Union Territory as well. You deserve salutation," said Ms Anuradha Gupta in a congratulatory message to the participants.

She assured more such opportunities would be created for youth in the future.

Meanwhile, in a joint message, the organisers of the event namely Raj Kumar, Additional Director Youth Affairs; Pardeep Soni, Chief Coordinator and Maj Ravinder Attri while extending thanks to J&K contingent said the visit was marked by meaningful cultural exchange, educational interactions and the building of strong bonds of unity and friendship.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, REW POONCH

### TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 36 of REW POONCH 2025-26 Dated:-25-07-2025 2nd Call

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory, the Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch, as his representative invites tenders by e-tendering mode from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Union Territory Govt/CPWD/MES for the following work under:

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estt. Cost (Rs in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Position of Funds
1	Community Soak Pit Moh. Keeran W.No. 01 Panchayat Arai Haveli Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	1.31	200	2620	20 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 31-07-2025 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available/ Demanded
2	Community Soak Pit Moh. Dhan W.No. 01 Panchayat Arai Peeran Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
3	Community Soak Pit at Moh. Khait W.No. 03 Panchayat Attoli Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
4	Community Soak Pit Moh. Peeran W.No. 08 Panchayat Azmadabad Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
5	Community Soak Pit Moh. Hundi Baila Panchayat Baila Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
6	Community Soak Pit W.No. 05 Moh. Batta Panchayat Balnai Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
7	Community Soak Pit Moh. Bahdhar W.No. 01 Panchayat Bedar Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
8	Community Soak Pit at Mohd Hill Rathian Panchayat Chamber Kinari Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
9	Community Soak Pit Moh. Naikan Kassi W.No. 08 Panchayat Chella Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
10	Community Soak Pit Moh. Darran Panchayat Donugam Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
11	Community Soak Pit W.No. 07 Moh. Bata Thupla Panchayat Gagrian-B Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
12	Community Soak Pit at Moh. Pathana W.No. 03 Nr H/o Khadam Hussain and Ghulam Hussain Panchayat Mandi Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
13	Community Soak Pit W.No. 06 Moh. Thana Panchayat Rajpura Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			
14	Community Soak Pit W.No. 04 Moh. Lower Sundri Panchayat Sawjian-A Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call	Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	1.31	200	2620	20 days	(1000 Hrs) on or after 31-07-2025 in the office of Executive Engineer REW Division Poonch	DEE	Partially Available/ Demanded
15	Community Soak Pit Moh. Chaprian Panchayat Sawjian-B Block Mandi Under SBM Year 2025-26 2 <sup>nd</sup> call		1.31	200	2620	20 days			

### NOTE: No PRI member shall be allowed to take part in Tendering process

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	25-07-2025.
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 25-07-2025 to 30-07-2025.1855 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	25-07-2025 from 1300 Hrs onwards
4	Bid Submission End Date	30-07-2025 up to 1855 Hrs
5	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) (in case of holiday, the bid shall be opened on next day)	31-07-2025 on or after 1000 Hrs in the Office of the Executive Engineer REW, Poonch
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online) (of only successful technical bidders)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if-
  - Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
  - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period.
  - In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

No:- XEN/REW/P/451-58  
Dated:- 25-07-2025

Executive Engineer  
Rural Engineering Wing  
Poonch

DIP/J-3951/25  
Date: 26-7-25

## Sat Sharma Inaugurates 'Ganapati Jewellers' Showroom in Talab Tillo, Jammu

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Sat Sharma, President, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, today inaugurated a new jewellery showroom under the name and style of 'Ganapati Jewellers' at Ward 41, Main Road, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

The newly launched showroom is owned by local entrepreneur Vipan Verma along with his sons Vishesh Verma and Vansh Verma.

The inaugural ceremony witnessed the presence of prominent BJP leaders including BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, District President Adv. Rajesh Gupta, BJP Additional Treasurer Raman Suri, former Councillor of Ward 41 Sanjay Baru, and Naveen Sharma. Also present were senior party functionaries including Ayodhya Gupta, Jaideep Sambyal, Dr. Akshay Sharma, Keshav Chopra, Surinder Bhagat,



Jeet Angral, Suresh Salgotra, Jitender Khajuria, Bhubesh Sharma, Krishen Lal Sharma, Lokesh Bhagat, Bachan Bhagat Kali, Raman Sharma and others.

Speaking on the occasion, Sat Sharma congratulated the Verma family for taking a commendable initiative and contributing to the local economy. "Ganapati Jewellers has not only opened doors to quality and trusted ornaments for the people of Talab Tillo but also created livelihood opportunities for 14 families. This is the

real essence of Aatmanirbhar Bharat where local entrepreneurs are becoming job creators," he said.

Sat Sharma along with others wished the owners for the prosperity of the new venture.

Baldev Singh Billawaria said that such ventures reflect the rising spirit of enterprise in Jammu, especially among the youth. "It is heartening to see families turning their passion into purposeful businesses with the backing of traditional values and modern infrastructure," he added. Adv. Rajesh Gupta said

that BJP is committed to ensuring a business-friendly environment in the region, and such initiatives encourage others to come forward and invest locally. "Ganapati Jewellers will surely become a trusted name among customers," he remarked.

Owner Vipan Verma expressed his gratitude to the dignitaries for their presence and support. "It is a proud moment for our family. We are committed to delivering purity, transparency, and exceptional service to our customers," he said.

## BJP leaders and activists listen to PM Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' across J&K

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Senior leaders and activists of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) across the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir today listened to the 124th edition of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's widely popular monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat' at booth level, reaffirming their commitment to the vision of public participation and inclusive nation building.

BJP Jammu Kashmir President Sat Sharma, BJP Jammu Kashmir General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria listened to the 'Mann Ki Baat' program of the country's successful Prime Minister Narendra Modi at booth number 6 of Hakkal Panchayat under Gadigarh Mandal of Jammu South Assembly Constituency.

Sat Sharma, while inter-



acting with the media after the programme, described Mann Ki Baat as "a soul-touching dialogue that connects the highest office of the country with the grassroots." He said, "This initiative by our successful Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not merely a broadcast, but a movement that inspires every citizen to contribute positively to society. From environmental awareness to women empowerment,

and youth innovation to local traditions, Mann Ki Baat touches all vital aspects that define a self-reliant Bharat."

Ashok Koul, J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization), joined the programme at Booth No. 40, Ward 33 in Shiv Nagar, Jammu West, along with local citizens and BJP activists.

Calling it "a guiding force in shaping a conscious and responsible

society," Ashok Koul said, "Prime Minister Modi speaks directly to the hearts of the people. His words instill a sense of duty and patriotism among the masses, which is why this programme has become a cornerstone of national consciousness."

Member of Parliament Jugal Kishore Sharma also participated in the programme with party activists and citizens at Booth No. 89, Janipur Mandal, Jammu North Assembly, where he emphasized the wide-ranging influence of Mann Ki Baat in reinforcing India's cultural values and developmental spirit.

Throughout the Jammu & Kashmir, BJP workers enthusiastically organized listening sessions at the Booth and the panchayat level, underscoring the growing grassroots connect of the Prime Minister's outreach.

## Trust is earned through conduct, not claimed through theatrics: BJP

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Reacting sharply to recent remarks by National Conference (NC) President Dr. Farooq Abdullah regarding the alleged "erosion of trust" between Kashmir and the rest of India, senior BJP leader and former MLC Girdhari Lal Raina stated that trust is built through consistent and sincere action—not demanded through emotional theatrics or veiled threats.

Raina pointed out the conspicuous absence of Dr. Abdullah, his party, and other Kashmir-centric political formations from Kargil Vijay Diwas commemorations—an event where the nation comes together to honour the courage and sacrifice



of Indian soldiers who repelled Pakistani aggression. "While the rest of the country stood united in remembering our martyrs, the silence from these leaders on such a solemn national occasion speaks volumes," Raina noted.

He criticised the double-speak and selective engagement of the National Conference leadership. "On one hand, Dr. Abdullah tells the nation in a televised interview that the trust between Kashmir and the rest of India

has 'completely snapped'; on another day, he rhetorically asks when Kashmiris will be 'treated like Indians'. This oscillation between grievance and grandstanding lacks credibility," Raina asserted.

He also recalled how Dr. Abdullah once controversially remarked that Kashmiris might prefer Chinese rule over Indian democracy, only to later declare, in dramatic fashion, "I am an Indian Muslim, not a Pakistani." Raina termed such posturing as opportunistic and confusing for the public, designed more to provoke than to resolve.

Responding to frequent references by NC leaders to "regional and cultural identity," Raina said, India has always celebrated its rich regional diversity, but within the larger frame-

work of national unity. "Regional identities—be it Marathi, Tamil, Gujarati or Kashmiri—are respected and protected. But none use regional sentiment to question national integrity or play political games at the cost of national interest," he added.

Girdhari Lal Raina called upon Kashmir-centric political parties to recognize the shift in public sentiment and national mood, and to contribute constructively to democratic processes. "True leadership lies in reinforcing national unity through clear, consistent, and committed action. It is time for these leaders to shed ambiguity and take pride in their Indian identity—not just in words, but through sincere conduct," Raina concluded.

## J&K Students Association takes up matter with Punjab Chief Secretary, CM's Advisor Over Extortion and Harassment of Kashmiri Livestock Transporters

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

The Jammu and Kashmir Students Association (JKSA), has taken up the issue of ongoing harassment, extortion, and illegal detention of Kashmiri livestock transporters with Punjab Chief Secretary K.A.P. Sinha and senior officials of the Punjab Government.

In a telephonic conversation, National Convenor of Association Nasir Khuehami conveyed grave concerns over the systematic exploitation of livestock transporters en route to Jammu and Kashmir, particularly at checkpoints like Shambu and Madhopur. He highlighted how

certain private individuals, under the guise of animal welfare, have been extorting money, filing baseless FIRs, and unlawfully detaining transport vehicles. This has caused severe economic losses, livestock deaths, and immense distress to Kashmiri traders.

Khuehami urged the Chief Secretary to ensure urgent intervention, asserting that the livelihoods, dignity, and safety of transporters must be protected at all costs. "This is not merely an administrative lapse, it is an organized assault on the economic interests of Kashmir. Mafia-style tactics are being openly employed under state

watch and must be dismantled without delay," he said.

The Chief Secretary assured Khuehami that the issue is being taken very seriously and will be addressed on top priority. He informed that the Secretary of the Rural Development Department has already been instructed to intervene and ensure that no private actor unlawfully interferes in the transportation of livestock. "FIRs will be lodged against the perpetrators, and necessary legal action will follow," he confirmed.

Khuehami has spoken to Baltej Pannu, Media advisor to the Punjab Chief Minister, and urged immediate governmental

response. Pannu assured him that the Chief Minister's Office will speak to and instruct Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav to take swift and stern action, ensuring that those responsible are brought to justice.

Khuehami demanded that the Punjab Government immediately revoke all false FIRs filed against transporters, release all seized livestock and vehicles, and take strict action against individuals and groups involved in this open extortion racket. He emphasized that continued inaction would not only deepen economic marginalization but also erode trust in inter-state administrative cooperation.

## Sanjita, Dr. Pardeep highlight grassroots empowerment and welfare outreach in BJP meeting

JJ NEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders reiterated the party's commitment to grassroots empowerment, inclusive development, and effective delivery of welfare schemes during an organizational meeting held at Kabir Colony, Ward 40, Talab Tillo, Jammu.

The meeting was addressed by Sanjita Dogra, General Secretary, J&K BJP, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP, Adv. Rajesh Gupta, President BJP District Jammu and Neelam Nargotra, former Municipal Councillor and District Secretary.

Sanjita Dogra, addressing the meeting, said that the BJP has always prioritized the role of the booth-level activists in translating the party's vision into reality. She said that the booth is backbone of our organization, and every scheme of the Modi government reaches the people because of the strong and sincere efforts



made by our booth-level teams. We are committed to empowering every section of society, especially the marginalized, and women are being given their due place in the social and political framework under the Modi government, she added.

Dr. Pardeep Mahotra emphasized the importance of awareness and dissemination of public welfare schemes. He said that the numerous initiatives such as PM Awas Yojana, Ayushman Bharat, Ujjwala, and PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana have

transformed the lives of the poor and neglected. It is the responsibility of our workers to ensure that the benefits reach the last man in the line, he said.

Adv. Rajesh Gupta stressed strengthening the organizational fabric at the ground level. He said that the booth structure must be active and alert to address the concerns of every resident. He stressed on making the teams more responsive, inclusive, and development-oriented.

Conducting the proceedings of the meeting, Neelam Nargotra said

that the focus remains on connecting with people from all communities and ensuring that no deserving family is left behind in availing government support. Women's participation in public life is increasing because of BJP's sincere policies, she added.

Munish Gupta, Arun Dubey, Yashpal Shivgotra, Rahul Nargotra, Lokesh Bhagat, Rita Kotwal, BS Chib, Jyoti Parkash, Kamla Sharma, Rekha Devi, Rooman Devi, Vikas Kumar, and other party activists were present.

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI(PHE) MECH. DIVISION KATHUA  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

**e- NIT No. 86/JSPHEMK of 2025-26 dated: 26-07-2025**

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Kathua, on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, invites tenders by e-tendering mode from registered/ reputed firms.

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee(In Rs)	Earnest Money	Estimated Cost	Bid Validity
1	2	3	4	5	6
Providing and fitting of components to electro-mechanical equipment's/pumping machinery along with other allied works at tube well -Jagatpur, Maroli & Pranta.	Jal Shakti PHE Mech. Division Kathua	<b>Rs. 200.00</b> (Non-Refundable) In the shape of Treasury Challan in favour of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Kathua	2% (pledged to Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division Kathua)	1.288 Lacs	Bid shall be valid for 180 days

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from **26-07-2025 (06:00PM) and uploaded from 26-07-2025 (6:00 PM) to 01-08-2025 (04:00 PM)**. he complete bidding process will be online <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 3 & 4 of the table.
- The bid shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the tenderer shall be debarred from participating in tendering process for a period of 1 year.
- The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division Kathua on **02-08-2025 at 01:00 P.M** or any other day convenient to the Ex. Engineer in the Office chambers of Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Division Kathua.
- The Financial Bids of the tender document of the qualified bidders shall also be opened online in the office of the **Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department PHE Mechanical Division Kathua** during office hours and shall be communicated separately.
- Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.

No: JSPHEMK/1559-62  
Dated: 26-07-2025

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mech. Division  
Kathua

**DIP/J-3935/25  
Date: 26-7-25**

## ABVP demands justice for Shweta Singh, demands thorough investigation into Udaipur College Student's Death

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Jammu Kashmir has strongly condemned the recent incident of a BDS final year student, Shweta Singh, taking her own life in Udaipur due to alleged harassment by college staff. ABVP demands justice for Shweta and her family.

Shweta Singh, a student at Pacific Dental College in Udaipur, was found dead in her hostel room, leav-

ing behind a suicide note accusing college staff of mental harassment. ABVP Jammu Kashmir has urged the authorities to conduct a thorough investigation into the allegations and take action against those responsible.

ABVP demands thorough investigation into the allegations made by the student and action against those responsible.

Implementation of policies that promote a supportive and inclusive environment in educational institutions. Increased

focus on mental health support and counseling services for students.

Sannak Shrivats, State Secretary ABVP Jammu Kashmir, stated that the incident is a wake-up call for all and demands immediate attention. "The allegations of harassment by college staff are deeply disturbing and demand immediate attention. ABVP Jammu Kashmir urges the authorities to conduct a thorough investigation and take action against those responsible."

ABVP demands that Naini and Bhagwat faculty of Dental College Udaipur, accused of harassment, be held accountable for their actions. ABVP's demand for justice for Shweta Singh and her family is a step towards ensuring that educational institutions prioritize student welfare and safety.

ABVP Jammu Kashmir will continue to raise its voice for the rights and welfare of students and work towards creating a more compassionate and student-friendly education system.

## SP Rural chairs coordination meeting for Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra at Kameshwar Temple, Akhnoor

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

A coordination meeting in view of the upcoming Shri Budha Amarnath Ji Yatra was held today at the Kameshwar Temple, Akhnoor. The meeting was chaired by Superintendent of Police Rural Jammu, Sh. Brijesh Sharma, JKPS, and was attended by SDPO Akhnoor/Domana, SHOs of Akhnoor, Gharota, Domana, Kanachak, as well as all Zonal Officers and Sector Officers.



The primary agenda of the meeting was to ensure better coordina-

tion and synergy among all stakeholders for the smooth and successful

culmination of the Yatra. Detailed discussions were held regarding security arrangements, logistical support, cut off times and public convenience measures to facilitate a safe, orderly, and spiritually enriching pilgrimage experience for all devotees.

All officers present in the meeting assured their full cooperation and reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining effective communication and coordination throughout the Yatra period.

## SSII makes history with Intercontinental Telesurgeries

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JUL 27

In a momentous leap forward for global medical collaboration and surgical innovation, SS Innovations International, Inc. has achieved a historic milestone at the Annual Conference of the Society of Robotic Surgery (SRS) in Strasbourg, France, with the successful completion of two complex intercontinental robotic telesurgeries using the indigenously developed SSI Mantra Surgical Robotic System. By harnessing advanced technology, SSII is compressing the barriers of time and distance, making surgical care more accessible to patients regardless of geography and enabling expert surgeons to operate remotely with precision, reshaping the future of global healthcare delivery.

The procedures remotely connected surgical teams across nearly 10,000 kilometres, linking the Institut de recherche contre les cancers de l'appareil digestif (IRCAD) Headquarters in Strasbourg, France, to the Sri Aurobindo Institute of Medical Sciences (SAIMS) and the IRCAD National Centre in Indore, India, showcasing the SSI Mantra's extraordinary ability to deliver high-precision surgical care across continents.

The first, a gastric bypass, was performed by Dr. Mohit Bhandari, President of IRCAD India and Founder of Mohak Bariatrics and Robotics, Indore, in just over 44 minutes, with zero complications, underscoring the system's unmatched stability, pre-



cision, and latency-free operation.

The second procedure, a robotic atrial septal defect (ASD) closure, was performed by Dr. Sudhir Srivastava, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of SS Innovations International, Inc. The live telesurgery was moderated by globally renowned robotic cardiac surgeon Dr. Husam H. Balkhy, M.D., President of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery (ISMICS) and Professor of Surgery and Director of Robotic and Minimally Invasive Cardiac Surgery at the University of Chicago Medicine.

Patient-side support in Indore was seamlessly coordinated by Dr. Lalit Malik, Chief of Cardiac Surgery, Manipal Hospital, Jaipur; Dr. Ram Krishna Shukla, Cardiologist, and Dr. Bipin Arya, Anesthesiologist, both from Sri Aurobindo Institute of Medical Sciences (SAIMS), Indore, along with the dedicated teams from SSII and SAIMS.

The surgery was completed without any technical issues - with imperceptible latency, flawless precision, and seamless robotic control - demonstrating the exceptional

performance of the SSI Mantra 3 Surgical Robotic System and its revolutionary telesurgery architecture.

Speaking on this achievement, SS Innovations International Inc.'s Founder, Chairman, and CEO, Dr. Sudhir Srivastava, said, "I would like to extend my gratitude to Vipul Patel, M.D., F.A.C.S., Chairman of the Society of Robotic Surgery for an opportunity at the SRS 2025 Conference, Dr. Mohit Bhandari, the IRCAD India team, and the entire SS Innovations team whose dedication and innovation made the world's first intercontinental robotic cardiac telesurgery possible. This historic achievement not only demonstrates the advanced capabilities of our SSI Mantra 3 surgical robotic system but also further paves the way for redefining and democratizing global delivery of complex cardiac care, especially in regions with limited access to surgical expertise."

Dr. Mohit Bhandari, President of IRCAD India and Founder & Director of Mohak Bariatric and Robotic Surgery Centre, Indore, said, "Performing a complex gastric bypass

remotely, across continents, marks a transformative moment in surgical science. It's not just about technological capability; it's about bridging gaps in access to quality healthcare. The success of the SSI Mantra system proves that the future of safe, precise, and inclusive surgery is here, and it's being shaped in India."

SS Innovations International's advanced SSI Mantra Surgical Robotic System, equipped with cutting-edge telesurgery capabilities, effectively overcomes traditional barriers such as travel, time, cost, and limited access to expert surgical care, establishing a more efficient, scalable, and equitable standard for both patients and surgeons.

To date, 35 telesurgeries - including 10 cardiac cases, and over 250 cardiac procedures have been successfully completed using the SSI Mantra system. Given that cardiac procedures rank among the most complex surgical interventions, this achievement stands as a strong testament to SSI Mantra's precision and performance in both telesurgery and advanced soft-tissue surgeries. Additionally, more than 5,000 multi-specialty surgeries have been successfully performed using the SSI Mantra system, with no device-related adverse events reported.

SS Innovations International is the only surgical robotics company to have received regulatory approval from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) for both tele-proctoring and telesurgery in India.

## IUST organizes AYUSH Medical Camp in Awantipora

JINNEWS SERVICE  
AWANTIPORA, JULY 27

Continuing its community health outreach, the Centre for AYUSH Science, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), organized a free medical camp at Aghanjipora, under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan.

The beneficiaries mostly women received free consultations, health checkups, medicines, and guidance on preventive care. Medical experts addressed a range of common ailments, including joint pain, respiratory issues,



digestive disorders, anaemia, and general fatigue.

Dr. Arsheed A. Ganaie, Coordinator of the Centre for AYUSH Science IUST, said such initiatives reflect IUST's dedication to delivering affordable, healthcare to underserved communities. "We are encouraged by the community's response and remain committed to continuing such outreach", he further said. Local residents appreciated this initiative to promote traditional and alternative medicine systems for better public health outcomes.

## Free health camp held at Mubarak Mandi

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

SIBA Event Management and Innovations Cooperative Ltd., in collaboration with the Chowgan Slathia Welfare Committee and Ram Magotra, successfully organized a Free Multispecialty Health Checkup Camp on July 27, 2025, at Mandir Shri Baba Banwari Das, located near the historic Mubarak Mandi Palace in Panjirthi, Jammu. The camp was held from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM and witnessed an overwhelming response from the local community, with over 150 residents availing themselves of essential health services.

The initiative was designed to provide comprehensive healthcare consultations and diagnostic support to people from the surrounding areas. Several esteemed medical professionals and healthcare organizations came together to offer their expertise and services at the camp, making it a truly inclusive and impactful event.

Among the key medical



partners, Emporia Clinic - The Celebrity Skin & Hair - extended dermatological consultations under the guidance of Dr. Abroo Hussain, Dr. Aamir Khan Loyal, Shail Rajput, and Asha. Sharp Sight Eye Hospitals participated with a dedicated team comprising Deepak Sharma, Ajay Kumar, Rahul Kumar, and Vipul, offering detailed eye checkups. Path Square Labs provided diagnostic support, with the presence of CEO Vijay Bhatia and Director Sharda Suri, accompanied by Marketing Executive Sharda Suri. Dental services were managed by Dr. Abroo Hussain from Abroo Dental Clinic. Kaushalam Ayurveda contributed with Ayurvedic consultations from Dr. Aarushi Prasher and Mr.

Sahil. Additionally, physiotherapy services were offered by the Indian Association of Physiotherapists, represented by Dr. Vishal Sharma PT, Vice President of JKIAIP.

The event also received strong backing from numerous community stakeholders and supporters, including Trivedi Jewellers (Jain Bazar), JKDCF, Sumali Financial Services, MJ Colors Saloon, DSK Caterers, DBN School, and Top FM, which served as the radio partner. The unwavering support from the Chowgan Slathian Welfare Committee played a crucial role in the smooth execution of the event. Key committee members such as Ram Sarup Baru, Raj Singh, Dhyan Singh, Jeevan Singh, Brij Mohan

Gupta, Ram Magotra, Jayant Magotra, Pranav Singh, and Sanjay Kumar were instrumental in coordinating the arrangements and mobilizing community participation.

The camp's success was marked not only by the quality of medical care provided but also by the enthusiasm and cooperation of local residents, temple management, and a committed team of volunteers. Their collective effort highlighted the spirit of community service and underscored the importance of accessible healthcare at the grassroots level.

SIBA Event Management and Innovations Cooperative Ltd. expressed heartfelt gratitude to all doctors, healthcare partners, supporters, and volunteers whose contributions and dedication made the health checkup camp a meaningful and impactful event. The organization reaffirmed its commitment to continuing such initiatives aimed at fostering well-being and public service throughout the region.

## Siddharth Sharma dazzles at Monsoon Runway Fashion Week, Elevates Jammu's Style Stature

JINNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Once again making his hometown proud, renowned model Siddharth Sharma stole the spotlight at the Monsoon Runway Fashion Week with a look that redefined modern menswear. Striding down the ramp with unmistakable confidence, Siddharth commanded attention in a black velvet sherwani intricately embroidered in white, striking the perfect balance between traditional regality and contemporary boldness.

What made this achievement even more remarkable was the fact that Siddharth had recently recovered from a road accident that left him with facial injuries. The days leading up to the show were marked by intense physical and emotional stress, but Siddharth turned adversity into strength. His recovery and return to the runway is a story of resilience and passion, proving that true style is not just in appearance, but in the courage to rise after a fall.

The striking ensemble, custom-designed under the banner of Kanak Thakur Model Management, wasn't just a fashion statement - it was a moment of cultural fusion



and fearless individuality. Siddharth's open-chested sherwani challenged conventional silhouettes of men's ethnic wear, presenting a fresh and daring perspective that was both elegant and audacious. His look drew applause from fashion critics and attendees alike, who hailed it as a daring disruption in the usually conservative domain of sherwani fashion.

Adding an extra edge to his presence were his carefully chosen accessories - dark sunglasses, defined body tattoos, and

sleek metallic jewelry. These finishing touches transformed the traditional attire into a powerful statement piece, reflecting both power and rebellion. The outfit not only showcased the evolving landscape of Indian fashion but also celebrated the spirit of experimentation that today's style icons bring to the ramp.

Hailing from Jammu, Siddharth Sharma has continuously pushed the envelope in the fashion industry, representing his city on national and international platforms.

With every appearance, he not only elevates his own career but also brings visibility to emerging talent from the region. His latest runway walk was no exception - a blend of poise, personality, and panache that left an indelible mark.

Industry insiders are calling his performance one of the highlights of the show, and designers are already lining up for collaborations. As Siddharth continues to rise, he's not just becoming a fashion icon - he's becoming a symbol of Jammu's vibrant creative potential and youth energy.

Looking ahead, Siddharth is preparing for his next major assignment - an international fashion shoot in Dubai scheduled for September, set against the backdrop of a high-profile music concert. This upcoming project is expected to blend global fashion with entertainment, giving Siddharth another platform to showcase his versatility and charisma.

As he continues to break barriers and inspire young talent across the country, Siddharth Sharma's journey stands as a beacon of determination, creativity, and cultural pride - proving once again that Jammu has no shortage of stars shining on the global stage.

## Gill equals Bradman record with fourth ton as Test captain

AGENCIES  
MANCHESTER, JULY 27

India skipper Shubman Gill continues to rewrite history with a fantastic and gritty 103 against England at Old Trafford. With his fourth ton in as many games, Gill has now tied the legendary Don Bradman for most centuries as captain in a Test series, while also becoming the first player to hit four centuries in his debut Test series as captain.

Having continued from 87, uneven bounce on a Ben Stokes delivery struck Gill on his injured



right thumb and ricocheted onto his helmet, the 25-year-old stood tall and went on to notch the first century by an Indian at Old Trafford in 35 years, after Sachin Tendulkar did so in 1990. He

also tied Virat Kohli and Sunil Gavaskar for most hundreds for Indian in a single Test series.

It is also the first time that he has taken more than 200 balls to score a century. He reached three

figures off his 228th ball today; his previous slowest hundred came off 199, in the first innings of the Edgbaston Test.

The 25-year-old made history at Edgbaston with twin centuries - 269 and 161 - amassing 430 runs in the Test, the second-highest match aggregate in Test history.

In the end, it was Jofra Archer who struck with the new ball. Against the run of play, Gill had a lapse of concentration and lashed at the ball outside off, edging it to Jamie Smith. India are now in a spot of bother at 223/4 as they still trail by 88 runs.

## Arsenal triumph 3-2 over Newcastle United in pre-season

AGENCIES  
KALLANG (SINGAPORE), JULY 27

Newcastle United fell to a narrow 3-2 defeat against Arsenal in a lively pre-season clash at Singapore's National Stadium, despite an early lead and a spirited performance.

Anthony Elanga, making his first start since arriving from Nottingham Forest, put United ahead inside six minutes. A slick move involving Sandro Tonali and Kieran Trippier ended with the Swede bundling home from close range to give the Magpies an early advantage.

Arsenal, who had edged AC Milan earlier in the



week, responded swiftly. After several close calls from both sides, including efforts from Kai Havertz, Bruno Guimarães, and Benjamin White, the Gunners drew level just after a first-half drinks break. Former Newcastle man Mikel

Merino found space at the edge of the box and drilled a low strike past Nick Pope.

The Premier League runners-up then took the lead in unfortunate fashion, when a dangerous cross from Havertz deflected off Alex Murphy and into his

own net in the 35th minute.

Newcastle nearly responded before the break, but Anthony Gordon's effort drifted wide. Eddie Howe rang the changes at half-time, keeping only Pope and William Osula on the pitch. The reshuffled side showed intent, and in the 59th minute, Jacob Murphy brought United level with a precise left-footed strike after good work from Tino Livramento.

Murphy then turned provider, crossing for Osula who headed just wide. Pope kept the scores level with excellent saves from Max Dowman and Martin Ødegaard, before being replaced by John Ruddy.

## Nitish Kumar Reddy quashes rumours of leaving SRH for another franchise

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 27

Injured India seam-bowling all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy has quashed rumours of him leaving Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) for another franchise, adding that he will always stand by his current team.

Previously, reports had emerged saying that Reddy had expressed his desire to leave the franchise over his role in the team, especially after being pushed down the batting order to accommodate Heinrich Klaasen at number four.

"I tend to stay away



from the noise, but some things deserve clarity. My connection with SRH is built on trust, respect, and years of shared passion. I'll always stand by this team," wrote Reddy on

his 'X' account on Sunday. Ahead of IPL 2025 mega auction, Visakhapatnam-based Reddy was retained by SRH at INR six crore. It came after Reddy amassed 303 runs in 13 matches and

also took three wickets in IPL 2024, which paved his way for selection into India T20I and Test teams.

But Reddy failed to repeat his heroics in IPL 2025 - scoring only 182 runs in 13 games and didn't bowl a lot of overs due to his recovery from a side strain which kept him out of action after the first T20I against England earlier this year.

Talking about Reddy, the all-rounder is now back home and on road to recovery after sustaining a left knee injury while training in the gym at Manchester and was ruled out of the ongoing Test series against England.

## Sukant Kadam and Krishna Nagar lead India's medal haul at British & Irish Para Badminton International

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 27

India's para badminton stars delivered an impressive performance at the British & Irish Para Badminton International 2025, a key Level 1 event on the BWF circuit. Leading the medal tally for India were Sukant Kadam and Krishna Nagar, who clinched silver and bronze respectively in their categories, showcasing top-tier skill and determination on the international stage.

In the Men's Singles SL4 category, World No. 2 Sukant Kadam displayed a commanding run to the final. He defeated fellow Indian Naveen Sivakumar in straight sets (21-14,



21-19) in the semifinal. In the summit clash, Sukant

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21-19) in the semifinal. In the summit clash, Sukant

## Five debutants impress in Barcelona's 3-1 preseason win over Vissel Kobe

AGENCIES  
KOBE (JAPAN), JULY 27

FC Barcelona kicked off their 2025/26 preseason with a 3-1 victory over Vissel Kobe, at the Misaki Park Stadium, a match notable for the debut appearances of five new faces in the blaugrana shirt, Joan Garcia, Marcus Rashford, Rooney Bardghji, Jofre Torrents and Pedro Fernandez 'Dro'.

Joan Garcia, the new Catalan goalkeeper, featured in the first half and made a strong impression with a string of key saves. Despite conceding just before halftime to Miyashiro, Garcia's sharp reflexes helped keep Barca



level for most of the opening period. He was unfortunate on the goal, having parried the initial shot only to see the rebound slotted home.

The second half saw the introduction of Rashford, Bardghji, and La Masia product Jofre Torrents. Rashford and Jofre combined well on the left flank, showing pace and creativi-

ty. It was Rooney Bardghji who broke the deadlock in the 77th minute, curling a precise finish into the net after a well-constructed move involving Rashford and Lewandowski.

Just two minutes later, Rashford and Jofre made way for Gerard Martín and another debutant, Pedro Fernandez 'Dro'. The young forward needed

little time to make an impact. In the final minutes, the youngster made his mark on the game with a well struck volley from the edge of the box with just minutes remaining, to seal the win on a night where Barca showed plenty of promise for the upcoming season.

All five newcomers contributed positively in a game that offered fans a glimpse of Barca's evolving squad. With promising performances across the pitch, especially from the attacking trio of Rashford, Bardghji, and Dro, the match sets a confident tone for the remainder of Barcelona's preseason campaign.

## India batter Tilak Varma to lead South Zone in 2025 Duleep Trophy

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, JULY 27

India left-handed batter Tilak Varma will captain South Zone in the 2025 Duleep Trophy, starting on August 28. The tournament, which will be held in the old zonal format of six teams, will mark the beginning of 2025/26 domestic cricket season.

Though Tilak didn't play for Hyderabad in the previous Ranji Trophy season due to his Indian team commitments, the left-handed batter scored a century on his County Championship debut for Hampshire against Essex and followed it up with scores of 56, 47 and 100.



Kerala batter Mohammed Azharuddeen, who shined for Kerala in the Ranji semi-final against Gujarat in Ahmedabad with his career-best score

of 177, has named the vice-captain in a squad selected by South Zone selectors during a meeting in Pondicherry.

Apart from Azharud-

deen, batter Salman Nizar along with pacers Basil NP and Nidheesh MD have found places in the main squad. Hyderabad opener Tanmay Agarwal, who amassed 934 runs in seven matches and paved the way for the side's return to the Elite system in Ranji Trophy, has also been named.

Other prominent India names include left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore, left-handed batter Devdutt Padikkal and wicketkeeper-batter Narayan Jagadeesan, who earned his maiden India call-up as a replacement for injured Rishabh Pant for the upcoming fifth Test against England at The Oval.

## 4th Test: Gill has stood up in toughest moments for India, says Ponting

AGENCIES  
MANCHESTER, JULY 27

Despite Shubman Gill falling for 103 off the stroke of lunch during day five's play in the ongoing fourth Test against England, former Australia captain Ricky Ponting has lauded the Indian skipper for standing up for the side in the toughest moments of the series.

Gill had come out to bat on a hat-trick ball in the first over of India's second innings on day four, but stood up with his patience and gritty nature hit 103 off 238 balls, laced with 12 boundaries. It was his ninth Test hundred and fourth of the ongoing Anderson-Tendulkar



Trophy series. He has now tied with legendary batters Don Bradman and Sunil Gavaskar for most centuries as captain

in a Test series, whilst also becoming the first player to hit four hundreds in their debut Test series as captain. The knock of 103

also marked the first time that Gill took more than 200 balls to score a Test century.

"He was in at 0-2, and he's a young captain trying to make his mark. When the opportunity arose for him to stand up with the bat, he's done it again. He has done a terrific job so far during the series."

"He's a quality player, make no mistake about it. He's elegant and very stylish with the way he goes about it... and he has an immense love for batting. When the moments in this series have been the toughest, he's stood up for India," said Ponting on Sky Sports' broadcast during lunch break.

## Hockey India hosts 15th Congress, unveils nationwide festival and grants for 100-year celebration

AGENCIES  
MAHABALIPURAM, JULY 27

Hockey India successfully conducted its 15th Congress in the historic town of Mahabalipuram on Sunday.

Marking a century of Indian hockey's glorious journey, the session witnessed a series of landmark announcements, including a Nationwide Festival of Hockey Celebration on November 7 and substantial financial support for state and national-level hockey development.

Indian hockey's legacy began in 1925 with the formation of its first-ever national governing body. To commemorate



this historic milestone, Hockey India will organise an unprecedented, nationwide celebration on November 7. The event will feature 1,000 simultaneous matches - one men's and one women's match in every district of the country - engaging over 36,000 players (18,000 men and 18,000 women).

This massive initiative will bring together players

from every corner of the nation, reflecting not only the unity and diversity of India, but also the enduring passion that hockey continues to inspire.

In a visionary move to further empower the ecosystem of Indian hockey, Hockey India announced substantial increases in financial grants to support the organisation of district and state-level competitions.

level events: Rs 70 lakh each for hosting the Senior Men's and Senior Women's National Championships

Rs 30 lakh each for Junior Men, Junior Women, Sub-Junior Men, and Sub-Junior Women National Championships. Rs 25 lakh per state to support the organisation of district and state-level competitions.

## Rana inaugurates Eco-Stop at Gharana wetland

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

In a significant step towards enhancing the eco-tourism and strengthening conservation infrastructure, Minister for Forest, Ecology & Environment, Javed Ahmed Rana, today inaugurated the Eco-Stop Building at the Gharana Wetland.

The Minister reiterated Omar Abdullah led Government's firm commitment towards protecting and promoting Jammu & Kashmir's fragile ecosystems.

Describing Gharana Wetland as "not just a wetland, but a living, breathing symbol of ecological balance and natural heritage," Rana emphasized its critical importance as a globally recognized Important Bird Area (IBA). He underscored that its preservation is a "non-negotiable responsibility" that must be embraced by all sections of society.

"The future of our environment is being written by the actions we take today," said Rana. "Wetlands like Gharana are not merely landscapes, they



are lifescapes. They nourish livelihoods, regulate water systems, safeguard biodiversity, and are key allies in our fight against climate change."

Commending the Department of Wildlife Protection, the Minister lauded creation of visitor-friendly facilities such as tensile sheds, viewing decks, seating arrangements and informative signage. He said these initiatives reflect a forward-looking approach aimed at making the wetland an accessible, engaging space for students, researchers, tourists and local communities.

Referring to Gharana's rich avian life, Rana highlighted the annual arrival of migratory birds such

as the Bar-headed Goose, which travels from Central Asia to this serene habitat. He emphasized that the presence of such species ties Jammu & Kashmir into the fabric of global ecological systems.

"These winged visitors remind us that nature knows no borders. Their arrival is both a marvel of nature and a call to action, for protection, for learning and for pride in our shared natural wealth," the Minister remarked.

Rana called for integration of sustainable tourism models that uplift local communities while preserving the ecological integrity of the site. Gharana has attracted over 40,000 visitors last year. "We envision Gharana

as a premier eco-tourism destination, one that uplifts the local livelihoods while inspiring environmental consciousness," Rana stated.

The Minister extended heartfelt gratitude to the departmental officials, field staff, local communities and all stakeholders whose dedicated efforts have contributed to the conservation of this "ecological jewel."

Calling upon the officers of the Forest Department to further intensify efforts through community-based conservation models, Rana stressed the importance of involving local stakeholders in protection, monitoring and sustainable eco-tourism efforts. He called upon citizens, institutions and youth to join hands in preserving Gharana Wetland for future generations.

Present at the inauguration were Chairperson, DDC Jammu Bharat Bhushan, MLA Suchetgarh, Garu Ram Bhagat, DDC Member, Taranjit Singh Tony, PCCF & HoFF Suresh Kumar Gupta, PCCF (Wildlife) Sarvesh Rai and senior officers of the Forest Department.

## Satish Sharma emphasizes scientific innovation for sustainable agriculture

JNEWS SERVICE  
JAMMU, JULY 27

Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Information Technology, and Science & Technology, Satish Sharma today underscored the critical role of scientific innovation, technology integration and climate-resilient practices in transforming agriculture into a sustainable and economically viable sector in Jammu & Kashmir.

He was speaking at the Foundation Day celebration of Unati Agri Allied & Marketing Multi-State Cooperative Society Limited, organized in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology, J&K UT. Themed "Sustainable Agriculture through Scientific Interventions," the event brought together scientists, policymakers, farmers, entrepreneurs and youth from across the region.

The Minister highlighted the government's commitment towards empowering the farmers by promoting modern agricultural techniques, facilitating access to renew-



able energy solutions and creating a strong linkage between research institutions, cooperatives, and rural communities.

"Agriculture today must go beyond subsistence. It must be smart, sustainable and scalable. Through scientific interventions and robust policy support, we are enabling the farmers to become self-reliant, tech-savvy and economically empowered," the Minister said.

The Minister lauded the efforts of Unati Agri Allied Cooperative and the Science & Technology Department in organizing a knowledge-driven platform that aligns with the vision of climate-smart, tech-enabled agriculture. He reaffirmed the govern-

ment's resolve to support such initiatives and ensure greater outreach, funding support and policy facilitation to realize the full potential of Jammu and Kashmir's agricultural sector.

The programme witnessed the participation of several distinguished dignitaries and domain experts. These included Advisor, PU-IIT Ropar, Northern Cluster, Dr Jatinder Kaur, Director, Agriculture Department, J&K, Additional Director, J&K Science, Technology & Innovation Council (JKSTIC), Dr Nasir Shah, Regional Head, JAKEDA, Deepak Sharma and other senior officials.

Key highlights of the event included expert ses-

sions on organic farming, regenerative practices, biotechnology and precision agriculture, demonstrations on the use of solar and renewable energy in farming, including initiatives under the KUSUM scheme, awareness on government-supported schemes to promote agri-entrepreneurship and aroma cultivation, emphasis on integrating youth and startups into the agricultural innovation ecosystem.

Dr. Nasir Shah called for strengthening the bridge between science and field-level practices.

Dr. Jatinder Kaur Arora advocated for a convergence model involving research institutions, cooperatives, and technology startups to scale sustainable solutions across agro-climatic zones.

The participants, including farmers, students and Agripreneurs were sensitized about initiatives led by JKSTIC and JAKEDA, including installation of solar pumps under the KUSUM scheme, promotion of aroma farming clusters for high-value low-footprint agriculture.

## One-Day Kisan Mela-cum-Exhibition organized in Village Chatroo Kishtwar

JNEWS SERVICE  
KISHTWAR, JULY 27

A One-Day Kisan Melacum-Exhibition under Centrally Sponsored Scheme MIDH was successfully organized by Department of Agriculture Sub Division Marwah at Village Chatroo in the Kishtwar District, drawing enthusiastic participation from over 300 farmers across the region.

The event was graced by Member Legislative Assembly Inderwal Constituency, Payare Lal, who attended as the Chief Guest, lending encouragement and support to the farming community.

The Mela was aimed at promoting awareness of government development schemes, showcasing live demonstrations of modern



agricultural practices, and strengthening the outreach of allied sectors including animal husbandry, horticulture, fisheries, and rural development.

Various departmental stalls and exhibitions of agriculture and allied sectors were set up, offering hands-on information and technical guidance to farmers.

The event featured live

sample exhibitions of high-yielding crops, advanced farming tools, and demonstrations of innovative agritech solutions, drawing significant interest from participants.

As part of the program, awards and prizes were distributed to progressive farmers for their exceptional contributions and adoption of innovative practices, encouraging

others to follow suit.

Two specially abled farmers were also recognized and awarded for their contribution in production of high quality organic Garlic in Rahthal Village.

In his address, the MLA praised the efforts of the agriculture Department in organizing and emphasized the government's commitment to doubling farmers' income and uplifting rural livelihoods. He urged farmers to actively engage with ongoing schemes and embrace sustainable practices.

The event concluded on a high note, with farmers expressing satisfaction and appreciation for the informative sessions, live exhibits and government support.

## Sakeena Itoo viits Zangalpura village of Kulgam, takes stock of developmental issues of locals

JNEWS SERVICE  
KULGAM, JULY 27

Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo today visited Zangalpura village of Kulgam district to assess local developmental needs and engage with residents to take stock of their grievances and issues.

Addressing a large public gathering on the occasion, Minister Sakeena said that Omar Abdullah-led Government is focused on public welfare, highlighting that inclusive development and people-centric governance is core motto of our Government.

"Our goal is to ensure inclusive growth and effective delivery of essential services at the grassroots," the Minister stated.

During the visit, the Minister also interacted with locals and patiently listened to their grievances



and demands.

She assured the timely redressal of all the issues raised, adding that relevant departments will be directed for swift action.

She also informed the residents that a Rs. 4 crore flood protection project has been sanctioned to safeguard the area from future flood threats. She also announced that concerned department has been instructed for development of playfield in the area.

Among the key issues

raised by the residents were the execution of a flood protection project, establishment of a Primary Health Centre, and augmentation of drinking water supply, either through a dedicated filtration plant facility or by extending supply from the existing functional plant in a nearby village.

The people also demanded the upgradation of infrastructure at the Government High School, augmentation of staff in essential departments, and

the establishment of an Animal Husbandry Centre to support the agrarian economy and livestock-based livelihoods.

Another prominent demand was the extension and development of the village playfield, aimed at promoting sports and youth engagement.

On the occasion, Minister Sakeena also distributed sports kits among local players, encouraging greater youth participation in sports and physical activity.

## Inter-Zonal District Level Tournament concludes in Doda with participation of over 4000 Student-Athletes

JNEWS SERVICE  
DODA, JULY 27

The Inter-Zonal District Level Tournament organized by the Department of Youth Services and Sports Doda concluded today with spirited participation of boys and girls in the age groups of U-14, U-17 and U-19.

The 25-day-long sports event was held under the directions of Director General Youth Services and Sports J&K UT Anuradha Gupta and Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh.

The tournament was conducted under the guidance of Joint Director Jammu Vinakshi Koul and overall supervision of District Youth Services and Sports Officer Jaffar Haider Sheikh.



Over 4000 student-athletes from across the district participated in 25 different sports disciplines, with events hosted at various venues across all ten educational zones Doda, Bhaderwah, Gundna, Ghat, Assar, Bhatyas, Bhalessa, Bhagwah, Bhalla and Assar.

The highlight of the concluding day was the enthusiastic participation of over 200 girls in athletics events. The day featured:

Track Events: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m races. Jumping Events: Long Jump and High Jump. Throwing Events: Shot Put, Discus Throw and Javelin Throw

Before the events began, the participants took an oath and also pledged under the "Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan", affirming their commitment to a drug-free lifestyle and to upholding the true spirit of

sportsmanship.

The tournament, which commenced on 12th July 2025, culminated successfully today with a grand closing ceremony held at Government Degree College Bhaderwah. The venue echoed with cheers and applause as athletes were felicitated for their outstanding performances.

To honor their dedication and achievements, medals, trophies and certificates were awarded to the winners and runners-up during the closing ceremony.

All competitions were officiated by a trained panel of experts from the department, including PELs, PEMs, PETS, REKS, ground staff and NYC volunteers.

## CRPF Raising Day Celebrated at 84 Bn CRPF, Boom Chanderkote Ramban

JNEWS SERVICE  
RAMBAN, JULY 27

The 87th CRPF Raising Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the 84 Battalion CRPF Headquarters, Boom Chanderkote, Ramban.

The event was marked by a series of activities honoring the sacrifices and services of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) towards the nation.

CRPF, initially raised as the Crown Representative Police on 27 July 1939, was rechristened as the Central Reserve Police Force in December 1949. It is the largest Central Armed Police Force in India, with nearly 250 battalions deployed across the country in various conflict theatres including J&K, the North East,



Punjab, LWE states, and in operations like counter-terrorism, anti-naxal, VVIP security, election duties and more.

Since 2009, the 84 Bn CRPF has been deployed in Jammu and Kashmir and is presently stationed in Ramban district, securing

the crucial NH-44 stretch of 47 km. The unit ensures the smooth passage of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra convoys, SF convoys, and other vehicular movement in the region.

During the celebration, Commandant N. Ranbir Singh, officers and person-

nel of the 84 Bn paid rich tributes to the martyrs of CRPF who laid down their lives in the line of duty. The Commandant addressed the gathering, recalling the glorious history and distinguished legacy of the CRPF and urged the personnel to continue serving the nation with dedication and valor.

As part of the "Cleaner and Greener Planet" initiative, a plantation drive was also organized in which nearly 500 saplings were planted. The day concluded with a series of sports competitions, cultural performances, and a traditional Bada Khana, which witnessed enthusiastic participation from all officers and personnel.