

## LG lays wreath, pays homage to 2 Army bravehearts



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha laying wreath and paying homage to Army Bravehearts Lance Havildar Palash Ghosh and Lance Naik Sujay Ghosh.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha laid a wreath and paid homage to Army Bravehearts Lance Havildar Palash Ghosh and Lance Naik Sujay Ghosh, who laid down their lives for

the nation. Lance Havildar Palash Ghosh and Lance Naik Sujay Ghosh made supreme sacrifice while conducting counter terror operations in the Kishtwar Range of Kokernag battling extreme weather conditions.

"I salute the supreme sacrifice of our Army Bravehearts Lance Havildar Palash Ghosh and Lance Naik Sujay Ghosh. The nation shall remain forever grateful to exemplary valour and selfless service of our soldiers. We

stand in solidarity with the families of our martyrs in this hour of grief," the Lieutenant Governor said.

## Slathia hails PM Modi's Rs 42,000-Cr agriculture push, calls it game changer for farmers

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Samba, Surjeet Singh Slathia, on Saturday attended as the Chief Guest a special program organized at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Samba, to witness the historic and transformative initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who inaugurated and dedicated to the nation agricultural projects worth over Rs 42,000 crore.

The event, which was part of the nationwide celebration of rural development and farmer empowerment, was joined virtually by stakeholders, farmers, and agricultural of district Samba. The Prime Minister's initiative, launched under the PM Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana and Dalhan Aatmanirbharta Mission, marks a monumental step in India's agricultural transformation. Through these flagship programs, more than 2,100 projects in the fields of agriculture, animal husbandry, fisheries, and food processing have been inaugurated and commissioned across the nation. These projects are aimed at increasing productivity, ensuring



MLA Samba, Surjeet Singh Slathia speaking at a programme at KVK on Saturday.

sustainable income for farmers, and building resilience in the rural economy through innovation and infrastructure development.

Speaking on the occasion, Slathia lauded the Prime Minister's visionary leadership and his unwavering commitment to the welfare of the farming community. He said the initiatives will prove to be a game changer for India's agriculture sector, particularly in empowering small and marginal farmers through better access to technology, markets, and processing facilities.

Expressing happiness over Samba's inclusion under the national project, Slathia said it reflects the region's grow-



ing potential in agriculture and allied sectors. "Samba has a strong agrarian base, and with the implementation of these projects, the district will witness enhanced productivity, value addition, and employment generation in rural areas. The government's commitment to doubling farmers' income is now translating into visible results on the ground," he said.

He also highlighted that the PM's initiative will not

only modernize farming practices but also open new avenues for youth engagement in agri-entrepreneurship, food processing, and allied activities. This is the dawn of a new era for our farmers-one that combines tradition with technology and productivity with prosperity, he added. The program was witnessed progressive farmers as also Guest of Honour, Balwan Singh, Vice Chairman, District Development Council (DDC)

Samba. Dr. Sanjay Khajuria, Chief Scientist, also spoke on the occasion, emphasizing the importance of adopting scientific and innovative practices in agriculture for long-term sustainability. Dr. Ramesh Khajuria, Chief Agriculture Officer Samba Anil Kumar Gupta, and Chief Horticulture Officer Samba also participated in the program, and shared their insights into district-level agricultural strategies and future action plans to align with national missions.

Farmers, field officers, and agricultural experts from across the district participated in the event, expressing gratitude for the unprecedented policy focus on rural upliftment and farmer welfare. They pledged to work in synergy with the government's vision of making India self-reliant in food and agri-production, echoing the Prime Minister's call for a prosperous, empowered, and sustainable rural India.

## JMC takes stern action against Nallah encroachment in Trikuta Nagar

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on Saturday announced a firm stance against the rampant encroachment of 'nallahs' (drains/water channels) within the city limits. In a decisive move to restore the natural flow of water and mitigate flood risks, the JMC conducted a targeted demolition drive, successfully removing illegal shuttering and construction that was actively encroaching upon a crucial nallah in the Trikuta Nagar area.

The JMC has reiterated that the encroachment of nallahs is an intolerable offense that poses a direct threat to public safety and infrastructure.

"These water channels are essential for the efficient drainage of rainwater, especially during the monsoon season. Any obstruction reduces the carrying capacity of the nallahs, leading to waterlogging, flooding of low-lying areas and substantial damage to public and private property. Illegal constructions on or near nallahs are not just a violation of law; they are a direct cause of urban flooding. We have adopted a zero-tol-



erance policy towards such activities," the JMC authorities added.

They said that the removal of the illegal shuttering at Trikuta Nagar serves as a clear warning: "the JMC will not permit any activity that jeopardizes the city's drainage network and endangers the lives and property of its residents."

The enforcement team, on the directions of Commissioner, JMC and under the direct supervision of Joint Commissioner (R&E) successfully demolished and removed the illegal shuttering that was being used to construct an unauthorized structure over the nallah in Trikuta Nagar. This particular

encroachment was significantly constricting the water flow, creating a dangerous bottleneck.

The Jammu Municipal Corporation has urged the citizens, residents' welfare associations, and commercial establishments to cooperate with the Corporation's efforts to protect public land and infrastructure.

## DC interacts with GMC faculty, students

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Dr. Rakesh Minhas on Saturday held an interactive session with the faculty and students of Government Medical College Jammu and Government Dental College during his visit to the campus.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Minhas urged students to believe in the power of positive change, stating that "all improvement is possible when citizens are devoted to the cause of nation-building." He called upon the youth to contribute actively towards the betterment of Jammu and society at large, remarking that patriots must drive the nation's progress through sincere individual efforts.

The Deputy Commissioner spoke extensively on the importance of youth empowerment, demographic dividend and government initiatives aimed at enabling young citizens to play a transformative role in the nation's development. "Contribution



DC Jammu Dr. Rakesh Minhas interacting with students of GMC Jammu.

to nation-building has no age limit," he emphasised, while encouraging students to overcome inhibitions and take collective responsibility in shaping a better future.

"Instead of channeling negative emotions, let us all be part of the solution. Surety of implementation and not severity of punishment will improve the system," Dr. Minhas added.

Responding to queries from students, the DC assured that adequate safeguards exist for the security and

welfare of health and medical professionals. He underscored that strict enforcement of law is essential to deter violence against the medical fraternity while urging the medics to exercise empathy in patient care.

Dr. Minhas also offered career guidance and encouraged young medics to perform their best in whichever field they choose. He acknowledged the genuine concerns raised by students regarding security and sports facilities and assured suitable redressal at the earliest.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner lauded the efforts of the GMC administration and faculty, noting that open-ended discussions between administration and academia pave the way for constructive solutions and meaningful progress. He assured that all issues and suggestions would be taken up for further deliberation at appropriate levels.

Earlier, Principal GMC Jammu Dr. Ashutosh Gupta welcomed the Deputy Commissioner and shared the institution's vision and evolving academic expectations. He highlighted the chronological growth of GMC Jammu, which now functions with ten hospitals under its umbrella. He also apprised the DC of various facilities, administrative matters, security requirements and the institution's academic capacity.

The interaction concluded with an open exchange of ideas with students expressing enthusiasm to contribute to developmental and social initiatives in the district.



Commissioner Secretary YSS, Yasha Mudgal chairing a meeting on Saturday.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports (YSS), Yasha Mudgal on Saturday chaired a review meeting to assess the progress of Capex, SASCI, Khelo India, PMDP, and CSS projects of J&K Sports Council (JKSC).

The meeting was attended by the Special Secretary, YSS, Director Finance YSS, Secretary JKSC and other concerned officers.

The meeting held detailed review on Capex, SASCI, Khelo India, and PMDP projects, aimed at enhancing sports infrastructure across the Union Territory.

The Commissioner Secretary laid emphasis on the timely completion of eight SASCI projects, alongside Capex works Khelo India and PMDP initiatives, to provide world-class facilities and promote and increase youth participation in sports.

She called for the consolidation and strength-

ening of existing sports assets, including machinery, equipment, water facilities, and other amenities to ensure sustainable infrastructure development.

The Commissioner Secretary also called for upgradation and maintenance of existing stadiums, including floodlights, high mast lights, and improved event facilities.

She directed Secretary JKSC to secure approval for the Manasbal Water Sports Facility Executive Engineer was instructed to submit DPRs for pending projects within one week and obtain technical sanctions within 10 days. The meeting also set a target to ensure 100% expenditure and completion of all 2025-26 budgeted projects by 31st March 2026. Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports reaffirmed its commitment to modern sports infrastructure, consolidation of sports assets, nurturing young athletes, and timely project execution for the benefit of communities across J&K.

## Filling of MBBS-2025 seats on basis of NEET-UG by JKBOPEE & Process there of trapped in web of Questions

### In era of e-governance & e-counselling should not also administration respond e-mail queries & requests with same speed?

■ **DAYA SAGAR**  
In the selection list issued by BOPEE on October 7, 2025 unlike the selection list of round -2 issued vide Notification No. 135 -BOPEE of 2025 Dated September 21, 2025 on for the candidates who had changed their colleges the name of the college where they had been allotted a seat in 1st round vide Notification No. 101-BOPEE of 2025 Dated August 20, 2025 was also mentioned (like Sr.1 2501212471 Riddhiman Sharma M OM UTR 15 MBBS No college in first round in 2nd round GMC-Jammu OM ; Sr 2 2502211213 Hakeem Saad Showkat M OM 50 UTR 1st round MBBS SKIMS MC-Srinagar OM 2nd round MBBS GMC-Srinagar OM ) but in notification of 7 Oct such particulars are missing, why ?

8. ?It is not out of place to mention here that in both notifications of September 21, 2025 and Notification No. 145-BOPEE OF 2025 Dated October 7, 2025 name of UT rank 15 Riddhiman Sharma M OM appears at Sr 1 and in both cases college allotted as GMC Jammu , why he appeared in 7th Oct list is not understood ?

8. ?In each and every notification i.e. allotment list the candidates are asked

to convey any objections by a date ( time may be 1 to 4) days but in the list so made public no particulars of candidates allotted / selected are mentioned as regards parentage / home address other than name . So in that case firstly time given is short and particulars like parentage : address are very much needed for making objections to cases like reserved category/ EWS/ sports/ SC/ST / ALC/ RBA / more particularly P&B category where monthly income from all courses has to be not more than RS 70000 per year or less than RS 5834/pm ( a very low income) with all other qualifying parameters like GC. Why the complete particulars are not mentioned is surely a valid question in fairness of justice ?

9. ?JK BOPEE had in Notification No. 076-BOPEE of 2025 Dated July 17, 2025 (Online Registration of NEET UG - 2025 candidates belonging to UT of J&K/ Ladakh) asked all candidates to register by a particular date July 18, 2025 (10:00 am onwards) to July 22, 2025 (midnight)}with category certificates by a particular date ( The cut-off date for validity of the category certificates shall be the last date for Registration fixed by the BOPEE, viz, July 22, 2025.

The candidates who intend to participate against NRI/HM Quota seats in A S C O M S , Jammu shall also have to register online in pursuance of this notification; otherwise, they are not eligible for counselling under NRI/HM quota. However, they shall have to submit all such documents offline separately in the Board office at Jammu/Srinagar up to the date as may be notified by the Board separately) otherwise they will not be allowed to participate in different round of counselling (Any candidate who falls within the qualifying merit but does not register himself/herself shall not be considered for allotment of any seat . But so strangely the JKBOPEE has opened registration a number of times and allowed the reserved candidates to obtain category certificates by new cut off dates . Such practice has raised questions in the minds of some candidates who face tough academic competition alleging that such relaxations may be given to favour some candidates (more particularly in the cases of horizontal reservations) , should not such practices be suitably replied and also



### A Look through the Mist Part-II

Government should too take notice of this ? Why should the BOPEE as also the Administrative Department of Health and Medical Education not reply to online queries promptly as regards MBBS -UG-NEET admissions , more particularly when the time is short and for counselling online process is adopted ? Quarries about the tuition fee fixed by competent authority ( JK H&ME Dept) and of mode of collection to be adopted by the college concerned , which is more important to be known to candidates in the case of Private Medical College and the like as also the qualification criteria for categories ( as discussed in above mentioned references ) are surely to be conveyed to the candidates / replied to candidates where ever enquired / must be placed in public domain by JKBOPEE/ J&K Health administration ( competent authority for tuition fee fixation and laying down other conditions where ever needed under rules / law ) . But unfortunately it has been observed that such response is not there.

Even the writer has referred such like

quarries via e mail to JKBOPEE { ( 08-08-2025 coejakbopee@gmail.com, helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com, jakbopee@gmail.com) (09-08-2025 coejakbopee@gmail.com), (10-08-2025 coejakbopee@gmail.com), (20-08-2025 Coejak Bopee),(24-08-2025coejakbopee@gmail.com),(18092025 coejakbopee@gmail.com), (26-09-2025 coejakbopee@gmail.com), } , Administrative Department J&K H&ME { ( 10-08-2025 admsecyhealthjk@gmail.com, dhs jammu24@gmail.com, dhs jammu @rediffmail.com, ( 20-08-2025 admsecyhealthjk@gmail.com), ( 24-08-2025 admsecyhealthjk@gmail.com, rajbhawan-jk@nic.in,em-jk@nic.in,advisor.cmjk@nic.in) (18-09-2025 admsecyhealthjk@gmail.com, Ce:chief secretary,advisor-lg-ladakh@gov.in,Bec:advisor.cmjk@nic.in,advisor-lg-ladakh@gov.in),( 26-09-2025 admsecyhealthjk@gmail.com, Ce:chiefsecretary,advisor-lg-ladakh@gov.in)} but only one mail has been acknowledged by COE JK BOPEE that too conveying that BOPEE is not supposed to provide the

tuition fee structure ( "Please refer to your mail, you are requested to refer NEET UG (CET-Medical[MBBS/BDS/DDH/DDM]) Information Brochure 2025 para 18 (A) and (B) page no. 40 and 41 posted the JKBOPEE website under Tab E-Brochures -Common Entrance Test (Medical) which otherwise meant in case the information is needed the reference be made to Competent Authority and hence issue were being submitted to competent authority for advice along with providing the copy of the tuition fee related order of the Competent Authority for 2025 MBBS course ( particularly in private medical colleges ).

May be there are some valid justifications for some of the queries and some corrections & modifications could be made for next occasions like creating P&B category seats in Government colleges also as well as the qualification criteria for that too and the process for counselling & preparing the selection lists.

It is still hoped that LG and JK CM will kindly ensure e governance working on ground for one and all.

(The writer is Sr Journalist & a social activist dayasagr45@yahoo.com 09419796096)