

Felicitates J&K's Craftspersons at Pashmina Artisan Awards Ceremony

LG calls for buying products made by J&K artisans



Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha honouring artisan at Pashmina Artisan Awards Ceremony organised by Pashmeena Entrepreneurs Makers & Artisans Foundation.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: "Buy local and empower our great artisans", the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha urged the people while addressing the Pashmina Artisan Awards Ceremony organised by "Pashmeena Entrepreneurs Makers & Artisans Foundation" on Friday at Srinagar. The Lieutenant Governor said every household in the country must buy a creative product made of master artisans of the UT.

"I am confident the nation's growing middle class, which could make up over half the population by 2030, will create a strong domestic market for J&K's handmade products," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Highlighting the crafts-

manship and skills of the artisans, the Lieutenant Governor said, Jammu Kashmir is a repository of rich creative tradition, which manifests in its unique and ingenious handmade products. He also observed that various initiatives since 2020 have yielded significant results boosting UT's handicraft exports and positioning it as a unique player in the global crafts market.

"Let us honour and celebrate the products made by the gifted hands. These hands are not just weaving a product. They are weaving magic through every thread, through every intricate design and subtle shades," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor

highlighted various initiatives taken by the government to strengthen the handicraft and handloom sector and to promote the export.

He said, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, new schemes and policy interventions, coupled with the development of strong infrastructure, have ensured comprehensive support to young and master artisans and revived the UT's unique cultural and artistic heritage.

The Lieutenant Governor called upon all the stakeholder departments to ensure that artisans directly benefit from new GST reforms. He emphasised on increasing the visibility of Jammu Kashmir's beautiful art at major airports, shop-

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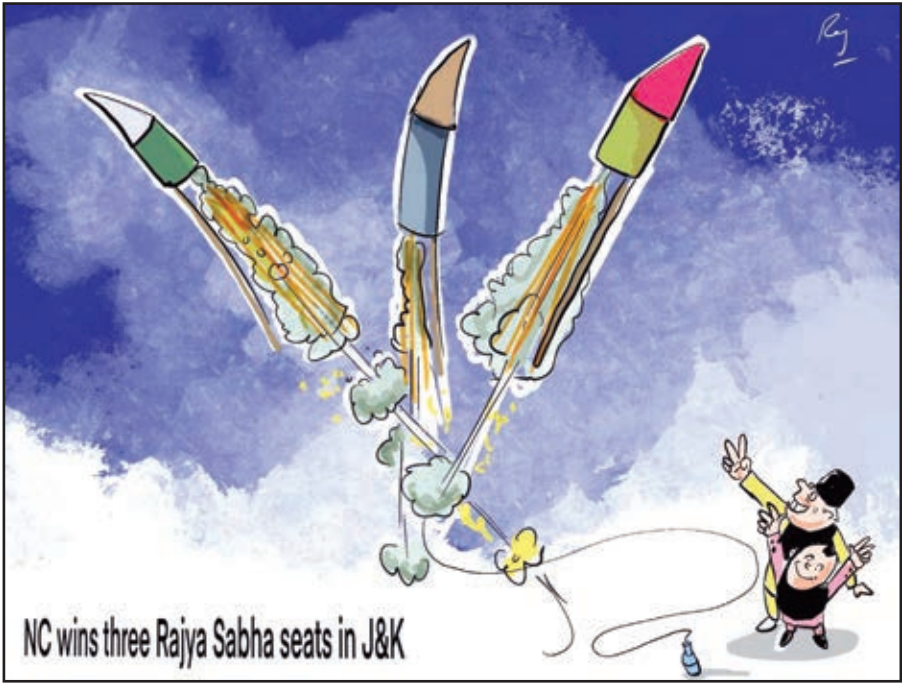
ping malls, and e-commerce sites in India and abroad, and to provide a recognition to the skilled hands behind the product.

"We must also promote cities and villages renowned for their artisans on the global craft map so that artisans and craftspeople who have been practicing these arts for decades can receive the due respect and recognition they deserve," the Lieutenant Governor further said.

The Pashmina Artisan Awards honored excellence across several categories of traditional craft with core

focus on the Pashmina Sector.

Vikramjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce Department; Dr Hina Shafi Bhat, former Chairperson KVIB; Mussarat Zia, Director Handicraft and Handloom Kashmir; Tariq Dar, President, Pashmeena Entrepreneurs Makers and Artisans (PEMA) Foundation, and office bearers of PEMA Foundation, senior officials, members of business and trade associations artisans and craftspeople attended the felicitation ceremony.



AIIMS Jammu celebrates CPR Awareness Week through multi-pronged activities

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: As per the directives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Awareness Week was observed at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Vijaypur, Jammu from 13th to 17th October 2025. The objective of the week was to enhance awareness and skills of this essential life-saving intervention among healthcare professionals, students, and the general public, thereby strengthening the chain of survival within the institution and community settings. The week commenced with a CPR Pledge on 13th October 2025 at 10:30 AM, led virtually by the Health Secretary.



Hands on demonstration of CPR Technique among housekeeping staffs.

The event was attended by the Medical Superintendent, nursing officers, faculty members, and staff of AIIMS Jammu. Following the inaugural session, a training program on Basic Life Support (BLS) and Hands-Only CPR was conducted for all nursing students of AIIMS Jammu. Subsequently, separate training sessions were organized for MBA students, security personnel, housekeeping staff, and hospital attendants, where they were demonstrated and trained on Hands-Only CPR. More than 1,000 people (students and staff combined) were trained during this week.

Two CPR Awareness Booths were established in the OPD Registration Area and Emergency Department of AIIMS Jammu. The booths operated throughout the week and were dedicated to promoting awareness of CPR among patients, their attendants, and hospital visitors. Demonstrations of CPR techniques were also carried out at the booths. Other activities included quizzes and poster competi-

tions on "CPR Awareness" for nursing officers. Videos demonstrating CPR techniques were displayed at three prominent locations within the institute.

The event was successfully implemented under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED & CEO. The program significantly enhanced awareness, preparedness, and skill competency related to cardiac arrest management among healthcare professionals and community members. This initiative contributed meaningfully toward strengthening the Chain of Survival within and beyond institutional boundaries.

Nagrota's public will reaffirm its growth story: Devyani Rana

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party candidate for bye-election to Nagrota Assembly Constituency Devyani Rana on Friday called upon the people to come forward in large numbers to exercise their franchise, saying their vote for BJP would be reaffirmation of their faith in progress and development.



BJP candidate, Devyani Rana with people during meeting at Amb Gharota Mandal.

Panditan, Ghaink in Amb Gharota Mandal.

Recalling the visionary legacy of her late father, Devender Singh Rana, whose tireless efforts as the MLA of Nagrota laid a strong foundation for the constituency's comprehensive development, Devyani Rana said that the people's overwhelming support will be pivotal in further advancing his vision. She also emphasized that the BJP's commitment to development is about enhancing and improving every facet of

people's lives.

Devyani Rana exuded confidence that with people's support, Nagrota will continue to witness accelerated development under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, whose focus on equitable growth

and empowerment has transformed lives across Jammu and Kashmir.

"BJP's philosophy is clear that growth must reach everyone, and every citizen should have the opportunity to progress with dignity," she told the enthusiastic crowds assembled for the roadside interactions.

Addressing the Nukad meetings, BJP leader Bharat Bhushan, DDC Chairman Jammu appealed to the people of Nagrota to give a massive mandate to Devyani Rana, enabling her to carry forward the unfinished mission of holistic development envisioned by her late father. He said the party stands united behind her to take Nagrota to new heights of progress.

South Jammu SP Ajay Sharma awarded Ph.D in Socio-Political Philosophy from SMVDU



■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Police officer Ajay Sharma, JKPS, has been conferred the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Socio-Political Philosophy by the School of Philosophy and Culture, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra.

The university officially notified the award of his degree on October 20, 2025, marking a significant milestone for both the officer and the police department. The officer is presently serving as SP City South and had commenced his Doctoral journey in 2018.

Ajay Sharma's doctoral research, titled "On the Alleged Role of Religion in Fostering Fundamentalism," is a one of its kind study that delves into the intricate connections between religion, ideology, and social identity. His work critically examines how certain interpretations of religious beliefs can contribute to radicalization, extremism, and communal polarization and the same time how the right interpretation and understanding of religion and religious beliefs can bring the society together. By exploring these complex dynamics, the research provides a deeper understanding of the philosophical, psychological, sociological and historical roots of radical behavior, offering fresh perspectives on some of the most pressing challenges in modern society.

This achievement holds profound importance, for the officer and for JKP as an important tool establishing peace tranquility, harmony in a multicultural society. His work can also be useful for law enforcement agencies/academia/ religious scholars and government with a stronger foundation to develop effective counter-radicalization strategies, enhance community policing efforts, and foster trust within diverse communities. By addressing these issues through a socio-philosophical lens, the study emphasizes the critical role of knowledge-driven approaches in tackling security and societal challenges with greater empathy, precision, and understanding.

Understanding and promoting the usefulness of the research, Police Headquarter has encouraged the efforts of the officer by granting him required permission and strongly forwarding it to the administrative department i.e Home Department. This was subsequently endorsed by Home Department and necessary departmental permission was granted in his favour.

What makes this accomplishment even more inspiring is Ajay Sharma's ability to balance the rigorous demands of his academic research with his challenging responsibilities as a police officer. Serving in a region with complex security dynamics, he managed to fulfill his professional duties, handle administrative commitments, and dedicate himself to scholarly work.

The SSP Jammu and all ranks congratulates Dr. Ajay Sharma for this prestigious accomplishment and recognizes the significance of his work in strengthening the department's mission to serve and protect the society with wisdom and integrity.

UT Govt committed to making Ladakh a hub of education, sports & culture: LG Kavinder

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, emphasised the importance of promoting a sporting culture and enhancing women's participation in sports in Ladakh, calling it vital for holistic student development.

He noted that sports foster confidence, leadership, teamwork, and physical and mental well-being while breaking gender stereotypes, promoting inclusion, and preparing students for future challenges.

He was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the North Zone Women's Kabaddi Championship, organised by the University of Ladakh, Kargil Campus, in collaboration with the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).



Lieutenant Governor Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta inaugurating sports competition.

Commending the University for hosting the prestigious zonal and inter-zonal women's kabaddi championship-with a record participation of 48 universities-the Lt Governor said it reflects Ladakh's growing sporting culture and the University's commitment to advancing women's leader-

ship in sports.

Applauding the University's remarkable progress under Vice-Chancellor Prof. Saket Kushwaha, the Lt Governor mentioned the successful conduct of its second Convocation Ceremony, where 612 degrees were conferred, and the first-time

completion of non-teaching staff appointments-creating valuable employment opportunities for Ladakh's youth.

He highlighted the University's academic expansion, offering over 50 post-graduate and 17 Ph.D. programmes, ensuring accessible, quality education for the region's students. The Lt Governor appreciated the four-fold increase in student admissions, reflecting growing trust in the University's excellence. He lauded its achievements in research and innovation, having secured projects worth over Rs 50 crores from various agencies, and commended the School of Agricultural Science and Technology, Kargil Campus, for extracting buckwheat honey.

He also praised the introduction of new-age skill-based courses in collaboration with the Tribal Research Institute, MeitY, and NIELIT, aligning with the UT Administration's vision of a digital, innovation-driven future. Extending best wishes to all teams, the Lt Governor urged them to play with passion, integrity, and sportsmanship, calling the

championship a celebration of women's strength and youth's indomitable spirit.

As Chancellor of the University, he reaffirmed the Administration's support for educational, research, and sporting initiatives empowering Ladakhi youth.

During the event, he felicitated Mohammad Jawed for being selected as coach of the National Volleyball Team.

LAHDC Kargil Chairman Dr. Mohammad Jaffer Akhoun hailed the event as historic and advocated establishing an Agriculture University in Kargil.

MP Ladakh Mohamad Hanifa Jan urged athletes to act as ambassadors of Kargil's culture, while Vice-Chancellor Prof. Kushwaha welcomed all and thanked the Administration for its continued support.

GOC 15 Corps calls on CS to discuss Civil-Military Coordination issues



GOC 15 Corps, Lt. Gen. Prashant Srivastava calling on Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
SRINAGAR: The General Officer Commanding (GOC) 15 Corps, Lt. Gen. Prashant Srivastava, who oversees military operations in the Kashmir Valley, on Friday called on Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo in his office chambers at the Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting focused on strengthening civil-military coordination to ensure seamless execution of various developmental and administrative initiatives aimed at enhancing public welfare and security in the region.

During the interaction, both sides held a comprehensive discussion on key issues requiring joint efforts between the civil administration and the security forces.

The deliberations covered aspects related to the smooth implementation of several decisions, and measures to further facilitate cooperation for the larger good of the public.

The Chief Secretary appreciated the Army's continued support in maintaining peace, stability thereby facilitating development across the UT. He emphasized the importance of synergized efforts between civil agencies and the armed forces to address emerging challenges effectively and to ensure timely redressal of issues.

Lt. Gen. Prashant Srivastava reaffirmed the Army's commitment to working in close coordination with the Union Territory Administration to ensure that all initiatives are implemented in a time-bound and people-centric manner.

Both the Chief Secretary and the GOC reiterated their resolve to strengthen institutional mechanisms for coordination, ensuring that developmental and public welfare measures proceed smoothly in tandem with security imperatives across the UT.

DM Jammu Dr. Rakesh Minhas chairing District Level NCORD Committee meeting.

DM Jammu directs coordinated action against drug trafficking



DM Jammu Dr. Rakesh Minhas chairing District Level NCORD Committee meeting.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**
JAMMU: District Magistrate Dr. Rakesh Minhas on Friday chaired a meeting of the District Level NCORD Committee meeting here at the district headquarters.

The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police Joginder Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioner Anusya Jamwal; SP (Rural) Brijesh Sharma and other district officers.

The meeting chalked out a comprehensive Action Plan to eliminate drug trafficking

and illicit liquor trade in the district. The Sub-Divisional Magistrates were directed to coordinate with the Police and launch a unified crackdown against perpetrators of drug menace and illicit trade.

The Committee also discussed actionable steps to declare Drug-Free Panchayats. The Excise Department was directed to enhance vigilance and take firm action against illicit liquor production and trade as well as unauthorised cannabis and poppy cultivation.

Similar directions were issued to the Drug Control Department to ensure strict enforcement of regulations. Emphasis was laid on regular inspection of psychiatric support centres to ensure compliance with legal and regulatory norms.

The enforcement of the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA) was also stressed, with the instructions to strictly prohibit sale of tobacco products near schools and educational institutions across the district.