

# Unity Run celebrating National Unity Day in Pahalgam



Col H.C Singh, Director of JIM & WS, Pahalgam with other dignitaries at participants.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A Unity Run was organized on Tuesday in Pahalgam to celebrate National Unity Day, also known as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas.

This event marked the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, who played a significant role in uniting the diverse princely states into a single, unified India.

The Unity Run emphasized the importance of unity, diversity, and the vision of a strong, united India. The event saw active participation from students of Higher Secondary School, Pahalgam, and High School

LP Kallan, Pahalgam. The run covered a total distance of 8.5 kilometers, starting from Club Park and concluding at the Mandilan wildlife gate.

Prior to the run, a Unity Pledge was taken at the starting point.

The event was graced by the presence of several notable dignitaries, including Col Hem Chandra Singh, Director of JIM & WS, Pahalgam, Syed Naseer, SDM Pahalgam, Dr. Mohd Hussain, Tehsildar Pahalgam, Zaffar Iqbal, SHO, Pahalgam and Bilal Ahmad, ADT, Pahalgam.

Prizes were awarded to the top performers in both girls

and boys categories. In girls section, Sumera from High School LP Kallan, Pahalgam got first prize while Munaza Nisar from High School LP Kallan, Pahalgam and Ruhi Jan from Higher Secondary School, Pahalgam bagged second and third prize respectively.

In boys section, Muntazir Ahmad Khan from Higher Secondary School, Pahalgam got first prize while Monis Yaqoob from Higher Secondary School, Pahalgam and Safer Ali from Higher Secondary School, Pahalgam bagged second and third prize respectively.

# LG inaugurates Jhelum Riverfront

Right Bank from Zero Bridge to GPO



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurating the Jhelum Riverfront (Right Bank) Zero Bridge.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday inaugurated the Jhelum Riverfront (Right Bank) Zero Bridge to the General Post Office (GPO).

The riverfront has been upgraded as a pedestrian and cycling promenade along with parks, and public plazas equipped with public amenities like toilets, seating spaces, and high-quality lighting to the people.

The Lt Governor congratulated the Srinagar Smart City Limited for providing a distinct identity to the city's rich heritage through the prestigious Jhelum Riverfront project.

Srinagar Smart City Limited is also shifting electric and telecommunication utility cables underground in order to make the riverfront a wire-free public space.

Earlier in the month of May this year, the Lt Governor had inaugurated the 6 km-long stretch of the Jhelum Rajbagh Riverfront which was developed into world-class public space with facilities like walkways, cycling, green space, universal access and numerous activities along the way. The Jhelum

Riverfront has become a model of urban excellence and a major attraction for tourists as well as the locals.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor, SMC; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Athar Amir Khan, CEO Srinagar Smart City; Sh Mohammad Aijaz, Deputy Commissioner

# LG attends open painting competition on "Corruption free & Poverty free future"

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday attended an open painting competition on the theme "Corruption free & Poverty free future", Ideals of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat at Zero Bridge, on the occasion of UT Foundation Day.

The Lt Governor interacted with the children participating in the competition and encouraged them to highlight the social issues through their creative art.

The painting competition was organized by School Education Department.

As a part of UT Foundation Day celebration, the Lt Governor inaugurated a photo exhibition organized by Department of Information and Public Relations on the theme "Badalta Khilta Jammu Kashmir" at the iconic Lal Chowk.

The exhibition highlighted the development journey of Jammu Kashmir over the last four years.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Mayor, SMC; Mandep Kaur, Commissioner/Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj; Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO, Mission Youth; Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir; Minga Sherpa, Director Information Department; HoDs and senior officers were also present.

Srinagar and senior officers were present.

# National Unity Day: Div Com, IGP flag off "Run for Unity" in Jammu



Div Com Jammu, Ramesh Kumar and IGP Jammu, Anand Jain flagging off Run for Unity.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: To mark the National Unity Day, a Run for Unity-symbolizing the unity of the nation, was organised today in Jammu to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The "Run for Unity" was flagged off by Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police, Anand Jain. People from all walks of life, including gov-

ernment functionaries, school children, and the general public participated in the commendable initiative. The run commenced from Gulshan Ground, Jammu and concluded at Maharaja Hari Singh Park. Heads of different departments, students from local schools, and civil society members made the event a grand success, highlighting the diversity and unity that is the strength of our nation.

The "Run for Unity" event

serves as a reminder of the importance of fostering national unity and solidarity, and it is heartening to see people from diverse backgrounds coming together to celebrate and strengthen our great nation.

Commissioner JMC, Rahul Yadav; Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya; SSP Jammu, Vinod Kumar; besides HoDs of various departments participated.

# Court frames corruption charges against Ex-Principal & ors in purchase scam

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Special Judge Anticorruption Jammu Tahir Khurshid Raina framed charges against Dr. Hemla Aggarwal, the then Principal Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu, Jia Lal, then Accounts Assistant of Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Jagdish Kumar, then Storekeeper at Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Sunil Malik Proprietor M/S Sun Broadcast Equipments Pvt. Ltd, Bhavnish Sachdeva Sr. Manager M/S Sun Broadcast Equipment Pvt. Ltd and Vinay Kumar Thakur, Proprietor M/S Audio Video Centre in purchase scam.

The gravamen of the accusations as put in the summary of the charge-sheet is that the accused No. 1, Professor Hemla Aggarwal, Principal Commerce College, Jammu, has purchased I-Mac system software on exorbitant rates without any requisition for the same made by the concerned faculty of the college.

The said purchase was made in violation of the codal formalities. As inferred from the charge-sheet, even the software of the system, namely Final Cut Plugging, Edius-4 Conopus and Adobe Master Collection CS3, were not found available in the system. The verification conducted further revealed that Jagdish Kumar, accused No. 3, then posted as Storekeeper in the college has received the bill of I-Mac system and its accessories from accused No. 1 and entered the same in the Stock Register which were duly attested by the latter. However, the system was not received in physical form by accused No. 3 but received after two months, without verifying the originality of the software purchased for I-Mac System. As reflected from the charge-sheet, said I-Mac System was in fact already lying with Dr. Hemla Aggarwal since 2008 and the software was loaded on the system prior to date of purchase/billing of the same at

Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu. It is inferred from the charge-sheet that accused No. 1, in the capacity of DDO/Principal at Govt. SPMR College of Commerce, Jammu, with dishonest intention hatched a conspiracy with the co-accused Jia Lal who was then posted as Accountant in the same college, mooted a proposal without any requisition from any department of the College and without following the Codal formalities for purchase of the I-Mac System, purchased the same. Thus fake bills were prepared for the I-Mac and of the software which were already in the possession of the accused No. 1 and got the same entered in the Stock Register of the college through accused Jagdish Kumar, then Storekeeper. She also got the system verified from a person named Rajinder Kumar Raina, a non-technical person of the Doordarshan Kendra, Jammu, passed the

bill and made payment to the dealers at New Delhi viz, Sunil Malik (accused No.4) Proprietor M/S Sun Broadcast Equipments Pvt. Ltd. and Vinay Kumar Thakur (accused No. 6), Proprietor M/S Audio Video Centre through Bhavnish Sachdeva (accused No.5), co-accused and then Sr. Manager of M/S Sun Broadcast Equipments Pvt. Ltd. thereby causing loss to the tune of Rs. 4,05,600/- which includes Rs. 78,000/- for Final Cut Plugging, Rs. 46,800/- for Edius 4 Conopus, Rs. 1,40,400/- for Adobe Master Collection CS3 and Rs. 1,40,400/- for I-Mac Gfx Workstation.

Special Judge Anticorruption Jammu Tahir Khurshid Raina after hearing APP Irshad Ahmed Sheikh for the ACB, observed that finally, based on the facts, law and evidence, as stand discussed in the preceding paras, "I have found that the material on record prima-facie gives pre-

sumption of guilt of the accused and sufficiently connects the accused with the commission of the offences as mentioned in the charge-sheet. Law is very well settled in context of stage of hearing on the charge that the court has not to examine the evidentiary value of the documents produced by the prosecution at this stage nor the evidence collected by the investigating agency is to be scrutinized in the same manner as is required for recording conviction or acquittal of an accused. However, at the same time law does not permit the court to act as the post office and treat every word of the prosecution as gospel truth and frame charges against the accused. Law has put an onerous duty on the court to apply its mind to the material on record, independently of the accusations drawn by the prosecution and has to come to its own conclusion based on prima-facie appreciation of the material.

# NSS Unit 1 of GCW Gandhi Nagar takes unity pledge on National Unity Day



NSS volunteers and faculty taking pledge.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: NSS Unit 1 of Government College for Women (GCW) Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, came together to observe National Unity Day by taking a unity pledge.

This initiative was car-

ried out to commemorate the birth anniversary of the 'Iron Man of India,' Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who played a pivotal role in the unification of India's princely states into one cohesive nation.

In a spirited ceremony

held on the college campus, members of the NSS Unit 1, along with students and faculty, gathered to reaffirm their commitment to the ideals of unity, integrity, and oneness.

Prof Minu Mahajan, the Principal of the College, commended the NSS Unit 1 and all those who participated in the pledge ceremony.

She emphasized the significance of National Unity Day and the need for continued efforts to maintain the unity and diversity that defines India.

NSS Programme Coordinator Prof Mala Bhasin and NSS PO Unit-1 Prof Sugandha Mahajan coordinated the event.

# Debate Competition in commemoration of Martyrs organised by Jammu Police



Winner students posing with Police officers and other dignitaries.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As a part of series of events in connection with the Commemoration of Martyrs, a debate competition on the theme "The Role of Police in Nation Building" was organized on Tuesday among the students of different colleges/schools of District Jammu was organized at Conference Hall DPL Jammu.

The event was attended by SSP Jammu Dr Vinod Kumar, accompanied by Rannish

Gupta, SP (HQRS) Jammu, Kameshwar Puri (SP Ops) Jammu, KD Bhagat, DySP DAR, DPL Jammu, Pooja Nijhon, Sr. PO DPO Jammu and Anju Sharma, Headmistress Primary Wing, JKPPS Miran Sahib. In the said debate competition 16 students of various colleges/schools participated.

The jury members Kameshwar Puri (SP Ops) Jammu, Pooja Nijhon, Sr. PO DPO Jammu and Anju

Sharma, Headmistress Primary Wing, JKPPS Miran Sahib adjudged the debate competition in which students namely Arti Sharma of Govt. Degree College Bishnah, Anmol Sharma of J&K Public School and Mitali Bhardwaj of Devan Devi Hr. Sec. School Rajpura stood 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively.

In the end, SSP Jammu congratulated the winners and awarded the winners with trophies and cash prizes.

# CAT stays promotion of I/C AEE

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Central Administrative Tribunal, Jammu has stayed the promotion of In-charge Assistant Engineers to the post of In-Charge Assistant Executive Engineer in PWD department. The Judicial Member Rajendra Dogra has observed that the promotion order issued by the department on 12.10.2022, whereby in-charge Assistant Engineers have been promoted as In-charge Assistant Executive Engineer, was issued by ignoring the senior persons who were working as Assistant Engineers on substantive basis.

Sr. Adv Abhinav Sharma who appeared for the applicants stated that the persons who were promoted by department were very junior to the applicants and they were Junior Engineers and were promoted to the post of

In-charge Assistant Engineer in 2019 whereas, the applicants are directly recruited as Assistant Engineer since 2017. The order was stayed by the Tribunal on the ground that there was no provision of law that the In-charge Assistant Engineers cannot be promoted until and unless they are regularized and confirmed as Assistant Engineers. In the present case, the applicants who were appointed as Assistant Engineers in 2017 were fully eligible to be promoted after two years of their service as Assistant Executive Engineer. But department ignored them and proceeded to promote other In-charge Assistant Engineers to the post of Assistant Executive Engineer in violation of the rule, which is bad in the law and against the law settled by the Supreme Court.

# GDC Khour celebrated National Unity Day



Principal GDC Khour flagging off unity run.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KHOUR: GDC Khour celebrated National Unity Day. The purpose of the

programme was to honour the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and to remember his con-

tributions to India's union. The programme started with the unity pledge in which Principal,

Staff members and students of the college took part followed by unity run flagged off by the college principal in which more than hundred boys and girls of the college took part.

The whole programme was conducted by Prof. (Lt.) Arun Sharma, NCC Officer of the College and Prof. Gurvinder Kour NSS coordinator under the guidance of Prof. (Dr.) T.K Sharma, Principal of the College.

# STD celebrates Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir State Taxes Department on Tuesday celebrated 4th UT Foundation Day and Rashtriya Ekta Diwas here.

Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner State Taxes, J&K, Dr Rashmi Singh, congratulated the team of officers and stakeholders for achieving remarkable milestone in last four years. "Number of registered taxpayers in year 2017-18 was only 72000 under GST which is now increased to more than 1.42 laacs. Moreover, from a modest average monthly collection of around Rs 300 crores, the collection in the current financial year (2023-24) has crossed Rs 683 crore while return filing percentage also shown remarkable achievement with 97 percent dealers filing returns," she remarked.

Highlighting on other major accomplishments of the department, Dr Rashmi said, "GST revenue collections from J&K (SGST) have shown 33.20% growth, surpassing the National average of 15% for the current financial year."

# 'Think globally, act locally': Dr. Ravi Shankar Sharma



Chief Guest, Dr. Ravi Shankar Sharma Special Secretary, Higher Education Department posing with faculty members.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Addressing a gathering of students and teachers at GDC Akhnoor for the ongoing Accession Day celebrations, both the Chief Guest, Dr. Ravi Shankar Sharma (JKAS) Special Secretary, Higher Education Department (J&K), and the Principal Dr. Romilla Malla Bhat, stressed on the celebration of diversity, mental, cultural and genetic, which is a hallmark of long lasting civilizations. They held that it

is the Indian philosophy of unity in diversity, that even extends to "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam," which makes India one great nation despite its past comprising of 565 princely states. The celebrations were organised by the Literary and Cultural Committee headed by Dr. Sandhya, with the help of Dr. Kuldeep Kumar, NCC incharge, and Dr. Sanjay Kapoor (NSS Programme Officer) along with NCC and NSS students. The cel-

ebrations included dance presentations and speeches by the college students. The Department of Dogri supervised by Professor Nisha Kumari held mehndi and rangoli contests simultaneously, while various students were awarded trophies and medals for various events at the hands of the chief guest. The function was completed by college students Saniya and Aastha and ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Sukriti Sharma.

# Retiring Principal GHSS Paloura accorded grand farewell

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Principal Higher Secondary School Paloura, Zone-Jammu, Sumita Chadha was given a grand farewell on her superannuation after rendering 37 years of service in School Education Department.

She worked in the capacity of Teacher, Master, Lecturer



Faculty members according farewell to Principal GHSS Paloura, Sunita Chadha.

and as Principal. During her service, she worked with utmost dedication and gave her best to the assigned tasks.

On the occasion, the Speakers recalled the services of Sumita Chadha and extended their best wishes. Staff of the school also wished her a healthy and joyful post retirement life.