

# Jharkhand Day commemorative event at Raj Bhawan

## Jharkhand people making rich contribution to India's growth: LG



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha addressing a cultural evening to commemorate the Jharkhand Day at Raj Bhawan.

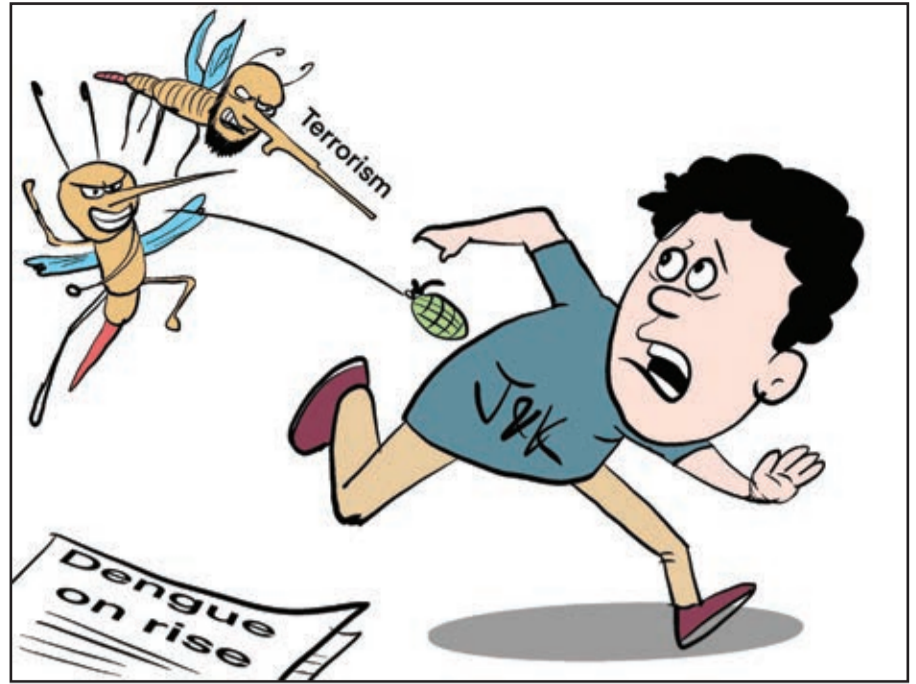
**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu Kashmir Raj Bhawan on Saturday hosted a cultural evening to commemorate the Jharkhand Day, which was celebrated on November 15. Students, Security personnel and residents of Jharkhand

were the special invitees on the occasion. In his address, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha spoke on the rich history of Jharkhand and recalled the valuable contribution of the social reformers, freedom fighters, litterateurs, farm-

ers, artists and great personalities of Jharkhand. "Since ancient times in India, we have believed in maintaining a balance between nature and humankind. Jharkhand Day celebration today provided us an opportunity to reaffirm

our pledge to protect and conserve natural resources," the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor highlighted that the natural beauty, cultural richness, diversity of Jharkhand and entrepreneurial approach of

its people is making rich contributions to India's growth. "Jharkhand literally means 'the land of forests'. It is home to social reformers and freedom fighters like Bhagwan Birsa Munda and Tilka Manjhi. May this sacred land scale new heights of progress and prosperity in the coming years," he said. On the occasion, traditional folk dance and musical performances by the artists were organized to celebrate the glorious cultural heritage of Jharkhand.



## DIPR observes National Press Day; highlights significance of fourth pillar of democracy

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Considering the crucial and multi-faceted role of media in impacting the society, the Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) on Saturday exhorted upon the media fraternity to provide accurate, timely and relevant information to the audience while striving for factual accuracy and fairness in the reporting.



In two separate events organized by the DIPR to commemorate National Press Day at Jammu and Srinagar offices, the day was observed to acknowledge the significance of fourth pillar of democracy, its role in the matrix of information flow and dynamic transformation of society. Besides, media's essential role as a pivotal tool for Information, Education and Communication of government schemes and programmes was also highlighted. Present on the occasions were media fraternity of Jammu and Kashmir, students besides Joint Director Jammu, Atul Gupta, Joint Director, Kashmir, Mohammad Aslam, Deputy Director PR, Kashmir, Ahsan ul Haq Chisti and

other officers and officials of DIPR. Atul Gupta, while elaborating on the changing and emerging trends in media, said that in recent years the media has undergone profound transformation. This shift has enabled the audiences worldwide to access news in real-time and engage with diverse viewpoints, he added. While new platforms and technologies offer exciting opportunities for greater engagement and inclusivity, they also pose challenges that the industry must navigate carefully. He also explained about the rele-

vant and significance of this year's theme of the National Press Day "The Changing Nature of Press". "Beyond technological advances, the press is also playing an increasing role in driving social change. Issues such as gender equality and climate action are gaining prominence through media coverage, often amplified by social movements and campaigns. In an era where speed often trumps accuracy, the press must combat these issues while maintaining journalistic integrity. Fact checking initiatives and AI-driven tools offer some solu-

tions, but the battle against misinformation and disinformation remains a critical task for the future of journalism", maintained the JDI. Speaking on the occasion, Mohammad Aslam acknowledged the importance and share of Press in crafting an informed society while serving the means of dissemination of wide spectrum of information. He underscored the need of ethical journalism with impeccable integrity in reporting the news. He maintained that with the growth of social media and other digital media platforms, the credibility of news has become the top concern. He also detailed the skill, knowledge, data and seriousness involved in Journalism as a profession. He urged upon the journalist fraternity to adopt moral and ethical values in their noble profession. The resource persons, Dr. Rashid Maqbool from Kashmir University and Dr. Ruheela Hassan, IUST, presented historic perspective of changing nature of Press and its contribution for developing informed society with events, changes and transformation in the global world.

## J&K key player in India's 'Viksit Bharat' journey: Dr Jitendra

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: At the CSIR Healthcare Theme Conclave's inaugural session at SKICC on Saturday, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, described Jammu & Kashmir as a key player in India's 'Viksit Bharat' journey.



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh speaking after inaugurating "One Week One Theme-CSIR Healthcare Theme Conclave" at SKICC, Srinagar on Saturday.

The Minister presented a vibrant picture of India's innovation-driven future, emphasising the transformative potential of biotechnology, space technology, and youth-led startups. He positioned Jammu and Kashmir as a treasure trove of untapped resources. Speaking to a packed audience of StartUps, scientists, innovators, and young entrepreneurs, Dr. Jitendra Singh declared, "India's startup ecosystem, now the third-largest globally with over 1.6 lakh ventures, stands testament to our entrepreneurial spirit. From just 350 startups a decade ago, we've grown exponentially, becoming a powerhouse of innovation." The Minister highlighted India's remarkable progress in the space sector, achieved through public-private partnerships. "Three years ago, we had just single-digit collaborations in space; today,

over 300 global-standard partners have joined hands with ISRO. Our first-generation space startups are now celebrated entrepreneurs and knowledge leaders," he shared. Dr. Jitendra Singh credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary policies for catalyzing these achievements. "The launch of Startup India was more than a slogan; it was the spark that ignited a nationwide movement," he noted. The Minister also outlined the extraordinary strides in biotechnology, an area he called the future of the global economy. He pointed to pioneering achievements, such as India's first DNA vaccine and the HPV vaccine for cervical cancer, which underscore the nation's scientific prowess. "In 2014, India's bio-economy was worth just \$10 billion. Today, it stands at \$130 billion, and we are on track to reach \$300 billion by 2030," he announced. He also spoke passionately about Jammu

and Kashmir's role in this transformation. "The region is poised to become a bio-economy hub, driving the next industrial revolution with its unique natural resources." Dr. Jitendra Singh made a heartfelt appeal to young innovators, urging them to become "the architects of 2047 India." He emphasized the importance of societal awareness, suggesting that parents accompany their children to such conclaves to bridge generational knowledge gaps. Citing examples from the region, he highlighted the lavender cultivation success story as proof of the area's potential. "When a young entrepreneur earns ₹15,000 per vial of lavender oil, why should our youth stand in line for government jobs?" he asked, challenging the audience to rethink traditional career paths. The Minister closed his speech by aligning the conclave's goals with India's broader aspirations for

2047. He stressed the critical role of Himalayan states, including Jammu and Kashmir, in driving sustainable growth and innovation. "As resources in other parts of the country diminish, the untouched potential of this region will lead India's growth story," he stated, adding that this transition is supported by robust government policies and the unwavering determination of the nation's youth. The two-day conclave brings together experts and stakeholders to discuss healthcare advancements, biotechnology, and sustainable development strategies. It also features exhibitions showcasing cutting-edge innovations, particularly from young startups. The event is expected to inspire more collaborations and investments in the region, reinforcing its role as a springboard for India's innovation journey toward becoming a global leader in science and technology.

## Yudhvir Sethi, ADC Jammu finalize arrangements for five-day Shri Kaal Bhairav Ashtami Festival



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and MLA East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi, along with Additional District Magistrate Jammu, Anusuya Jamwal, Mahant Rumil Sharma, and officials from the Police Department and Civil Administration, on Saturday reviewed and finalized the arrangements for the upcoming five-day Shri Kaal Bhairav Ashtami Festival. The festival is set to commence on November 17, 2024, at the ancient Kaal Bhairav Temple in Chowk Chabutra, Jammu. The five-day festival is anticipated to be a vibrant celebration filled with religious fervor, cultural programs, and community activities, reaffirming Jammu's position as a hub of spirituality and tradition. During the review meeting, ADC Anusuya Jamwal took stock of the arrangements for security, traffic management, sanitation, and other essential services to ensure the smooth conduct of the Shri Kaal Bhairav Ashtami Festival. She assured all possible support from the District Administration to ensure

the smooth conduct of this significant religious and cultural event. She emphasized the collective effort of various departments to make the festival a grand success. MLA Yudhvir Sethi stated that such festivals showcase the region's rich cultural heritage and provide a platform for fostering unity among people. "The Shri Kaal Bhairav Ashtami Festival is a celebration of our spiritual legacy and cultural ethos." Sethi appealed to the people of Jammu to participate in large numbers, seek the blessings of Kaal Bhairav, and contribute to making this event a grand success. Mahant Rumil Sharma, the spiritual custodian of the temple, highlighted the historical and religious significance of the Kaal Bhairav Temple. "This temple is a symbol of our age-old traditions and spirituality. The Shri Kaal Bhairav Ashtami Festival provides devotees an opportunity to seek blessings and connect with our divine heritage," he said. Ex Corporator Anil Masoom was present along with the others.

## Jammu police busts motor vehicle lifting gang, recovers vehicles worth over Rs 1 crore

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a major breakthrough, Jammu Police has successfully busted a motor vehicle lifting gang operating in the East and South subdivisions of the South Zone of Jammu District. Under the ongoing Operation Avatar, more than 20 stolen vehicles, including motorcycles, trucks, and cars, have been recovered, with an estimated value exceeding one crore rupees, said SP South Ajay Sharma in a press conference, here on Saturday.



SP South Ajay Sharma addressing a press conference at Jammu on Saturday.

He said "The case began on 25th October, 2024 when a complaint was filed by Pritam Singh at the Bahu Fort Police Station, reporting the theft of his scooter (Registration No. JK08 E 4106). Another complaint was lodged on 6th November, 2024 by Suraj Kumar, who reported the theft of his Bullet motorcycle (Registration No. JK02 CQ 0992). Both cases were registered, and an investigation was initiated."

To crack the case, a special team was formed under the leadership of SDPO East DySP Sheezan Bhat and SDPO South Kartik Shrotriya, with the supervision of SP South Ajay Sharma and SSP Jammu Joginder Singh. The team utilized technical tools, including dump data analysis, CCTV footage, and the study of suspect patterns. The efforts led to significant breakthroughs, and two suspects-Dheeraj Singh, son of Deepak Singh, resident of Kanji House Gummat Jammu and Hem Raj, son of

Hans Raj, resident of Ramkote, Kathua, were arrested for questioning. During their interrogation, Hem Raj confessed to his involvement in the theft of Pritam Singh's scooter, while Dheeraj Singh admitted his role in multiple thefts across the region. Based on their disclosures, the police were able to recover a number of stolen vehicles, including motorcycles, scooters, and even a truck. The Jammu Police have recovered a significant number of stolen vehicles as part of their ongoing investigation

into a motor vehicle lifting gang. The recovered vehicles include a variety of motorcycles, scooters, and even a truck and a car. Among the motorcycles, there is a Splendor (Chassis N o . MBLHW224PHL54214), a Platina (Registration No. JK14C-3651), a Hero Honda (Registration No. JK02BG-1520), and multiple Bullet motorcycles (including Registration No. ME3U3K8COHF341840).

Also recovered was a Yamaha R-15 (Chassis No. MBSED11WEN8133490), and other motorcycles like a FZ (Black Chassis No. MEIRGD72AF0136/60) and additional models with registration numbers JK02 BG-1520 and JK02 AS-7742. In addition to the motorcycles, the police recovered several scooters, including Activa models with Registration Nos. JK02 BN 7685, JK02 BV 715, and JK08 E 4106, as well as other scooters with chassis numbers such as

ME4JF215CE125085 and KWPGHMSI-1084. A red-colored Scooty with Engine No. JK13EW1068424 was also seized. Furthermore, a Truck (Registration No. JK02 AH 3711) and a Safari Car (Registration No. JK02 AH 9110) were recovered. The total value of these recovered vehicles is estimated to exceed one crore rupees, marking a significant achievement for Jammu Police in combating motor vehicle theft. The police are continuing their investigation and expect more arrests and recoveries in the near future. The public has praised the efforts of Jammu Police in tackling the issue of motor vehicle theft, with citizens and netizens expressing appreciation for the swift action taken by the authorities. This successful operation highlights the dedication of the Jammu Police in ensuring the safety and security of the community.

## Govt ignorant of farmers' suffering in Jammu region

### J&K Govt fails to provide fertilizer to farmers in sowing season: Sukhnandan

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As the farmers in Jammu are already in trouble due to untimely rainfall and winds and now the acute shortage of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) fertilizers has added more worries to them, the former Minister and senior BJP leader Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar on Saturday accused the government of ignoring this serious issue which is related to the livelihood of these poor farmers in Jammu

region. The Ex-BJP minister said the Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) was very much needed during sowing period. Since for

the last several years, the farmers in Jammu region are facing natural calamities like thunderstorms and heavy rains, now the UT government has created another trouble for them. "During the LG rule in J&K, we have never suffered such types of problems and in case of any issue, the things were resolved in days," said Sukhnandan, the present government is totally ignorant of the farmers' issues especially of the

farmers of Jammu region. Now no one is here to listen to the plight of the farmers," said Sukhnandan. Our Prime Minister Narendra Bhai Modi and LG Manoj Sinha have always supported farmers in J&K. However, this time, the sowing season will go waste as J&K government is totally ignorant of major trouble of this scarcity of DAP fertilizer. The farmers here are facing hardships to get

fertilizer during the sowing season", said Sukhnandan Kumar adding that the government is deliberately showing shortage fertilizer because of hefty commission from other fertilizer companies which produce and manufacture the fertilizer in neighbouring states. The senior BJP leader said that given the non-availability of sufficient DAP fertilizer at depot/dealer's shop, either the farmers are

compelled to purchase the fertilizer from neighbouring states especially Punjab or buy from black-market at over prices. "There can be a nexus between the government, who may have been getting huge commission from the private fertilizer manufacturers," the ex-minister Sukhnandan Kumar alleged, adding, "We are seeking the intervention of the LG Manoj Singh to assure the availability of DAP fertilizer at the time of its need."