

Will not allow NC to run its Kashmir-Centric agenda in Jammu Region: Randhawa

Asks J&K PSC to roll back advertised posts; include 200 posts for Hindi, 20 posts each for Dogri, Sanskrit, Punjabi streams

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a strong rebuke to the National Conference Government, MLA Vikram Randhawa of Bahu Constituency vowed to stand firm against the National Conference (NC)'s continued attempts to push a pro-Kashmir agenda that undermines the rights of the youth in the Jammu region.

Randhawa's remarks came after he joined a protest organized by hundreds of aspirants for the 10+2 Lecturer positions, who were outraged by the Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission's (J&K PSC) recent recruitment notice dated November 12, 2024 that completely ignored Hindi and Sanskrit language posts. In this regard, a massive protest, held outside the Press Club of Jammu, saw hundreds of aspirants-many of whom have been waiting for years for such opportunities-condemning the discriminatory practices of the J&K PSC. The aspirants voiced



MLA Vikram Randhawa leading protest with aspirants for the 10+2 Lecturer positions.

their frustration at the omission of Hindi and Sanskrit lecturers from the recruitment notice, despite the advertisement of 575 other teaching positions. The J&K PSC, in its notice dated November 12, had failed to advertise any posts for Hindi and Sanskrit lecturers, critical subjects in the educational system of the Jammu region.

Randhawa's intervention has galvanized the protestors, who have vowed to continue their fight for justice until the J&K PSC addresses their concerns and rectifies the blatant discrimination in the recruitment process. Talking to reporters, MLA Vikram Randhawa expressed his outrage at the blatant discrimination against the youth of Jammu region. He said that the NC Government has barely resumed power and has already begun pushing its Kashmir-centric policies, sidelining the legitimate aspirations of Jammu's youth. This is unacceptable, and we will not stand for it, he said.

Randhawa criticized the J&K PSC for its decision to advertise four posts for Persian, while omitting any positions for Hindi, despite it being the national language. "Hindi is our national language, and to discriminate against it while giving preference to Persian is an affront to every citizen of Jammu. This is not only a betrayal of our cultural heritage but a direct attack on our identity as Indians," he

added. The senior BJP leader further pointed out the disparity in the recruitment process, saying, "We are living in Hindustan, not in an Arabic country, yet posts for Persian and Arabic are being prioritized, while Hindi, a language spoken by millions, is ignored. This imbalance cannot be tolerated."

Randhawa called for an immediate rollback of the J&K PSC's recruitment notice and demanded the inclusion of Hindi and Sanskrit lecturers. He urged the Commission to add 200 posts for Hindi and at least 20 posts each for Dogri, Punjabi, and Sanskrit, ensuring fair representation for the diverse linguistic needs of the Jammu region.

"We will not allow the NC Government to continue its biased policies that marginalize the youth of Jammu. The youth here deserve equal opportunities, and we will fight relentlessly until our demands are met," he added.

Dr. Narinder, Billawaria start development works in Ward 56

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Dr. Narinder Singh, MLA from RS Pura-Jammu South Constituency, along with Baldev Singh Billawaria, former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, launched development works worth Rs 24 lakh in Ward No. 56, Gangyal.

Dr. Narinder Singh acknowledged that Ward 56 was in poor condition in the past, but with the concerted efforts of former Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria, the ward has transformed into one of the cleanest and most developed areas of Jammu city.

Dr. Singh highlighted that the government's focus is on providing better drinking water, electricity, medical facilities, and essential infrastructure, including improved lanes and drains.

Dr. Narinder also expressed his gratitude to the people of Gangyal for their overwhelming support during the Assembly elections and assured them of continued efforts towards further development.



MLA Dr. Narinder Singh launching development work.

He reiterated that the BJP government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, follows the mantra of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and Sabka Prayas" to ensure the holistic development of every area.

Billawaria, in his address, acknowledged the progress made in Ward 56, including the construction of roads, installation of new transformers, replacement of outdated drinking water pipes, and the establishment of key projects like the Atal Ji Park and the 50-bed Gangyal Hospital.

He credited the development to his tenure as Deputy Mayor and the collaborative efforts of local leaders and the BJP government.

District President Rekha Mahajan also urged party workers to intensify the membership drive, while local residents expressed their gratitude for the ongoing development efforts. Prominent dignitaries, including Mandal President Ranjeet Singh and others, were present at the event.

DPR inspects development, construction works in RS Pura

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Director Panchayati Raj (DPR), J&K, Sham Lal on Thursday conducted a comprehensive inspection tour of RS Pura to assess the progress of ongoing construction works and infrastructure development projects.

He inspected the Block Development Council (BDC) building and the Rural Extension Training Centre (RETC) in RS Pura.

During the visit, Sham Lal emphasized the importance of timely completion of works to strengthen rural governance infrastructure.

He was accompanied by Assistant Commissioner Panchayat (ACP), Jammu, Shahzada Noor Ul Ain, Block Development Officer (BDO) RS Pura, Pardeep Singh and others.

Sham Lal also visited



Director Panchayati Raj J&K, Sham Lal chairing a meeting.

Panchayat Rangpur Sidrey, where the ongoing construction work of the Panchayat Ghar was closely monitored.

The Director asked officials to ensure adherence to quality standards and to address any bottlenecks in the execution of the projects. He further asked the officials to work collectively to meet deadlines and deliver projects that would benefit the local populace.

While interacting with departmental officials, the Director suggested utilizing Panchayats as a platform to

INTUC delegation meets PCC Chief, highlights issue of daily wagers

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A delegation of Indian National Trade Union Congress (J&K) led by its President Shiv Kumar Sharma called on President JKPC Tariq Hameed Karra at PCC HQ Jammu and apprised him about the burning issues of daily wage workers, need based, contractual, adhoc and ITI and others engaged by the State Govt. in various departments.

Shiv Kumar Sharma and other senior functionaries of the INTUC put forth various demands of the employees working at various categories in Govt., semi Govt. and Private sectors. Their main demands are : i) Monthly regularization of pay of C.P. workers. ii) Those C.P. workers who have completed 7 years service be regularized. iii) Those ITI workers who have completed 5 years service should be regularized.



INTUC delegation meeting with JKPC chief Tariq Hameed Karra.

He requested the PCC President to discuss the issue of community participation workers with the state Govt. in order to solve the most genuine problems of these workers who are providing essential services to the people by working day and night in PHE and other departments.

Shiv Kumar Sharma further said that the concerned authorities had engaged thousands of young workers at various level to meet the urgent requirements of the departments, some of them

without regularization and without any retiral benefit to them. And those who were engaged on land basis, too are either denied regularization or stopped wages.

PCC President Tariq Hameed Karra gave patient hearing to the delegation and said Congress party and INTUC has always advocated the welfare of labour class for their contribution and rise in the socio economic progress of the country.

He said that UPA Govt. had brought land mark legislation to the benefit and protect the rights of labour class in the organized and unorganized sector. All beneficiary labour laws were applied in J&K during the Congress regime. He assured the INTUC delegation that congress party will extend full cooperation to their struggle for acceptance of their genuine demands.

Besides Shiv Kumar Sharma other members of the delegation included Harbans Lal, Jamyat Ali, Mangal Dass Madan Lal, Radehy Shama, Jugal Kishore, Bahadur Singh and Pt. Dwarika Nath, Vinay Sharma and Narinder Sharma(Happy).

Police Hospital organizes awareness campaign on "Risks and Harms of Self-Medication"

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Police Hospital Jammu recently organized a series of medical awareness camps focusing on the "Risks and Harms of Self-Medication" for police personnel across various Police Units, JKAP, and IRP Battalions.

The initiative, guided by the Director of Family Welfare, MCH & Immunization J&K, aimed to educate the police force about the dangers of self-medication and its potential to cause serious health complications.

Under the supervision of Dr. Meenakshi Kotwal, Medical Superintendent of Police Hospital Jammu, the



awareness camps were conducted with the active participation of several doctors from the hospital, including Dr. Sanjay Sharma (Consultant Physician), Dr. Rewa Gaiand, Dr. Anil Slathia, and Dr. Baljit Singh.

These experts provided detailed briefings to police personnel stationed in various units, including IRP 15 Bn at Gulshan Ground, IRP 18 Bn, DPL Jammu, JKAP 4 Sec/7, IRP 14 Bns at Channi Himmat, IRP 7 Bn at Amb Gharota, JKAP 8 BN at Miran Sahib, and PTTI Vijaypur.

The primary objective of the campaign was to raise awareness about the risks of self-medication and encourage personnel to seek professional medical advice for any health issues, no matter how minor they may seem.

The doctors emphasized that self-medication can lead to misdiagnosis and complications that may

worsen over time.

The camps were well-received, with participants expressing high enthusiasm and appreciation for the valuable information shared. Unit heads of the police units expressed gratitude for the initiative and requested that similar health awareness camps be organized regularly to ensure the well-being of the police force.

By educating the personnel about such crucial health issues, Police Hospital Jammu aims to help maintain the health and efficiency of the police force, ensuring they are well-equipped to serve and protect the community.

IIC of GDC Bishnah organizes student's visit to Kisan Mela at SKUAST-J

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Institution Innovation Cell (IIC) of Government Degree College (GDC) Bishnah in collaboration with Department of Botany and Zoology organized an insightful visit for its students to the Kisan Mela held at the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST), Jammu on Thursday. The event was aimed at exposing students to the latest developments in agriculture and encouraging innovation in the sector.

During the visit, students explored a wide range of stalls showcasing advanced scientific tools, technologies,

and innovative agricultural practices such as hydroponics, sericulture etc.

The exhibition provided hands-on experience and demonstrations on sustainable farming, crop management, and modern agricultural techniques, Agri Startups, Farm Mechanization, Digital Agriculture, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Agriculture, Livestock management, Veterinary Sciences, Microbiology, Apiculture, Use of Drones in agriculture Industry - Academia Linkages.

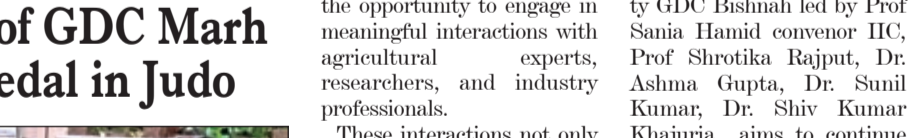
In addition to learning about cutting-edge agricultural practices, students had the opportunity to engage in meaningful interactions with agricultural experts, researchers, and industry professionals.

These interactions not only enriched the students' understanding but also sparked their curiosity about potential career opportunities in the agricultural field.

The visit also served as a platform for the students to explore the importance of innovation in agriculture, and how technology and science can help solve real-world challenges in the sector. It was a valuable learning experience that provided students with a deeper understanding of the career possibilities in agriculture, farming technologies, and sustainable practices.

The event concluded with students expressing their newfound interest in pursuing careers related to agriculture and innovation.

The IIC team, 40 students of all the semesters and faculty GDC Bishnah led by Prof. Sania Hamid convenor IIC, Prof. Shrotika Rajput, Dr. Ashma Gupta, Dr. Sunil Kumar, Dr. Shiv Kumar Khajuria aims to continue organizing such enriching activities to foster creativity and entrepreneurial spirit among students.

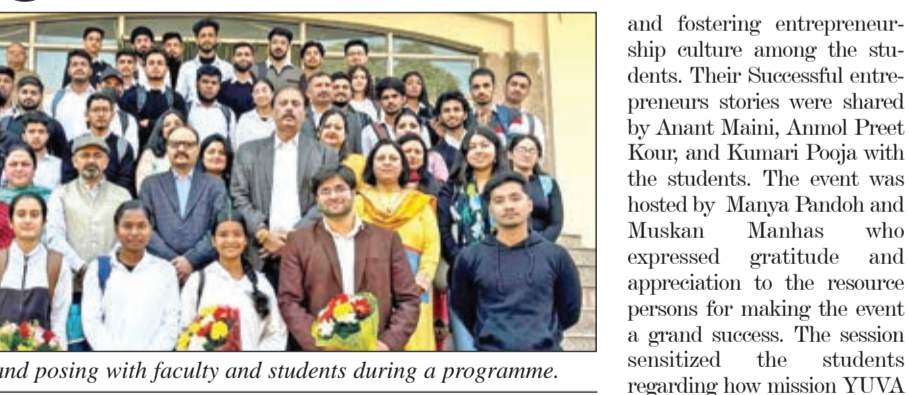


GDC Bishnah students and faculty visiting Kisan Mela at SKUAST-Jammu.

MAM College organises awareness program on Mission YUVA

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Maulana Azad Memorial College, Jammu on Thursday hosted a one-day Awareness Programme on Mission YUVA in collaboration with the Department of Labour and Employment.

The event was organized to promote employment opportunities through entrepreneurship across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The event was attended by nearly 350 students. The students were formally welcomed by the College Principal Prof. Dr. BB Anand



Principal Prof. Dr. BB Anand posing with faculty and students during a programme.

who highlighted the need for imbuing entrepreneurial spirit among youths and the role of educational institutions in shaping the future of the young leaders. Special Secretary, Labour and Employment Department Pawan Parihar delivered a motivational inaugural lecture emphasizing the role of youth in entrepreneurship and startups at nano, micro and medium levels.

The mission aimed to provide training and skill development programs across various sectors that will enable young minds to become employable and self-sufficient. AGM at NABARD Kanav Sharma was the resource person who talked about Enterprise Development, and creating Business plans, for emerging entrepreneurs. Assistant Director Directorate of employment Sulakshna Thakur offered valuable insights into different facets of YUVA Mission. Nodal Officer Higher Education Mission YUVA Dr. Vishal Sharma played a key role in encouraging and spreading awareness regarding the said mission

Eshaan Saini of GDC Marh bags gold medal in Judo

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Eshaan Saini student of BA Sem V of Government Degree College Marh has won gold medal in Open District Judo Championship 2024 held at M.A Stadium, Jammu from Nov 18 to 19, 2024.

The Championship was organized by the Judo Association J&K under the banner of J&K Sports Council and J&K Olympic Association.

Around 200 students from different colleges and schools participated in the championship. Eshaan Saini won the gold medal by defeating three players in the below 60kg weight category in



Principal Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul honouring Eshaan Saini.

Men's Junior Category. He has also won Gold Medal in Inter College Judo championship, Gold Medal in Judo District Championship, Gold medal in Judo J&K UT Championship and Silver Medal in Wrestling and Penak-Silat Inter Collegiate competition recently and also has participated in Khelo India 2024 at Guwahati. Principal of the college Dr. Rakesh Kumar Koul congratulated Eshaan on his achievements, dedication which has brought laurels to the college in the field of sports. Eshaan thanked the Principal of the college for constant support and encouragement.

Dir Agriculture assures adequate fertilizer supply

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Director of Agriculture Jammu, Arvinder Singh Reen has assured the farmers that all necessary arrangements have been made to meet their demands for fertilizers for the Rabi Season 2024-25.

In a statement on Thursday, the Director Agriculture mentioned that till date 1318.5 Metric Tons (MT) of Nitrogenous fertilizers and 4425 Metric Tons (MT) of Phosphatic fertilizers has been received to facilitate early sowing in Jammu Division.

In addition, 2634 Metric Tons (MT) of DAP fertilizer has been dispatched by IPFCO for Jammu Division that will be unloaded at Jammu Rake point on 22nd of November 2024.

Another consignment of DAP has been arranged through IPL and will be available to the farmers by end of this month. Subsequently, arrangements have been put in place to meet the fertilizer requirements for the month of December.

He further added that the Agriculture Department is well-equipped to meet the fertilizer needs of our farmers and closely monitoring the supply chain to ensure that there are no disruptions, and all fertilizers will be made available to farmers as per their requirements.