

YuvaConverse'25 - DYD students lead path breaking dialogue at JU

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JAMMU: In a remarkable display of youth leadership and innovation, the students of the Design Your Degree (DYD) programme, University of Jammu (JU) curated and hosted YuvaConverse'25-a three-day flagship event that brought together over a hundred young minds for vibrant discussions and diplomacy-driven dialogue.

The event marked the University's first-ever MUN-inspired youth forum, providing a dynamic space for students to engage in policy-oriented discussions on issues of national and regional importance. A total of 102 delegates from 16 educational institutions participated, reflecting the growing culture of student-led intellectual engagement fostered under the DYD initiative.

Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, JU, appreciated the remarkable efforts of the DYD students in conceptualizing and executing YuvaConverse'25, describing it as a shining example of how experiential learning can nurture confident, informed, and socially responsible youth. He said that the initiative



Participating students posing with dignitaries.

embodies the spirit of the Design Your Degree programme, which aims to transform students from passive learners into active thinkers and leaders.

Prof. Rai further emphasized that such student-led endeavours not only strengthen intellectual discourse on campus but also align perfectly with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, where young minds play a decisive role in shaping the nation's developmental narrative.

Addressing the valedictory session, Prof. J P Singh Joorel, Dean Academic Affairs, JU appreciated the entrepreneurial initiative of DYD students.

He noted that such platforms go beyond conventional learning and nurture

leadership, critical thinking, and creativity among the youth.

He further said that youth has a great role in building Viksit Bharat and such intellectually stimulating engagement activities can help them to think beyond traditional curriculum.

Prof. Alka Sharma, Director, SIIEDC in her address said that such student driven initiatives reflect that the tangible outcomes of DYD program, as envisioned by Prof. Umesh Rai are visible.

She further informed that the multidisciplinary and trans-disciplinary approach of DYD program provides enough opportunities to our students to emerge as global thought

leaders and change makers. Prof. K S Charak, Mentor in his remarks said that this event offered participants an immersive experience in public speaking, critical thinking, and diplomacy and the skills that are essential in today's interconnected world.

He further appreciated the energy and enthusiasm of the delegates that reflected the students' passion for dialogue-driven problem-solving and their readiness to lead change through informed discussion.

Prof. Anil Gupta, Mentor for this initiative informed this initiative emerged as a part of project YuvaVerse under the Start Up Course of DYD program led by the team of Fatima Sayed,

Shailja Sharma, Harshita, Vishali, Dhvani Gupta and Mehak Shan.

During the event there were four committees under which delegates deliberated on issues including - Women's Empowerment: Partnerships for Rights & Resilience (UN Women); From Voice to Vision: Youth Steering Viksit Bharat @ 2047 (Lok Sabha); Advancing Youth-Led Innovation for Inclusive Industrial Growth (JKLA); Fostering Grassroots Tourism through Strategic Development (AIPPM).

Sarnish served as the Secretary General of the event while Fatima served as Director General.

Dr. Pallavi Sachdeva, Mentor, DYD who coordinated the smooth execution of the 3 days event appreciated the wonderful team work of all the three batches of DYD students.

The event was graced by all the mentors of DYD program including Prof. Gurjeet Kour, Prof. Jyoti Sharma, Prof. Sadaf Shah, Dr. Jitendra Manhas, Dr. Shalu Selgal, Dr. Sarika, Dr. Ripudaman, Dr. Sunil, Dr. Manish, Dr. Sandeep and others.

Sanskrit Pathshala at Panchmukhi Hanuman Mandir inspires young learners to embrace Sanatan Dharma



President JYBT, Pawan Kumar Shastri with other dignitaries and participating students.

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JAMMU: A weekly Sanskrit learning programme, "Gyan-Yagya Pathshala," was organised at Shree Panchmukhi Hanuman Mandir, B.C. Road, Jammu, under the banner of the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust. The event was held under the guidance of Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust, with Indu Sharma from Jagran Manch RSS and Surjeet Singh as the principal guests. The initiative aims to promote the timeless values and teachings of Sanatan Dharma among children and spiritually inclined individuals. The 27th session of the Vedic Pathshala saw participation from around 60 students, mostly under the age of 15.

The young learners were taught recitation and meanings of Shrimad Bhagavad Gita, Shree Hanuman Chalisa, and Sunderkand Path, along with lessons on Dharma and Karma Gyan. Remarkably, the students recited and translated Sanskrit verses into English and Hindi, showcasing their deep understanding and devotion, which earned praise from all present. Speaking on the occasion, Pawan Kumar Shastri highlighted that such initiatives instill cultural pride, spiritual

awareness, and moral values in the younger generation. "By introducing these teachings early, we help our children connect with their roots and carry forward the sacred legacy of Sanatan Dharma," he stated. Under Shastri's leadership, the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust has become a symbol of philanthropy and spirituality. The Trust's Haridwar Bhawan offers 150 well-maintained A.C. rooms to pilgrims and serves free langar to over 600-700 devotees daily since 1995. Similarly, at the Panchmukhi Sankat Mochan Shree Hanuman Mandir complex in Jammu, around 500-600 pilgrims are served free meals three times daily, and elaborate Puja-Archana ceremonies are performed regularly.

The Pathshala event was also graced by Arun Shastri and Dr. Ajay Shastri, noted Sanskrit scholars, who emphasized the importance of imparting Vedic knowledge to the youth. Other dignitaries present included Gurdas Sharma (General Secretary/Treasurer), Sukhdev Sharma (WCM, Incharge), and staff members of the Trust. The Trust expressed heartfelt gratitude to all devotees and participants for making the event a grand success.

BJP shows massive strength in Budgam, appeals people to vote for peace, progress

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BUDGAM: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) showcased a massive display of public support during a grand rally and road show held at Ompura Eidgah and adjoining areas in Budgam, Kashmir.

Sunil Sharma, Leader of Opposition in the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly, Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), J&K BJP, and BJP candidate for Budgam Assembly Bye-election Aga Syed Mohsin along with Anwar Khan, General Secretary, Mudasar Wani and Arif Raja, Secretaries, addressed the massive rally.

Addressing the huge gathering, Sunil Sharma said that the unprecedented turnout is a testimony to the people's faith in the BJP's vision of peace, progress, and development. He accused the National Conference (NC) of resorting to deceit and double

standards to obstruct the BJP's rise in Kashmir. NC is leaving no stone unturned to block the wave of change, but people have seen through their politics of hypocrisy, he said.

Sharma dared Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to take an oath that he had no secret dealings with Delhi. He revealed that after the 2014 elections, Omar Abdullah himself attempted to ally with BJP, but our leadership, guided by principles and national integrity, refused such opportunistic overtures. He thanked the people for the overwhelming support, saying that when public affection meets dedication, history begins to take shape. Together, we are scripting a new chapter of inclusive development and transparent governance in Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

Ashok Koul, in his address, said that the BJP's mission in Kashmir

is rooted in empowerment, equality, and progress for every section of society. He said that the people of Budgam have shown that the winds of change are strong. BJP stands for development beyond discrimination, be it region, religion, or community, he asserted.

Aga Syed Mohsin expressed gratitude to the leadership and people for their unwavering support. He said that Budgam deserves honest representation and development-oriented politics. I stand with every citizen in building a better, more prosperous future for this constituency under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP's leadership, he added.

Later, Koul held an interaction with tribal delegations in Srinagar, assuring them that the BJP is fully committed to safeguarding their constitutional and livelihood rights.

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JAMMU: The three-day 46th Annual Festival and Yajna-Discourse of Arya Samaj Mandir, Trikuta Nagar (Extension Sector 3), concluded on Sunday with great spiritual fervor and active participation from devotees across Jammu. The event, held from November 7 to 9, 2025, was marked by soulful bhajans, enlightening discourses, and traditional Vedic rituals that reflected the timeless message of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati. The main speaker and Yajna-Brahma for the ceremony was Dr. Dharmendra Kumar, Associate Professor at Delhi University, who delivered inspiring lectures on Vedic philosophy and the relevance of truth, knowledge, and righteousness in modern life. He was assisted in the Yajna rituals by Pt. Ranvijay Shastri, the resident priest of Arya Samaj Trikuta Nagar. The musical devotion was beautifully led by Sandeep



BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan with others at a programme.

Arya from Delhi, whose melodious bhajans captivated the audience and filled the atmosphere with divine energy. The festival commenced on Friday, November 7, with a traditional Yajna, followed by flag hoisting and devotional singing. Morning and evening sessions of bhajan and discourse were conducted each day, witnessing enthusiastic participation from devotees and families. The highlight of the concluding day, Sunday, November 9, was the grand Purnahuti Yajna, symbolizing the culmination of the

spiritual proceedings. This was followed by Prasad and breakfast, and the concluding session of bhajan and discourse, after which all attendees partook in the Rishi Langar organized by the temple committee. Organizers including Patron Prithvinath Raina, Patron Yuvraj Gupta, President Ravindra Rekhi, Senior Vice-President Bharat Bhushan Arya, Vice-President Ashok Gupta, Secretary Subhash Arya,

Vice-Secretary Smt. Prerana, and Treasurer Neelam Arora expressed gratitude to all participants, devotees, and volunteers for their wholehearted cooperation. They emphasized the importance of spreading the teachings of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati and encouraged everyone to read his invaluable work, Satyarth Prakash, for a true ideological awakening. BJP J&K Vice President and member Arya Samaj, Rekha Mahajan also graced the concluding ceremony of the 46th Annual Festival and Yajna-Discourse at Arya Samaj Mandir, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, and appreciated the organizers for upholding the Vedic traditions and spreading the reformist ideals of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati. Addressing the gathering, she lauded Arya Samaj's continued efforts in promoting education, social reform, and

moral values among the youth. Rekha Mahajan emphasized that such spiritual and cultural events play a vital role in strengthening the moral fabric of society and inspiring individuals to live by truth and righteousness. She urged everyone to follow the teachings of Satyarth Prakash and contribute actively to building a progressive and enlightened nation rooted in India's rich cultural heritage.

On the occasion, Santosh Gupta, Senior member of Arya Samaj along with family members as felicitated in the program.

The festival concluded with collective prayers for peace, unity, and the well-being of all. The Arya Samaj Mandir reaffirmed its commitment to continue working for the propagation of Vedic values and the upliftment of society through education, moral strength, and selfless service.

Dogra Sadar Sabha holds commemorative session; Charak's legacy echoed through halls of Sabha

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JAMMU: Dogra Sadar Sabha today held a "Shradhanjai Sabha" to pay tributes to its Former President & Former Cabinet Minister J&K Th. Gulchain Singh Charak at the Sabha Bhawan, Dogra Hall Jammu on the 9th of November 2025. The Sabha's beloved President Th. Gulchain Singh Charak took to his heavenly abode on the 17th of October 2025.

Col. Karan Singh President DSS in his opening remarks said that Th. Gulchain Singh Charak devoted his life for the wellbeing and upliftment of Dogras as he pursued their concerns in every walk of life. He was devoted for the cause of Dogras across communal and religious lines and firmly believed in secularism. He was open to spontaneous help to one and all with his bold and courageous straight forward approach. He solved many sensitive issues and saved touchy explosive flash points in J&K to maintain peace & harmony. He held many responsible positions in his life and remained in the frontline of important activities in J&K. He was Minister of Higher Education & R&B (PWD), MLC, General Secretary of AICC, President Rajput Sabha, Patron Akhil Bhartiya Khatriya Mahasabha, Chairman Dogra Education trust, President Laxmi Narayan Mandir Management Trust & President of the Dogra Sadar Sabha. His sudden demise after a brief ailment has left a great vacuum in the society which will be difficult to fill.

As a true recognition of his popularity, rich tributes charged with emotions were paid by various dignitaries, his fans and lovers from all walks of life, trades and regions. Personalities from different political, religious and sects were seen in gloom at the great loss of their mentor, friend and guide. His major contributions in the education field, restoration of heritage sites, upholding inter-communal unity and promotion of Dogri language, culture and art has left an indelible mark in society. He will always be remembered as a distinguished Dogra son of soil who led from the front and remained calm, cheerful and determined amidst most trying and challenging situations and gave his best for the Duggar region and the people. A galaxy of senior citizens, youths, women representatives and heads of various social, political, business community and religious organizations were present on the occasion. Prominent among the distinguished speakers who highlighted the contributions of late Sh Gulchain Singh Charak included Ch. Vikram



DSS members and others at "Shradhanjai Sabha" to pay tributes to Th. Gulchain Singh Charak.

Randhawa M.L.A., Sheikh Abdul Rehman Ex. MP, Ch. Lal Singh Former Minister, B R Shama Ex Chief Secretary, Ravinder Sharma Ex MLC, Syed Rafeeq Shah Ex MLC, Jb Shabir Khan, Ex Minister, D C Raina Ex Adv. General, Mahant Rameshwar Dass, Ved Parkash Sharma President Brahaman Sabha,

Parshotam Dadechi, President Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Jitender Udhampturi Padam Shri, Adv. Nirmal Kotwal, President Bar Association, S. Ranjit Singh Tohra President DGPC, Sandeep Jain, Jain Sabha, Subash Chandar Gupta Vice President Mahajan Sabha, Jb. H A Siddiqui Ex Add.

Khatana campaigns for BJP candidate Devyani Rana in Nagrota

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NAGROTA: BJP Senior Leader and Rajya Sabha MP Gulam Ali Khatana on Sunday carried out an extensive campaign in support of BJP candidate Sushri Devyani Rana across several villages of the Nagrota Constituency, including Thara, Jankha, Chadal, Badsoo, Pali, and Sley. During his visit, Khatana interacted with local residents, listened to their issues, and assured them that the BJP is committed to strengthening local infrastructure and ensuring inclusive development for every community. Khatana strongly criticized



Rajya Sabha MP Gulam Ali Khatana addressing election rally at Nagrota.

the National Conference (NC) government, accusing it of negligence and inefficiency in handling relief and rehabilitation efforts after the recent floods. He said that the government had failed to conduct even a proper assessment of the damages, leaving many affected families in distress. He added that funds meant for relief were not reaching those who

needed them most, exposing the NC's disconnect from ground realities and its disregard for the poor, marginalized, and tribal communities.

Highlighting the difference in governance approaches, Khatana said that while the NC has been busy playing politics, the BJP under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has delivered real results on the

Uttarakhand Foundation Day celebrated at LG Secretariat



Lt Governor, Kavinder Gupta speaking at Uttarakhand Foundation Day celebration.

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LEH: Uttarakhand Foundation Day was celebrated with enthusiasm at the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, Ladakh, in the presence of the Lieutenant Governor, Kavinder Gupta, along with members of the armed forces and paramilitary personnel from Uttarakhand presently serving in Ladakh.

Extending warm greetings to the people of Uttarakhand, the Lt Governor highlighted India's remarkable journey from being a collection of princely states to an integrat-

ed and united nation. He paid rich tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, whose vision and determination laid the foundation for a unified Bharat, nurturing a deep sense of patriotism and national pride. The Lt Governor observed that the Central Government has always responded to the aspirations of the people by reorganising states to ensure better governance and regional representation. He recalled that Uttarakhand, carved out as Uttarakhand in 2000 under the leadership of former Prime Minister Shri Atal

Bihari Vajpayee, stands as a shining example of such progressive reform, reflecting both administrative foresight and respect for local identity.

Drawing parallels between Uttarakhand and Ladakh, the Lt Governor remarked that both regions are blessed with natural splendour, rich cultural and spiritual heritage, and a shared commitment to national service. Recalling Ladakh's transformation since attaining Union Territory status, he said the region has witnessed rapid infrastructure development, inclusive growth, and youth empowerment through various skill-building initiatives. Praising Uttarakhand as Dev Bhoomi, home to sacred shrines such as Badrinath and Yamunotri, the Lt Governor lauded the invaluable contribution of its people to the armed forces and the nation. In conclusion, the Lt Governor commended the unwavering patriotism of Uttarakhand's citizens and reaffirmed his resolve to uphold the spirit of unity and progress across all regions of India.

A video message from Governor of Uttarakhand, Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh, was also screened. Earlier, Under Secretary to the Lt Governor, Sachin Bali, conducted the proceedings of the programme.