

IIM Jammu concludes 13th Batch of Nurturing Future Leadership Program

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu, under the leadership of Director Prof. B.S. Sahay, successfully concluded the 13th batch of its distinguished Nurturing Future Leadership Program (NFLP) with a grand valedictory ceremony held at the Vedanta MDP Centre. The five-day program, conducted from 10th to 14th Nov 2025, aims to equip emerging leaders with essential skills, strategic insights, and broadened perspectives required to excel in an evolving educational and professional landscape. Organized under the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme, Ministry of Education, Government of India, the initiative reflects IIM Jammu's commitment to empowering educators and strengthening leadership capacity across the nation.

Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean, Faculty and Research, IIM Jammu, graced the valedictory ceremony and appreciated the thoughtful structure and execution of the program. He acknowledged the Ministry of Education for crafting an impactful initiative and commended IIM Jammu's faculty for their dedicated contributions. Emphasizing the value of learning both inside and outside the classroom, he highlighted the significance of peer learning, sharing best practices, and adopting new pedagogical and leadership models. He encouraged participants to carry forward these learnings into their professional environments and invited them to stay connected with the Institute. Prof. Sanjeev Pathak, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy, underscored the importance of honest feedback in strengthening the program and shaping future training offerings. He noted that the cohort fostered meaningful connections, reflections, and even poetic expressions, enriching the overall learning journey. He wished participants success in their professional growth and reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to continuous improvement through participant engagement. Program Director Prof. P.P. Maheshwari shared his reflections on the strong camaraderie built over the five-day program. He stressed that leadership is defined by intent and action rather than titles and expressed satisfaction that the sessions addressed diverse dimensions of leadership. The curriculum included contributions from



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eminent faculty, including the Director of AIIMS Jammu, Deans of IIM Jammu, and senior professors, covering critical areas such as marketing, finance, AI, communication, creative thinking, negotiation, and empathy. He expressed confidence that participants are better prepared for future leadership roles.

Participants praised the program for its enriching content, interactive pedagogy, and insightful learning environment. They appreciated the blend of leadership, empathy, and innovation, along with the seamless coordination and hospitality offered by IIM Jammu. Many shared shayaris and poems during the valedictory evening, reflecting the bond formed throughout the program.

The ceremony featured certificate distribution followed by a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Rambalak Yadav, Program Director:

Vande Mataram 150 Years Commemoration & Children's Day celebrated at GMS Rattanpur

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JAMMU: Government Middle School Rattanpur, Zone Marh, District Jammu, celebrated the 150th anniversary of "Vande Mataram" along with Children's Day, marking the birth anniversary of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, with great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The programme included lively Dogri folk songs, a thoughtful Nukkad Natak highlighting the dangers of mobile

addiction, and melodious recitations of the Vande Mataram song, reflecting cultural pride and student talent.

School Incharge, Anjna Khajuria conveyed warm wishes to all students, urging them to remain disciplined, culturally connected, and responsible in the digital era. The event concluded joyfully with greetings and sweets distributed among the children.

Vikrant Gupta appointed as Protocol Incharge J&K BJP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vikrant Gupta has been appointed as the Protocol Incharge of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Jammu and Kashmir. This appointment was announced by J&K BJP President Sat Sharma in consultation with National President J.P. Nadda and



National General Secretary & J&K Incharge Tarun Chugh.

This appointment is part of the party's efforts to strengthen its organizational structure and outreach in Jammu and Kashmir and managing protocol related activities for the party in Jammu and Kashmir.

WR's Jumbo block between Borivali and Ram Mandir Stations on Nov 16

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MUMBAI: To carry out maintenance work of tracks, signalling and overhead equipment, a Jumbo Block of five hours will be taken on Up Fast line between Borivali - Ram Mandir, as well as on Down Fast line between Ram Mandir - Goregaon stations from 10:00 hrs to 15:00 hrs on Sunday, 16th November, 2025.

According to a press release issued by Chief Public Relations Officer of Western Railway, Vineet Abhishek, during the block period, all Up Fast line trains will run on Up slow line between Borivali and Andheri stations.

Similarly, all Down Fast line trains will run on Down Slow line between Andheri and Goregaon stations.

Some suburban Up & Down trains will remain cancelled during the block and also some of the Andheri and Borivali trains will be worked upto Goregaon on Harbour line.

Detailed information to this effect is available with concerned Station Masters. Passengers are requested to please take note of the above arrangements.

By-poll results of Nagrota, Budgam show complete fall of NC, utter failure of Omar Govt: BJP

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janta Party has said that bypoll results of Nagrota and Budgam Assembly segments have clearly shown the steep fall of National Conference (NC) and its Omar Abdullah led government.

"Loosing both the Assembly seats, one in Jammu region and another in Kashmir, so miserably, has also showed NC's foundation has completely shaken," said BJP Spokesperson, Zorawar Singh Jamwal and added, "NC and particularly Abdullahs have lost their political ground in entire Jammu and Kashmir and days are not so far when Omar led J&K government will fall flat".

BJP spokesperson Zorawar Singh Jamwal hailed the landslide victory of party candidate Devyani Rana in the Nagrota bypoll, describing the outcome as a resounding endorsement of the BJP's core ideology, its nationalistic vision, and its unwavering commitment to development-oriented governance.

In a resounding victory message, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said the unprecedented mandate secured by Devyani Rana reflects the deep trust and confidence that the people have reposed in the BJP's policies and leadership.

He stated that the overwhelming majority with



which Devyani Rana triumphed clearly demonstrates that the people stand firmly with the BJP because of its consistent focus on transparency, inclusive growth, and progress-driven initiatives across the Jammu region. He emphasized that the victory is not just electoral in nature, but symbolic of the public's affirmation of the party's pro-Jammu stance, its nationalistic approach, and its dedication to delivering on the ground.

Highlighting the tone of the campaign led by opposition parties, Zorawar Singh Jamwal pointed out that the BJP's political adversaries attempted to misguide the electorate by spreading confusion and promoting a divisive narrative rooted in caste, religion, and creed. He said that rather than succumbing to such tactics, the people of Nagrota showcased remarkable political maturity by rejecting these divisive designs and instead extending overwhelming support to the BJP. According to him, this vote is not merely against the opposition's narrative but a positive assertion for peace, progress, and stability.

Zorawar Singh Jamwal also highlighted the crushing defeat of the National Conference (NC) on both the Nagrota and Budgam seats, describing the outcome as a "clear and powerful message" from the people. He said the results reflect widespread dissatisfaction with what he termed the NC's "misgovernance over the last one year," adding that voters have decisively chosen development over stagnation.

"Even the people of Budgam have also delivered a crushing blow to the National Conference, and it's clear that their performance over the past 13 months has not met expectations. With the government's failure to fulfill its promises and the growing discontent among the people, I predict that Omar Abdullah led National Conference government will not last long in the coming six months. The people's mandate is clear: they reject the politics of deception and unfulfilled promises", pointed out Zorawar Singh Jamwal.

Reaffirming the BJP's commitment to public welfare and inclusive development, Zorawar Singh Jamwal said that the party will continue to serve the people with renewed vigour and accountability, ensuring that their faith in the BJP is honored through sustained action and results.

VHP J&K for preserving devotional spirit and sanctity of Mata Vaishno Devi at SMVDIMER

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP), Jammu & Kashmir, has written to the Executive Director of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical Excellence (SMVDIMER) expressing concerns regarding the preservation of the spiritual and cultural sanctity associated with the revered Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine. In a detailed letter addressed to Dr. Yash Pal Sharma, Executive Director of SMVDIMER, VHP J&K President Rajesh Gupta highlighted that the institution was established through the sacred donations of millions of Hindu devotees visiting the holy shrine. Therefore, he emphasized that the institute must reflect the spiritual ethos of the Mata Vaishno Devi 'Teerth Kshetra' in its campus life, policies, and governance. One of the key concerns raised pertains to the demographic composition of the first MBBS batch, where a high proportion of Muslim students compared to Hindu students has reportedly raised questions among devotees. The VHP sought clarification on how the institution reconciles this admissions profile with the expectations of the Hindu community that contributes to the shrine's offerings.

The letter further seeks details about the devotional environment on campus, including the presence of a temple or shrine, daily puja and aarti schedules, and policies encouraging students and staff to participate in devotion-

al activities. VHP has also inquired about measures taken to maintain spiritual sanctity across hostels, messes, playgrounds, and all common spaces.

Additionally, the organization has asked whether the institution has Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to address instances of non-Hindu religious practices on campus, given that the institute operates under the spiritual legacy of Mata Vaishno Devi.

Citing differences in dietary and prayer customs, the VHP requested clarity on how SMVDIMER ensures that students of all faiths respect the devotional traditions, including vegetarian dietary norms. It also asked whether orientation sessions or conduct policies are in place to educate students about the cultural and devotional expectations associated with the institution.

The letter stresses the need for transparency and public communication, urging the administration to share its policies with devotees to uphold trust and ensure faithful stewardship of the shrine's contributions.

Calling the responsibility "profound," the VHP stated that the expectations of millions of devotees must be honored, and urged the institution to remain a beacon of both academic excellence and devotional integrity.

The VHP has requested a comprehensive response at the earliest to help dispel doubts among devotees.

Secy ITD reviews progress on integration of BHASHINI in digital framework of J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary Information Technology Department (ITD), Dr. Piyush Singla on Friday convened a meeting to review the integration of BHASHINI- National Language Translation Missin within Jammu & Kashmir's digital governance framework.

The meeting was attended by CEO BHASHINI Amit Nag along with his team, SIO NIC, officers of SeMT, IT Cell and JaKeGA and other senior officers of IT department.

During the meeting, deliberations were on the signing of MoU between J&K Government and BHASHINI, outlining the roles, responsibilities, and the collaboration roadmap. Other points discussed included the proposal to conduct the BHASHINI Rajyam Workshop in Jammu & Kashmir, focusing on multilingual citizen services, departmental enablement, capacity building, and the creation of a digital ecosystem inclusive of all local languages. Secretary ITD emphasized the critical need to strengthen linguistic accessibility across all government services, ensuring that citizens can seamlessly interact through



voice and text interfaces in regional languages, particularly Urdu, Kashmiri, and Dogri.

He reiterated the Union Territory's strong commitment to digital inclusion.

Dr. Singla also highlighted that the department is actively working on implementing key AI-driven use cases identified for the UT of J&K like solutions designed to enhance administrative efficiency, improve user experience, and

support multilingual digital governance across departments. Secretary ITD stated that the department is currently developing an in house AI-based Minutes of Meeting (MoM) solution by IT Cell, which will significantly assist government officials by capturing discussions, converting speech to text, summarizing key action points, and automatically generating structured minutes in PDF format. He added that this initiative will reduce manual effort, improve accuracy, and ensure timely documentation of official meetings. He also added that one of the key priorities is the integration of voice-to-text capabilities within the eOffice system, which will allow government

officials to draft notes, and process files more efficiently using speech input.

During the meeting, detailed introduction to the BHASHINI platform was presented, highlighting its multilingual capabilities and potential to transform digital public services through AI-based language solutions.

The IT Department and BHASHINI teams jointly explored potential use cases relevant to J&K, including in-house Minutes of Meeting (MoM) Application for automated documentation of government meetings and other customized language-technology solutions for departments.

work, no roadmap, no results," he said. "People compared that with Modi's model new roads, new jobs, new infrastructure. The choice was obvious."

"From the battleground of Bihar to the strategic constituency of Nagrota, the heartbeat of the voter is the same, it beats for Modi," he said. "He delivers on promises. He stands by commitments. He puts the nation first." Calling the results "a referendum on credibility," Gupta added that the Opposition's narrative has collapsed under its own weight. "Today's mandate proves one thing," he said adding that "Modi doesn't just win elections he wins trust and that trust is the most powerful mandate a leader can ever receive."

Congress-Mukt Bharat, Modi-Yukt Bharat: Gaurav on NDA's thumping mandate

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP J&K spokesperson Gaurav Gupta, said the twin victories in Bihar and Nagrota reflect a "nation-wide march toward a Congress-Mukt Bharat" powered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's credibility and connect with the people.

"This election proves that India believes in Modi's honesty and rejects Congress' hypocrisy. India trusts Modi's leadership, vision and integrity. We are moving towards a Congress-Mukt Bharat and a Modi-yukt Bharat," said Gaurav Gupta

Gupta said the mandate delivered across the two states is "not just electoral arithmetic but a historic political message," asserting that voters



have rejected what he described as Congress's "fabricated allegations, negativity and credibility crisis," and have instead reaffirmed their trust in Modi's leadership. "The NDA's landslide mandate in Bihar and the BJP's decisive victory in the Nagrota by-poll have once again underlined Prime Minister Narendra Modi's unmatched political dominance," Gaurav said.

Gupta said the verdict is a

"direct rebuttal" to what he called the Congress party's "fabricated allegations and credibility deficit," insisting the results reaffirm that Modi's leadership remains the most trusted force in national politics. "The people have spoken loudly again," Gupta said. "Despite months of false accusations and negativity from Congress and Rahul Gandhi, the nation has once more placed its complete faith in Prime Minister Modi. His magic is unstoppable, his mandate unshakeable." With the NDA crossed the historic 200-seat mark in Bihar, one of the largest mandates in the state's electoral history, Gupta said the victory reflects "a tidal wave of trust" in Modi's development-

driven governance model. "When an alliance crosses 200 in a 243-member Assembly, it is no longer just an election result," he said. "It is a people's movement, a mass endorsement of Modi's vision for a Viksit Bharat." Turning to Jammu & Kashmir; Gupta said BJP candidate Devyani Rana's commanding win in Nagrota further demonstrates that Modi's message "cuts through every political barrier geography, caste, community and propaganda." He accused the Opposition, particularly National Conference and his alliance partners, of being "out of touch, out of ideas, and out of credibility." "National Conference appeared in Nagrota only with speeches - no