

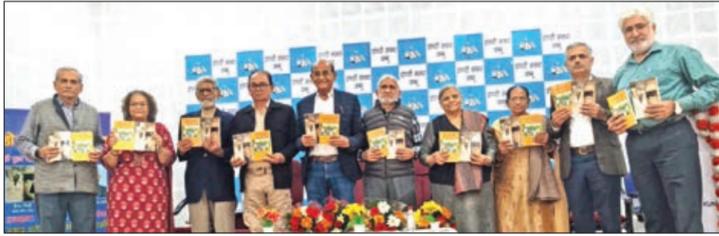
Dogri Sanstha Jammu releases Dogri books

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a vibrant celebration of Dogri language and literature, Dogri Sanstha Jammu (Regd.) organised a book release ceremony at the Kumar Viyogi Auditorium, Dogri Bhavan, Karan Nagar, Jammu.

The event brought together leading literary figures, cultural activists, academicians, and Dogri enthusiasts from across the region, making it a significant moment for Dogri literary circles.

The ceremony was presided over by Padma Shri Prof. Lalit Magotra, renowned writer and President of Dogri Sanstha Jammu. Dr. Om Goswami, eminent Dogri author graced the event as the Chief Guest, while noted writer Padma Shri Mohan Singh Slathia was the Guest of Honour. Two important books by acclaimed Dogri writer Puran Chander Sharma "Chainta Chidi" (a collection of Dogri poems) and "Nyyane Badde Syaane" (a Dogri children's story collection) were formally released.



Padma Shri Prof. Lalit Magotra with other dignitaries releasing Dogri books.

Both books reflect Sharma's longstanding engagement with Dogri's cultural ethos and his deep understanding of Dogra society.

In his presidential remarks, Padma Shri Prof. Lalit Magotra applauded the literary merit of Sharma's work, noting that both books beautifully capture the simplicity, emotional nuances, and cultural flavours of Dogra life. He added that such contributions help strengthen the foundation of Dogri literature and inspire younger generations to appreciate their mother tongue. He further added that Sharma's dual contribution, poetry for

mature readers and stories for young minds shows the versatility of his pen and his commitment to nurturing Dogri literature across age groups.

Chief Guest Dr. Om Goswami highlighted that Sharma's writings have always carried the fragrance of Dogri folk traditions and everyday experiences. He emphasised that the author's simple yet evocative style resonates with readers from all walks of life, making these new books a valuable addition to Dogri literature. He said that authors like Sharma play a crucial role in preserving the cultural fabric of the region,

and their efforts deserve recognition and wider readership. On this occasion, Guest of Honour Padma Shri Mohan Singh Slathia said that both "Chainta Chidi" and "Nyyane Badde Syaane" reflect the true essence of Dogri sensibilities. He noted that Sharma's poetry is marked by emotional subtlety and cultural rootedness, where everyday experiences of the Dogra community are transformed into meaningful poetic expressions. He further added that writing for children requires a special sensitivity, and Sharma has succeeded in creating stories that are not only entertaining but

also value-driven. The author Puran Chander Sharma also shared his literary journey on this occasion.

The event also featured paper readings from the newly released books by Sushil Begana and Dr. Sheetal Sharma, which were warmly received by the audience. Promila Manhas efficiently conducted the proceedings, ensuring a smooth flow of the programme. A formal Vote of Thanks was presented by Prof. Veena Gupta, Senior Vice President of Dogri Sanstha Jammu, who expressed gratitude to the dignitaries, writers, media personnel, and attendees for supporting the cause of Dogri language.

The function concluded with a collective resolve to further promote Dogri literature and safeguard the linguistic heritage of the Jammu region. The event reaffirmed Dogri Sanstha Jammu's commitment to nurturing cultural identity through literary activities and community engagement.

Natrang stages play 'Postmaster'

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: 'Postmaster' based on a story of Rabindra Nath Tagore, adapted by Pratap Sehgal and directed by Neeraj Kant was staged here today at Natrang Studio Theatre Jammu under its weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'. Natrang has not only provided the audience a chance to witness the different plays of highly social & artistic relevance but also has added to their creative and intellectual repository by staging the literary works of the most celebrated writers of the world.

The play "Postmaster" is a story about a postmaster and an orphan village girl named Ratan.

The Postmaster gets transferred from Calcutta to Ulapur where he makes no friends and feels lonely. Somehow, he becomes very fond of the little orphan girl, Ratan and vice versa. They develop a bond of trust and friendship. They



A scene from the play 'Postmaster' directed by Neeraj Kant, presented at Jammu.

have meals together and Ratan runs small errands for the postmaster.

She later become his pupil when he begins teaching her how to read. One day, postmaster falls ill due to the showers of the season and decides to apply for a transfer back to Calcutta.

His application for transfer gets rejected, thus he resigns from the job. At the end, Ratan gets heartbroken to know

that her master left her forever. The play speaks about the different layers and sensitivities of human relations.

Natrang actors who acted in the play included Mihir Gujral, Aadesh Dhar, Kananpreet Kaur, and Kushal Bhat. Lights were designed and executed by Neeraj Kant whereas music was rendered by Kartik Kumar.

The show was presented by Priyaa Ashok Gupta.

Sahkar Bharti J&K hosts Cooperative Day event



A dignitary speaking at a programme.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In connection with the ongoing Co-operatives Week celebrations, Sahkar Bharti J&K, a cooperative society registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, organized a grand Co-op Day celebration today at Trikuta Yatri Niwas, Jammu. The programme witnessed the presence of notable dignitaries, cooperative leaders, and members from various districts, marking a significant event dedicated to strengthening the cooperative movement in Jammu and Kashmir. The function was presided over by State President Suneel Sharma, while Bal Krishan, Additional Registrar Co-operative Societies Jammu and Managing Director, Jammu Central Co-operative Bank Ltd, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Parveen Kumar Sharma, Chairman, Citizens Co-operative Bank, attended as the Guest of Honour. The pro-

ceedings of the event were anchored by Nidhi Pathania.

Several prominent functionaries of Sahkar Bharti J&K participated in the programme, including Darshan Choudhary, State General Secretary (Organisation); National Executive Member Vikram Singh; Adv. Raghuvir Singh, State Senior Vice President; Balbir Singh, State Vice President and Head PACS Cell; Chander Bhushan, State General Secretary; Darshan Lal, State Head Fisheries Cell; Veena, State Head SHG Cell; Neetu Dhar, Head Tourism Cell; State Executive Members Om Parkash and Neena Gupta; and State Unit Cashier Sehdev. District-level representatives such as Surinder Mehra (Vice President, Jammu District), Rajiv Gupta, Shiv Shambhu, Rakesh Jagotra, Raji Bhushan, Sandip Raina, and Subhash Chander were also present.

From Udhampur unit,

President Sanjay Magotra, Vice President Ashok Singh, and District Chief Organiser Mohd Aslam participated. Gagandeep Sharma represented the Kathua unit, while Vikram Singh and Dr. Rajesh Sharma attended on behalf of the RS Pura unit. A large number of male and female members also attended, adding vibrancy to the event.

Several speakers addressed the gathering on the significance and working of cooperatives. Darshan Mehra spoke on fisheries cooperatives, Neetu Dhar on tourism-related cooperatives, Chander Bhushan on FPOs, while Dr. Nidhi Pathania highlighted the importance of the cooperative movement. Vikram Singh and Darshan Choudhary also shared their insights.

Guest of Honour Parveen Kumar Sharma discussed challenges faced by cooperative institutions and suggested effective solutions. Chief Guest Bal Krishan elaborated on various government schemes aimed at uplifting the cooperative sector and urged the public to avail the benefits.

In his concluding address, Suneel Sharma outlined upcoming programmes of the state unit and expressed gratitude to all visiting dignitaries and participants for making the celebration a grand success.

India's global rise driven by self-reliance, innovation & citizen empowerment: Rekha Mahajan

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: A comprehensive interaction programme was organised in District Samba today, bringing together prominent leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to highlight the significance of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, national self-reliance, and the unifying spirit of "Vande Mataram."

The event saw enthusiastic participation from party workers, local representatives, and members of the community who gathered to deliberate on developmental priorities and strengthen grassroots organisational outreach. The programme was chaired by BJP J&K Vice President and Prabhari Samba Rekha Mahajan, who focused her address on the transformative vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. She said that India's rising global stature is rooted in self-reliance, innovation, and the empowerment of common citizens. Rekha emphasised that every district, including Samba, must play an equal role in building a confident, self-sufficient nation. She urged party workers to take welfare schemes directly to the people and ensure that no eligible beneficiary is left behind. She noted that societal progress is possible only when governance, community effort, and discipline move



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

hand in hand. Former Minister and MLA Dr. Devinder Kumar Manyal addressed the gathering and highlighted the central government's welfare policies that have touched every household. He said that unprecedented development in road connectivity, health infrastructure, and rural empowerment reflects the government's commitment to inclusive growth.

District President Asha Rani lauded the hard work of both-level workers and stressed the importance of organisational discipline in strengthening democracy.

She said that the BJP's strength lies in its cadre, and the trust people have shown in the party needs to be repaid through dedication, accessibility,

and transparency. Asha Rani encouraged women workers to take leadership roles in local initiatives, contributing actively to the socio-economic upliftment of the district.

The programme was attended by senior party leaders including State Vice President

Rashpal Verma, State Secretary Arun Sharma, DDC Member Suresh Kumar Falli, DDC Keshav Dutt Sharma, and Mandal General Secretaries Amit Dubey and Rakesh Sanyal. They collectively stressed the need for organisational unity, outreach

at the grassroots, and consistent engagement with people's issues. The event concluded with a renewed commitment from party workers to strengthen public service, uphold national values, and work with dedication for the development of District Samba.

IIM Jammu concludes Management Immersion Programme for MBA students of IILM University Gurugram



IIM Jammu faculty with MBA students (Batch-II) of IILM University, Gurugram.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu concluded the Management Immersion Programme designed for the MBA students (Batch-II) of IILM University, Gurugram at its Jagti Campus at Dronacharya Classroom.

The five-day programme, aimed to enhance managerial competencies, leadership skills, and industry readiness among the participants. The training program

included 57 students of MBA program from IILM University. They are accompanied by two faculty members from IILM University, Dr. Vikrant Giri and Dr. Poornima Sehrawat, IILM Faculty.

The valedictory ceremony was graced by Prof. Rajesh Sikka, Co-Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy; Program Directors, Dr. Kulwinder Kaur, and Dr. Shreya Rastogi, IIM Jammu.

The valedictory ceremony began with a welcome address and programme

report by Dr. Kulwinder Kaur, Program Director, IIM Jammu who reflected on the five-day experiential learning journey.

She emphasized the significance of managing strategic information and commended the participants for their enthusiasm and engagement throughout the programme. She expressed gratitude to all facilitators and participants for making the learning journey insightful and memorable.

Prof. Rajesh Sikka, Co-Chairperson, Executive Education & Consultancy,

IIM Jammu, expressed happiness over the learnings gained during the program. He emphasized the importance of attention span and staying fully present in class, urging participants to listen actively, stay focused, and apply theory to practice. He highlighted that skill customization depends largely on one's ability to pay attention. Reflecting on expectations set on the first day, he encouraged participants to assess how much they had achieved and stressed that upskilling marks the beginning of a successful career.

While not everyone may succeed in business, he assured them that they can still reach their desired goals with the right approach. He added that AI is not competence in itself; true competence lies in using AI effectively. He also provided an overview of Executive Education and Consultancy at IIM Jammu, including its corporate training initiative.

This was followed by reflections from the participants, who shared their key takeaways and experiences. They highlighted that the sessions provided a deeper understanding of real-world business challenges, leadership development, and the importance of data-driven strategic decisions.

The event also featured the certificate distribution ceremony, recognizing the successful completion of the programme by the participants.

The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Shreya Rastogi, Program Director, IIM Jammu.

Sports Minister, Advisor to CM lead Jammu Midnight Marathon at M.A Stadium



Sports Minister, Satish Sharma flagging off 3rd Jammu Midnight Marathon.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Minister for Youth Services & Sports, Satish Sharma and Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani on Sunday lead the 3rd Jammu Midnight Marathon at M.A Stadium here to boost Fitness Movement across J&K.

The 3rd edition of Jammu Midnight Marathon, organised by J&K Sports Council in collaboration with Real Time Sports, was successfully held last night and early this morning at MA Stadium here.

Minister for Youth Services & Sports, Satish Sharma and Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani were also present on the occasion. In his address, Minister Satish Sharma said, "Our priority is to create an ecosystem where athletes have access to quality training, world-class facilities, and regular competitive exposure".

He added that events like Midnight Marathon strengthen community participation and inspire people, especially youth to adopt fitness as a daily habit. "A healthy J&K is our commitment, and we will continue expanding initiatives that benefit athletes and society at large," he stated.

Advisor to the Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, praised the event, stating, "The enthusiasm witnessed today reflects the evolving sports culture in J&K."

Under the dynamic leadership of our CM, We are enhancing infrastructure, supporting athletes at every level, and encouraging citizens to

embrace physical activity. Events like these unite communities and motivate youth toward disciplined, active living".

Pertinently, the marathon witnessed an impressive turnout, with more than 600 runners from diverse age groups, turning the event into a vibrant celebration of fitness, determination, and community spirit.

Participants competed across two phases as the night-time run transformed the stadium and adjoining tracks into an energetic arena of lights, cheers, and athletic enthusiasm. The event reaffirmed J&K's growing commitment to health, fitness, and active lifestyles.

Secretary, J&K Sports Council along with senior officers of JKSC also witnessed the marathon, reiterating ongoing initiatives to upgrade infrastructure, strengthen coaching systems, and widen opportunities for athletes across J&K. At the closing ceremony, winners of both phases of the marathon were felicitated for their commitment and competitive spirit. The recognition added further energy to the event, inspiring many first-time runners to pursue sports and fitness more seriously.

The organisers noted that the Midnight Marathon aims to promote health, foster active lifestyles, and unite sports lovers from across the region. The overwhelming participation once again highlighted J&K's rising enthusiasm for fitness-driven community engagement.

Chugh attacks AAP Govt in Punjab for bringing 'gangster raj'

Murder of RSS volunteer reaffirms complete collapse of law and order

STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH: BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh on Sunday said that the heinous murder of an RSS volunteer in Ferozepur has once again exposed the failure of the Bhagwant Mann government to allow gangsters a free run in the state. Chugh said that the bru-

tal killing of RSS worker Naveen Arora by unidentified assailants in Ferozepur has made it absolutely clear that there is no law and order left in Punjab. He said that the murder of a dedicated and nationalist worker like Naveen Arora is not an ordinary crime; it is a direct attack on Punjab's peace, its

social fabric, and the safety of ordinary citizens. He added that the confidence of criminals has risen to such an extent that they now commit crimes openly, without fear, while the government remains missing from the ground. Launching a sharp attack on Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, the BJP

National General Secretary said that he has abandoned the people of Punjab to their fate and is busy serving his "Tihar-returned bosses" from Delhi. At a time when Punjab is sinking into fear and chaos, the Chief Minister's priority is not the people, but the political corridors of Delhi, he added.

Chugh said this government is more concerned about political bargaining and saving its own power instead of ensuring the safety of the public, while the people of Punjab are forced to live under the shadow of rising crime.

He said that gangsters, radical groups, and criminal elements are roaming

freely across the state. Traders are living in fear, families feel helpless, and there is deep anger among ordinary citizens. The Aam Aadmi Party's failures, its administrative negligence, and its completely collapsed governance system have pushed Punjab to a dangerous brink. The government issues statements,

holds press conferences, but on the ground there is no action. Punjab today is drifting like a boat without a captain, and the administration appears completely paralysed, he added.

Tarun Chugh expressed deep condolences to the family of Naveen Arora and said that the Punjab Government must ensure

immediate arrest of the killers, launch a strict crackdown on the gangster network, and pull the state out of this growing anarchy. He said that if the Aam Aadmi Party government still refuses to wake up, the people of Punjab will give them the harsh political response they fully deserve.

Chugh said that the bru-