

Bollywood Actress, Director Priti Sapru visits Bawe Wali Mata Shrine, performs Hawan

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bollywood superstar actress and director Priti Sapru on Monday paid her obeisance at the revered Shri Bawe Wali Mata Temple in Jammu. During her visit, she performed a Hawan and prayed for peace, prosperity, and the well-being of all.

The visit drew significant attention from devotees and admirers, who gathered at the temple premises to catch a glimpse of the celebrated artist known for her versatile contributions to Indian cinema.

Priti Sapru, who is deeply connected to Jammu and its cultural roots, began her visit by paying obeisance at the sanctum sanctorum of the temple. Seeking divine blessings, she prayed for universal peace, prosperity, and the well-being of the people of Jammu & Kashmir. Her presence at the shrine added a special spiritual significance to the morning rituals, drawing the participation of several devotees.

She was accompanied by Ch



Bollywood superstar actress and director Priti Sapru performing Hawan at revered Shri Bawe Wali Mata Temple in Jammu.

Sushpaul Singh, BJP Border Cell Co-Convenor J&K UT, Capt Muti Gupta, Editor-in-Chief of Greater Jammu; Seema Murti, Managing Editor Greater Jammu; along with Nidhi Dogra, Advisor Dogra Samaj Trust; Renu Dogra, Charanjeet Singh, Geeta Devi, Ashvani, and other devotees who joined her in the hawan. The group collectively

offered prayers, invoking blessings of Mata for strength, harmony, and good fortune.

Expressing her sentiments, Priti Sapru expressed her heartfelt emotions about the visit. She shared that her connection with Bawe Wali Mata is deeply personal and profoundly spiritual.

"Visiting Bawe Wali Mata fills me

with divine energy and a sense of inner peace. The atmosphere here is incredibly serene, and I feel blessed every time I step into this holy place," she said. She expressed gratitude for the warm welcome extended by the devotees and acknowledged the spiritual enrichment she experienced during the Hawan.

Local devotees and temple visitors appreciated the humility and devotion displayed by the Bollywood star. Many expressed joy over her engagement in traditional rituals, highlighting how her presence brought renewed focus to the spiritual and cultural significance of the historic shrine.

The visit concluded with the distribution of prasad among all present, symbolizing blessings and goodwill. The temple authorities and accompanying dignitaries extended their best wishes to Priti Sapru, hoping for her continued success in the film industry and her ongoing efforts to promote art, culture, and spirituality.



Sham Lal lays foundation stone for Overhead Water Tank



MLA Jammu North, Sham Lal Sharma laying foundation stone for Overhead Water Tank at Panchayat Kot Lower Ghari (B).

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Jammu North, on Monday formally laid the foundation stone for an Overhead Water Tank at Panchayat Kot Lower Ghari (B), a project estimated to cost Rs 50 lakh.

This major initiative is set to provide clean, reliable, and adequate drinking water to the residents, addressing a long-pending demand and bringing significant relief to households facing persistent water scarcity. Once completed, the project will ensure a consistent and safe supply of potable water, marking a crucial developmental step for the area.

Sham Lal Sharma emphasized that this project is fully aligned with Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "Har Ghar Nal Se Jal" clean and safe drinking water for every household. He reiterated that Jammu North is committed to achieving this mission, and substantial efforts are being made to strengthen water supply infrastructure across the constituency so that every family benefits from improved and sustainable access to drinking water.

Sharma instructed the concerned officials to ensure strict quality control, use of approved materials, and proper technical supervision throughout the construction of the water tank. He stressed that transparency, accountability, and timely completion are essential for the successful execution of all pub-

lic projects. He also expressed gratitude to the people for their continuous cooperation and support, noting that collective efforts of residents, officials, and local representatives play a vital role in achieving sustainable progress in Jammu North.

Officers from the Jal Shakti (PHE) Department were present at the ceremony, including Er. Sandeep (AEE), Jal Shakti PHE Division Kandi-Ist, and AE Ashish Sharma. Also in attendance were Former Sarpanch Hari Sharan, District President Kisan Morecha Rakesh Singh, Mandal President Rohit Verma, along with other dignitaries and Locals from Panchayat Kote Lower Garhi (B).

3 years of AAP Govt; Punjab faces its worst phase marked by failure, corruption, mismanagement: Chugh BJP meet discusses Vande Matram Abhiyan, Run For Unity, Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan

STATE TIMES NEWS

CHANDIGARH/JALAN DHAR: A key organisational meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party was held at the BJP Office in Jalandhar under the leadership of BJP State Working President Ashwani Sharma. BJP National General Secretary Tarun Chugh, along with the state BJP leadership, attended the meeting.

The meeting reviewed the ongoing Vande Matram Abhiyan, Run For Unity programmes, and the Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, and held detailed discussions on preparations for the upcoming Zila Parishad Elections.

Chugh said these campaigns are not mere events but people-driven national missions that must reach every household in Punjab.

Chugh emphasised strengthening the organisation at the booth level ahead of the Zila Parishad elections, adding that the BJP must consolidate its presence from villages to towns. Progress reports of each campaign were reviewed and instructions were issued to speed up on-



Tarun Chugh

ground activities. Ashwani Sharma said Punjab BJP will reach the people with discipline, service, and strong organisational commitment, ensuring the success of all ongoing campaigns. Representatives from departments, morchas, and cells also shared their updates and suggestions during the meeting.

Tarun Chugh said that as the AAP government completes three years in Punjab, it has become evident that the promise of honesty and change was nothing more than political deception. Chugh said that the state's economic situation has collapsed due to mismanagement, disorder, and broken promises. He added that unemployment touching 18.8 percent exposes the government's complete failure in handling

Punjab's economy. Chugh said the power sector has been pushed into ICU by the government's faulty policies. Government departments themselves defaulted on Rs. 2500 crore in power bills, while nearly Rs. 9,000 crore of the Rs. 20,400 crore subsidy commitment still remains unpaid. He said PSPCL was forced to borrow money to pay salaries and pensions, even taking an Rs. 800 crore loan in January 2024 to avoid default. The promise of 24x7 power never translated into reality, leaving people to suffer in peak summer, spending nights in their cars.

Chugh said the government that claimed honesty has become synonymous with corruption. The removal of Health Minister Vijay Singla for demanding commissions, MLAs involved in misconduct, bribery cases against Amandeep Arora, and crores of rupees recovered from DIG Hareharan Singh's residence have made corruption the most defining feature of this government.

He said the sand and transport mafia have been

given a free hand. Illegal mining has altered river-courses, weakened bridges, and put villages at risk. The administration remains silent as the transport mafia continues its unchecked dominance. Chugh said law and order has collapsed. Punjab witnessed 19 grenade attacks, resurgence of gangsters and extremist elements, and RPG attacks on police targets. Families, businessmen, and ordinary citizens are living under fear. Punjab today feels unsafe.

He added that administrative chaos defines this government. The 2025 floods were a man-made disaster due to the government's lack of preparation. One minister held charge of a non-existent department for 20 months, highlighting the

government's inexperience. The cabinet was reshuffled seven times in three years, and major decisions were taken from Delhi, proving that the state government functioned on remote control.

Chugh said farmers suffered due to MSP delays and portal failures, women saw no progress on the Rs. 1000 monthly promise, and youth received no jobs or opportunities-only advertisements. Traders are battling insecurity and mafia pressures, while overdose deaths due to drugs have reached alarming levels.

Chugh said that Punjab now clearly sees that the government that claimed honesty has turned out to be the most corrupt and incompetent. Punjab is demanding answers, and this government will have to respond.

BJP Jammu East holds 'Sardar@150 Padyatra'

Patel's commitment guide us to work for stronger, progressive India: Sat Sharma Yudhvir urges citizens to carry forward Sardar Patel's vision of a United India

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A large number of residents, party workers and youth participated in the 'Sardar@150 Padyatra' organised in Jammu East by BJP District Jammu, led by senior leadership including Rajya Sabha MP and BJP J&K President Sat Sharma, MLA Jammu West Yudhvir Sethi, and former Minister Priya Sethi.

The padyatra commenced from Bharat Mata Chowk and concluded at Shalamar Hospital, passing through prominent localities such as Mubarak Mandi, Chabutra Chowk, Paeca Danga, Moti Bazaar, Sabzi Mandi, Purani Mandi, Raj Tilak Road and City Chowk.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from citizens who joined the march to honour the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India, whose contributions to national integration remain unparalleled.

Prominent leaders who graced the occasion included



Rajya Sabha MP and BJP J&K President Sat Sharma, MLA Jammu West Yudhvir Sethi, and former Minister Priya Sethi leading Padyatra.

former Mayor Rajinder Sharma, senior BJP leader Vikram Malhotra, and District President Rajesh Gupta, BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, Swati Sharma Mandal President Amphalla, senior leaders Adarsh Jathiar and Anuradha Sharma.

Speaking on the occasion, BJP J&K President and Member Parliament Rajya Sabha, Sat Sharma (CA) said that Sardar Patel's vision of a united India continues to inspire generations.

"Sardar Patel's commitment to national unity reminds us that strength lies in togetherness. His thoughts guide us to work for a stronger, more progressive India," he said.

Sharma praised the people of Jammu for their active involvement and said such programs promote collective responsibility toward nation-building. MLA Jammu West Yudhvir Sethi, who played a key role in organising the padyatra, said the event was meant to infuse patriotic spirit among the youth.

"This padyatra is a tribute to the great unifier of India.

It is encouraging to see people walking together and embracing the ideals of Sardar Patel. His message of unity, discipline and national spirit must reach every household," Sethi said.

He added that Jammu has always stood firm as a symbol of nationalism, and such initiatives strengthen social harmony. Former minister and BJP Vice President Priya Sethi also addressed the gathering, highlighting Sardar Patel's leadership during the integration of princely states.

"Our younger generation must understand the sacri-

fice, courage and administrative brilliance of Sardar Patel. His life teaches us dedication to duty and unwavering commitment to the nation," she said.

Priya Sethi lauded the participation of women and youth, calling it a positive sign for future civic engagement.

The padyatra saw spirited chants, patriotic slogans and cultural displays as participants marched through the historic lanes of Jammu.

Later in the day, the leaders visited Central Basic Higher Secondary School, where they interacted with students and delivered motivational talks on patriotism, cleanliness and discipline. A cleanliness drive was also conducted on the school campus as part of the programme, encouraging students to take active part in keeping their surroundings clean. The event concluded with leaders urging citizens to follow the ideals of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and contribute towards a united, clean and progressive nation.

CM sanctions Rs 30.14 Cr for welfare of construction workers

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also serves as the Chairman of the J&K Building & Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board (JKBOCWFB), on Monday sanctioned and released Rs 30.14 crore for direct online transfer to eligible beneficiaries under key welfare schemes of the Board.

The amount has been disbursed to all Assistant Labour Commissioners for immediate transfer into the bank accounts of registered workers.

The sanctioned assistance covers a range of flagship schemes aimed

at supporting construction workers and their families. These include education support, disability assistance, aid for chronic illness, support for next of kin of deceased labourers, marriage assistance and meritorious awards for children of registered workers.

Recalling the directions issued during the 22nd meeting of the JKBOCWFB held in July this year, the Chief Minister reiterated the need for a broader and more inclusive definition of 'construction worker' to ensure that all vulnerable and unorganised sector labourers are

brought under the ambit of welfare measures.

He had also emphasized the importance of exploring innovative policy mechanisms to expand coverage, strengthen financial security for workers, and align the Board's functioning with national best practices in labour welfare.

The Chief Minister reaffirmed his government's commitment to safeguarding the rights and dignity of the labour force, noting that construction workers are the backbone of infrastructural growth and deserve comprehensive and timely welfare support.

CBI arrests ESIC's Social Security Officer in bribery case

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The CBI on Monday arrested a social security officer while he was allegedly accepting a bribe from a complainant in Jammu city, officials said.

The officer, posted in the office of the Regional Director, Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Jammu, was allegedly caught taking a bribe of Rs 9,000 from the complainant, a CBI spokesperson said.

The action followed a complaint saying that the complainant's wife was running a private firm which had become defunct and had not

been doing any business since its inception, he said.

However, the ESIC Regional Office had been issuing notices for non-deposit of contribution to ESIC. "When the complainant met the social security officer, he demanded an illegal gratification of Rs 10,000 to close the proceedings," the spokesperson said.

After negotiations, the accused allegedly agreed to accept Rs 9,000 bribe.

The CBI registered the case and laid a trap, subsequently arresting the accused allegedly red-handed while accepting the bribe, he added.

Northern Railway GM inspects Srinagar-Baramulla rail section, reviews passenger amenities

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: General Manager of Northern Railway, Ashok Kumar Verma, on Monday conducted an extensive inspection of the Srinagar-Baramulla section of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, an official said here.

Divisional Railway Manager, Jammu, Vivek Kumar, and other senior officials accompanied Verma during the inspection which was aimed at assessing the progress of ongoing works and passenger amenities, said Udit Singhal, Senior Divisional Commercial

Manager, Jammu Division.

During the inspection, the general manager reviewed various aspects related to passenger safety, train operations, and infrastructure development, Singhal said.

Verma particularly emphasized maintaining safety protocols and quality of work on this important national project.

The team carried out inspection of almost all railway stations within approximately 60-kilometre stretch from Srinagar to Baramulla, Singhal said, adding the general manager also analyzed all passenger amenities

available at the stations.

He also inspected the goods shed at Anantnag Railway Station in the valley. The Anantnag Goods Terminal is a key point in the rail freight network in Kashmir.

Verma directed project officials to closely monitor all work and meet set targets within the stipulated time frame, Singhal said.

He said the inspection is an important step in guiding ongoing rail projects, which will enhance connectivity and economic development in the region.

J&K BOSE notifies dates for filling of examination forms for Classes 10, 11, 12

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (J&K BOSE), has notified online submission of Annual examination forms for Class 10th, 11th and 12th, Annual, Regular, 2026 (Feb-March session).

As per the notification issued, all eligible students of Summer Zone Areas of Jammu Division can submit their examination forms in online mode from November, 19 to

December, 3 on payment of normal prescribed fee.

The forms can also be submitted from December, 4 to December, 12 and December, 11 to December, 17 with applicable late fee (s).

The Board has directed all concerned institutions to ensure timely submission of forms, advising students to carefully verify their particulars during punching of information on the designated portal.

The detailed notification along with necessary guidelines, fee structure and instructions are available on the official J&K BOSE website. www.jkbose.nic.in.

The Board has urged parents and students to complete the process of submission of forms within the stipulated time frame to avoid imposition of late fee(s), cautioning that no form will be entertained after 18 December 2025 whatsoever.