

Speaker JKLA receives Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Award

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Speaker, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly (JKLA), Abdul Rahim Rather, on Thursday received Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Award 2025 at a function organised at Jammu University by Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society Jammu.

The Speaker also released a book titled "RASA FAHMI" which was authored by Dr Shahnaz Qadri, Assistant Professor GDC, Sidhra Jammu. The award consisted of a turban, a shawl, a memento and a citation.

The function was presided over by Professor Mohammad Zaman, former HoD Urdu, University of Kashmir while the Speaker, JKLA was the chief guest and Canadian scholar, Dr Taqi Abidi was the guest of honour. The Book release function was organized by



Speaker, JKLA Abdul Rahim Rather receiving Award during the event in Jammu.

the Department of Urdu, University of Jammu in collaboration with Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society.

While speaking on the occasion, Rather critically analysed the personality and poetry of Rasa Javedani and described him as one of the towering Literary figures of India who is still being remembered even after 47 years of

his death. He extended his gratitude to the organisers for giving him a prestigious Literary Award 2025.

The Speaker congratulated the author for compiling the book on the life and works of legendary poet of J&K late Rasa Javedani. He described Rasa Javedani not only a popular poet of Urdu but also among the top Kashmiri poets who projected the

realities of life in his poetry. Dr Taqi Abedi, Canadian Scholar, quoted various verses of Rasa Javedani's urdu poetry which depict his love for mutual understanding and communal harmony.

Professor, in his presidential address described, Rasa Javedani as one of the most popular Urdu and Kashmiri poets of Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, Professor Shohab Inayat Malik, HOD Urdu and President Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society, Jammu presented the welcome address while Wali Mohammad Aseer Kishitwari, General Secretary Rasa Javedani Memorial Literary Society Jammu read out the text of the Award citation.

Dr Mohd Asif Malik Alimee Assistant Professor Baba Ghulam Shah Budshah University, Rajouri and Dr Shahnawaz, Cultural Officer, Culture Academy Jammu presented their papers and appreciated the Book of Dr Shahnaz Qadri released in the function.

The program was attended by a large number of poets, writers, artists, teachers, students and prominent citizens.

The program was conducted by Dr Chaman Lal, Assistant Professor Urdu Department, University of Jammu.

Jandiwal Sabha rejects election of two Presidents; elections after photo voter list

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The All Jandiwal Sabha has decided to prepare a photo voter list before holding elections for its President and General Secretary. A 5-member Committee has been constituted to formulate the voter list in four months.

Former President of the Sabha, Subash Jandial will head this committee. The other members of the Committee are former President, Rajeev Jandial, former General Secretary, Mohan Lal Gupta, Suresh Gupta, and Satish Jandial.

Announcing the decision, K B Jandial, a senior member of the Sabha said that this decision has been taken by the current Ad hoc Committee, headed by Chief Patron of All Jandiwal Sabha, Justice (Retd) K K Gupta, to resolve the issue following unauthorised and unprecedented election of two Presidents, by their handfull supporters on Kartik Purnima on 5th November. These elections

were held in the afternoon when most of the Biradari members including Chief Patron, most of the senior members of the Committee and other respectables had left Baba Shehjnath Ji's Devasthan after attending the annual 'mail'.

He said that regrettably, this unauthorised action was taken by some members despite the unanimous decision of the Committee taken on the eve of the 'mail' to continue with the existing arrangement of the Ad hoc Committee which has done commendable work in the last 19 months. This manipulated action of some members has brought avoidable disrepute to Jandiwal Biradari.

He said that the Committee members after examining the election of two Presidents with reference to the Constitution of the Biradari, principles of natural justice and the law, rejected the election of two Presidents held in hush hush manner. Both the

elections were held, inter alia, without appointment of Returning Officer with no prior notification of election indicating time and venue of election essential to give opportunity to anyone who wishes to contest and in the absence of Chief Patron and other respectables. A formal notification has been issued in this regard.

Jandial said that the Committee could not succeed in creating consensus on the choice of the President despite prolonged efforts of Justice (Retd) K K Gupta and other well-wishers of the Biradari, and as such, it decided to first prepare a photo voter list and then hold election as per the constitution of Jandiwal Biradari. There is no voter list or list of members of the baradari in existence which can be relied upon for identification of the voters at the time of election. Hence, it is essential to prepare for elections in a democratic way.

J&K Archives Dept organises Women's Bike Rally



Director K.K. Sidha flagging off rally.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The Department of Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K, under the leadership of Director K.K. Sidha, continued its celebrations of World Heritage Week 2025 by organising an empowering All-Women's Bike Rally in Jammu on Day 2.

The event aimed at spreading awareness on heritage preservation while engaging young men and women as ambassadors of cultural conservation. Themed "Women Riding to

Preserve Heritage," the rally began from Kala Kendra, where participants were served tea before the ceremony. The event was flagged off at 10:00 AM by Principal Secretary Culture, Brij Mohan Sharma in the presence of officials, heritage enthusiasts and media representatives.

Director K.K. Sidha, in his address, called it "an empowering experience to witness women bikers leading the movement for heritage awareness."

He briefed participants about the department's ongoing work in conservation, preservation, and restoration of around 281 heritage sites and monuments across J&K-including Bhingrah Fort, Reasi and the Bamuchak Temple, Samba. He emphasized the importance of "going back to our roots" and expressed his willingness to collaborate further with individuals and organisations passionate about heritage.

Around 20 women bikers from Shakti Udghosh accom-

panied by a few male riders from Bikers Brotherhood rode from Kala Kendra to Bamuchak Temple, Samba. Midway, the riders were greeted and joined by ADDC, Samba Champa Devi, who extended her support to the cause. The rally reached Bamuchak at around 11:30 AM, where restoration work is currently underway. At the site, participants were addressed by Jyotika Rasial (XEN), followed by Senior Journalist and heritage enthusiast Sunny Dua, ADDC, Samba Champa Devi and Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, Assistant Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums. Dr. Sharma also shared historical insights about the temple, tracing its roots back to the era of Maharaja Gulab Singh.

Participants were later served an authentic Dogri lunch featuring Dal, Ambal, Rajmah and Meethe Chawal.

The event concluded with a visit to the iconic Baba Chamliyal Shrine, located on the India-Pakistan border, commonly known as the Zero Line.

Yuvtarang 4th day resonates with outstanding musical performances



Dignitaries along with Organisers and participants during the event.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Day 4 of Yuvtarang 2025-26, the annual cultural and literary extravaganza of Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ), showcased an exciting blend of talent and musical brilliance as Western Instrumental Solo, Western Group Song, and Western Solo Singing competitions were held at MAM College. Organized under the guidance of Dean Students Welfare, Dr. Zubair, the events attracted enthusiastic participation from all constituent col-

leges, creating an atmosphere filled with rhythm, creativity, and youthful vibrance. In the Western Instrumental Solo category, Antariksh Sharma of GGM Science College captivated the audience with an exceptional performance to secure the first position. Sunny Topno from the School of Humanities & Liberal Arts claimed the second spot, while Sharad Chhetri of MAM College stood third with a commendable presentation.

The Western Group Song competition saw a spirited

musical contest, with MAM College earning the first position for their synchronized and engaging performance. GCW Gandhi Nagar secured the second position, and SPMR College of Commerce took the third place, reflecting a strong showcase of teamwork and musical harmony.

In the Western Solo Singing event, Vineet Raina of MAM College emerged as the winner, impressing both the audience and the jury. The second position was shared in a tie by Tejasvi Verma of GCW Gandhi

Nagar and Khushboo Naveen of MAM College, while Urvasi Bharti from GGM Science College secured the third position.

The performances were evaluated by a distinguished panel comprising Dr. Narinder Wazir, Dr. Jasmeet Kaur, and Jagdeep Singh. The events were smoothly conducted under the overall supervision of Prof. D. S. Manhas, Dean Students Welfare, supported by Dr. Davinder Kour, Dr. Revika Arora, and the cultural convenors of the participating colleges.

Billawaria starts blacktopping work at Ward No. 55



BJP J&K General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria starting blacktopping work.

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir General Secretary and former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria, kick-started the blacktopping work at Ward No. 55, Apna Vihar, and adjoining areas of the RS Pura-Jammu South Assembly constituency.

The work, being undertaken through the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), is estimated to cost Rs 10 lakh. The event was attended by BJP District Jammu South President Naresh Jasrotia, Mandal President Ajay Pratap Singh, Sohan Singh Katal, State Executive Committee Member Rajinder Chib (Poppy), District Secretary Ranjit Singh, departmental officials, and several prominent citizens.

Speaking on the occasion, Billawaria said the project fulfils a long-pending demand of residents and was made possible through the efforts of MLA Dr. Narinder Singh. He stated that once completed, the road would provide major relief to commuters and significantly enhance local connectivity. Appreciating the development initia-

tives being implemented under MLA Dr. Narinder Singh, he emphasised that BJP's representatives remain committed to inclusive, unbiased, and people-centric development.

Billawaria instructed engineers and contractors to ensure the use of high-quality materials and to complete the work in a time-bound and transparent manner. He said JMC has accelerated development projects across all wards, with visible improvements on the ground. He added that the Corporation continues to work towards providing better civic amenities, while the Modi Government remains dedicated to addressing public grievances and boosting overall development in Jammu & Kashmir.

Urging public cooperation, he appealed to residents to help keep Jammu clean and green, participate in plantation drives, avoid plastic carry bags, and refrain from dumping waste in drainage channels. He reaffirmed that development across the RS Pura-Jammu South constituency is progressing steadily and assured that all essential projects will be executed in a phased manner.

Addressing the gathering, Rekha Mahajan highlighted the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi aimed at making India self-reliant across sectors. She emphasized that the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan is not just a government initiative but a mass movement that requires active participation from society, entrepreneurs, and grassroots workers.

Rekha Mahajan urged party workers to intensify the message of "Har Ghar Swadeshi, Ghar

Rekha Mahajan calls for 'Har Ghar Swadeshi, Ghar Ghar Swadeshi' through door-to-door campaigns

STATE TIMES NEWS
 REASI: BJP Vice President Rekha Mahajan today chaired an organisational meeting of BJP District Reasi, convened under the presidentship of District President Rohit Dubey, to review and strengthen activities related to the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

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Rekha Mahajan urged party workers to intensify the message of "Har Ghar Swadeshi, Ghar



BJP Vice President Rekha Mahajan and others after the meeting.

Swadeshi" by launching a strong door-to-door campaign across Reasi district. She emphasized that promoting the use of locally made products is a key pillar of the AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and plays a vital role in strengthening the local economy.

Rekha Mahajan called upon workers to reach every household, interact with families, and create awareness about the benefits of adopting Swadeshi goods, encouraging people to support local artisans, entrepreneurs, and small

industries.

"AtmaNirbhar Bharat is a mission to empower every citizen, every village, and every sector of our nation. It is our responsibility to carry this message to the last person in the district and ensure that people benefit from schemes created for their upliftment," she said.

Rekha Mahajan urged party karyakartas to intensify awareness campaigns about the government's welfare schemes, including those related to self-employment, skill

development, entrepreneurship, women empowerment, and rural livelihood generation. She stressed the need for door-to-door outreach to inform people about opportunities available through various central schemes.

"Reasi district has immense potential, and with proper guidance and support, our youth and women can become successful entrepreneurs. We must work collectively to strengthen this mission and ensure that no eligible beneficiary is left behind,"

she added.

District President Rohit Dubey briefed the Vice President about ongoing organisational activities and shared future plans to expand the party's presence in remote areas of Reasi. He assured that workers are fully committed to implementing the vision of AtmaNirbhar Bharat at the grassroots.

The meeting concluded with a pledge to enhance coordination, boost organisational strength, and work tirelessly to bring government initiatives closer to the people of Reasi district.

WR's night block between Vasai Road and Vaitarna

STATE TIMES NEWS
 MUMBAI: Western Railway (WR) will operate a six-hour jumbo block on the UP and DOWN Fast lines between Vasai Road and Vaitarna during the intervening night of 21st/22nd November 2025 to facilitate maintenance of tracks, signalling, and overhead equipment.

According to a press release issued by Vineet Abhishek, Chief Public Relations Officer, Western Railway, the UP Fast line block will be in effect from 23:55 hrs to 02:55 hrs, while the DOWN Fast line block will be imposed from 01:30 hrs to 04:30 hrs.

As a result of this maintenance block, Train No. 19101 Virar-Bharuch MEMU will experience a delay of 15 minutes, departing from Virar at 04:50 hrs instead of the scheduled 04:35 hrs. Passengers have been advised to take note of the changes, and detailed information is available at the Station Master's office of the concerned stations.

Agrawal reviews implementation of Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: A workshop was convened at Katra by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to conduct a comprehensive review of the implementation and compliance framework of the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PMVBRY) across the establishments of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, its affiliated units, and contractors. The review was led by B.K. Agrawal, ICAS, Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Labour & Employment. Mahesh Kumar Sharma, FA/CAO, SMVDSB highlighted the operational structure, staffing patterns, and key activities undertaken through multiple associated establishments and contractors. Stressing the importance



Chief Controller of Accounts, B.K. Agrawal chairing meeting.

of PMVBRY-2025, he noted that the scheme is a major national initiative aimed at accelerating formal job creation and strengthening the social security net. He urged all establishments to extend full cooperation, emphasizing that the Government of India's incentives offer significant benefits to employers recruiting new workers. He also outlined complementary benefits under ESIC and the Employees' Enrolment Campaign-2025, encouraging optimal utilization of these

provisions. The workshop focused on enhancing compliance systems, simplifying procedural requirements, and ensuring accurate and seamless execution of PMVBRY benefits across all units. Satish Kumar Sharma, Joint CEO, Shrine Board, was present and appreciated the scheme's potential to boost employment generation.

In his concluding address, Sumeet Singh, Regional PF Commissioner-1, urged establishments and contractors to register under PMVBRY to

avail the scheme's benefits. He elaborated on the key features of the Employees' Enrolment Campaign 2025, noting that its six-month window allows employers to update and regularise employee enrolments with only a token penalty of Rs 100.

The session concluded with a shared commitment to strengthen coordination between the Shrine Board and all associated establishments to ensure timely and effective implementation of Government of India initiatives.

Hall Tickets/Admit Cards for IGNOU Dec 2025 Term-End Examinations released

STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has released the Hall Tickets/Admit Cards for the December 2025 Term-End Examinations (TEE). Learners can download their admit cards from the SAMARTH portal through the IGNOU website ignou.ac.in or directly via the link provided on the portal. Students are advised to carry a printed copy of the Hall Ticket along with their IGNOU-issued Identity Card to their allotted Examination Centre.

Under the Jammu Region, IGNOU has established 32 Examination Centres, including four centres

located in District Jail Ambhalla, District Jail Udhampur, District Jail Kathua, and Central Jail Kot Bhalwal Jammu exclusively for jail inmates. An additional centre has been set up in Northern Command Udhampur exclusively for Army personnel, ensuring convenient access to all categories of learners.

The Term-End Examinations will be held from December 1, 2025, to January 14, 2026, conducted in two sessions on all working days. The morning session will be from 10 AM to 1 PM, while the evening session will be from 2 PM to 5 PM. No examinations will take place on Sundays or government gazetted holi-

days.

Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, expressed gratitude to the local administration for deploying security personnel at exam centres and to the Postal Department for accepting sealed parcels even beyond working hours. He conveyed confidence that the examinations would be conducted smoothly and fairly with the cooperation of the administration, Higher Education Department, Centre Superintendents, staff, and other stakeholders.

The Regional Centre Jammu has clarified that no requests for change of Examination Centre will be entertained under any circumstances.