

Colors of Harmony: IIM Jammu hosts live painting workshop by artist Bhushan Kesar

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: As part of its ten-year celebrations, the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu organized a two-day Live Painting Workshop titled "Colors of Harmony" under the theme "The Center of Happiness at its Jagti Campus."

The workshop, held on November 8-9, 2025, was conducted by eminent and veteran artist and art educator, Bhushan Kesar of Kesar Art Circle, Jammu.

The event began with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by the first symbolic brushstroke jointly painted by Bhushan Kesar and Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, marking the perfect blend of art, culture, and academia. Also present on the occasion were Ankush Kesar, son of the artist; Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean, Faculty and Research; Prof. Shyam Narayan Lal, Chairperson, IIM Jammu; and Prof. Sanjay Gupta, Co-Chairperson, Placements, along with faculty members, officers,



Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu lighting ceremonial lamp.

staff, and students. Prof. B.S. Sahay, in his address, emphasized that the live workshop was more than an artistic display—it represented a dialogue between creativity and education.

He stated that Bhushan Kesar's brushstrokes embodied harmony, resilience, and beauty-values that resonate deeply with IIM Jammu's ethos. Highlighting the institute's holistic vision, he shared that performing arts like theatre and dance are already part of the curriculum, conducted by Padmashri Balwant Thakur; and that painting modules will be led by renowned artist KK Gandhi. He also announced plans for a weeklong Basohli Art Workshop and an International Painting Consortium in January 2026, featuring artists from across India and abroad.

The workshop, organized under the theme "The Center of Happiness," aimed to integrate mindfulness and creativity into campus life. Participants explored the rhythm of brushstrokes, the meditative process of creation, and the joy of painting as an inward journey that harmonizes thought and emotion. Under Shri Kesar's expert guidance, students engaged in live demonstrations and hands-on exercises, learning the nuances of artistic expression and interpretation.

During his address, Bhushan Kesar stated that the initiative's central objective was to build a deep and meaningful connection between students and art. He emphasized that painting transcends language

and speaks to the heart, teaching observation, reflection, and free expression—qualities vital for both artists and future leaders. Along with his son, he guided students through creative exercises, encouraging them to express their imagination through color and form. The artworks created during the workshop will form part of a permanent collection at IIM Jammu and will also be showcased in upcoming art and cultural events on campus. Drawing inspiration from earlier artistic initiatives such as the Live Painting Workshop by internationally acclaimed artist Shri Kamlesh K. Gandhi, this event continues IIM Jammu's legacy of integrating creativity with education. Through the theme "The Center of Happiness," IIM Jammu reaffirms its commitment to holistic learning—where management education meets mindfulness and intellect blends with imagination—truly upholding its motto, "Creating Leaders with a Heart."

LG Secretariat hosts farewell for Under Secretary Vivek Sharma



LG Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta along with officials posing for a photograph.

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LEH: A heartfelt farewell was accorded to Vivek Rattan Sharma, JKAS, Under Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor, in the presence of the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, at the LG Secretariat.

The Lieutenant Governor commended Vivek Rattan Sharma for his unwavering dedication, sincerity, and exemplary work ethic, lauding his significant contribution to the efficient functioning of the LG Secretariat.

"Ladakh has greatly benefited from your steadfast commitment and high standards during your two-and-a-half-year tenure in the UT Administration. Your example of excellence has set a benchmark for all staff at the LG Secretariat, and your dedication remains a cornerstone of our collective achievements," the Lt Governor remarked. Underscoring the value of teamwork, Gupta highlighted the TEAM principle—"Together Everyone Achieves More"—as essential to the success of any organisation. He also emphasised the need to promote continuous

learning within government offices to ensure smooth operations, adaptability, innovation, efficient problem-solving, and greater trust and transparency in public service. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor presented a traditional Khatak to Vivek Rattan Sharma and extended his best wishes for success in future endeavours.

In his address, Vivek Rattan Sharma expressed gratitude to the Lt Governor and the UT Administration for the opportunity to serve Ladakh, stating that he would always cherish his two-and-a-half-year tenure in the region.

He thanked the officials and staff of the LG Secretariat for their cooperation and reaffirmed the importance of upholding the integrity and dignity of Ladakh's highest office.

During the programme, OSD to the Lt Governor, Lt Col B.K. Dash; Media Advisor to LG, Sahil Verma; Under Secretary Sachin Bali; and ADCs to LG, Chhimba Samstan and Mohd Abbas, also addressed the gathering, expressing their appreciation and extending best wishes to Vivek Rattan Sharma for his future assignments.

District Level Role Play and Folk Dance Competition conducted at DIET Jammu



A winner team receiving trophy.

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JAMMU: The District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Jammu, in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE), conducted the District Level Role Play and Folk Dance Competition on Saturday at the DIET Jammu premises.

The event was held under

the overall supervision of JKBOSE as part of a multi-tier competition aimed at promoting creativity, experiential learning, and cultural appreciation among students. The programme featured participants from eight zones in the Role Play competition and in the Folk Dance competition, who showcased remarkable tal-

ent, teamwork, and expression through their performances.

The programme was inaugurated by the Principal DIET Jammu, R. G. Dogra, who appreciated the efforts of the participating students and staff and emphasized the importance of such events in fostering confidence, communication skills, and cultural awareness

among learners. The event was judged by Manmeet Bali, Principal GGHSS R S Pura; Yogta Sharma, Principal HSS Kathar; Promila Manhas, Sr. Lecturer HSS Sarore; and Kanwal Preet Kour, HOD DIET Jammu. Their expertise and fair evaluation contributed greatly to the success of the programme.

The event was anchored by Suniya Mehta, Lecturer DIET Jammu, while the vote of thanks was presented by Kanwal Preet Kour, HOD DIET Jammu. The winners were awarded trophies and certificates as a token of recognition for their outstanding performances.

Refreshments and lunch were also served to all participants and escort teachers, ensuring a hospitable and encouraging environment for everyone involved. The event concluded on a positive note, celebrating the vibrant spirit of culture and learning among students of District Jammu.

Sikh Naujwan Sabha constituted, commits to revival of Sikh values, drug-free youth movement

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JAMMU: In a landmark development for the Sikh community of Jammu and Kashmir, the "Sikh Naujwan Sabha Jammu and Kashmir" was formally constituted, and its Memorandum of Association (MoA) was unveiled during a press meet held in Jammu.

The Sabha has been established with the guiding principles of Naujwani, Gurnmat, and Panthic Spirit, aiming to unite Sikh youth, revive Gurnmat-based living, and promote Seva, discipline, and leadership while maintaining a strictly non-political character.

The primary mission of the Sabha is to inspire Sikh youth to live a life of faith, service, and responsibility in accordance with Gurnmat and Sikh Rehat Maryada. A strong focus has been placed on eradicating the menace of drugs and intoxicants through awareness campaigns, counselling, and rehabilitation drives grounded in Panthic principles.

The Sabha also seeks to reaffirm allegiance to Sri Akal Takht Sahib and Dhan Dhan



Sikh Naujwan Sabha Jammu and Kashmir members talking to reporters.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji as the eternal Guru, while organizing Gurnmat Samagams, Kirtan Darbars, and Youth Camps across the Union Territory for spiritual awakening.

Emphasizing Panthic integrity, members will adhere strictly to Sikh Rehat Maryada, abstain from intoxicants, and remain apolitical. The Sabha intends to collaborate with Gurdwara Committees, Sikh institutions, and educational bodies to strengthen unity and community representation.

During the press interaction, the founding members highlighted that the Sabha represents a movement for moral

and spiritual rejuvenation, especially focused on steering the youth away from drug addiction and social degradation.

"Our goal is to bring Sikh youth back to the path of Gurnmat, discipline, and Seva. A drug-free and spiritually awakened generation is the true strength of the Panth," the leadership stated collectively.

The office bearers of the Sikh Naujwan Sabha Jammu and Kashmir include Surjit Singh "Kuku Veer" as Jathedar, Manjit Singh as Mukh Sewarji, Rashpal Singh as Senior Vice President, Gurmeet Singh and Gurnail Singh as

Vice Presidents, Ramandeep Singh as General Secretary, Ajitpal Singh as Joint Secretary, Gurnam Singh as Treasurer, Jasmeet Singh as Joint Treasurer, and Harpreet Singh as Press and Media Incharge.

All office bearers took a solemn pledge to uphold Sikh Rehat Maryada and dedicate themselves to Panthic unity and service. The event concluded with Ardas for the Chardi Kala of the Sikh Panth and an appeal to Sikh youth across Jammu and Kashmir to join hands in building a disciplined, drug-free, and spiritually awakened community.

Director Tourism Ladakh visits ancient petroglyph sites along Nimoo-Chilling Road

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LEH: The Director of Tourism, Ladakh, Tsering Paldan, accompanied by Assistant Director, Tourism Leh, Padma Angmo and Associate Professor, Zoology, EJM College, Leh, Tashi Ldawa, a noted expert on petroglyphs, visited several ancient petroglyph sites located along the Nimoo-Chilling road in Leh district. During the visit, the team documented a series of remarkable rock carvings depicting ibex, yak, hunting scenes, and human figures, which are believed to date back to around 2,000 BC.



Director of Tourism, Ladakh, Tsering Paldan, accompanied by Assistant Director, Tourism Leh, Padma Angmo visiting several ancient petroglyph sites in Leh.

The visiting team expressed concern over the growing vulnerability of these ancient carvings to natural weathering and potential human interference.

It was collectively felt that urgent conservation measures are required to safeguard and preserve these priceless heritage assets for future generations.

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JAMMU: BJP Jammu and Kashmir Vice President Rekha Mahajan today led an extensive door-to-door campaign in support of BJP candidate Devyani Rana at Ward No. 2, Booth No. 85, covering lanes 1 to 5 of the Nagrota Assembly Constituency.

The campaign aimed to strengthen the party's grassroots outreach and garner public support ahead of the upcoming elections.

Rekha Mahajan was accompanied by Adv. Raman Wazir, Sarpanch Dhok Wazir; Arjun Singh, Asha Sharma, Champa Rani, Kuldeep Singh—all Panchs; Krishan Gopal, Booth President; and Ajit Singh Manhas, President of Indira Colony.

The team interacted with residents, listened to their concerns, and apprised them of the developmental initiatives undertaken by the BJP-led government.

People's overwhelming response ensures big triumph for Devyani Rana: Rekha Mahajan



BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan during a campaign.

During her interactions, Rekha Mahajan highlighted the transformative welfare schemes launched by the Central Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aimed at empowering every section of society, particularly women, youth, and farmers.

She said the BJP's development-oriented governance model has brought visible changes in rural and urban areas alike, emphasizing transparency, infrastructure

improvement, and social welfare.

She appealed to the people to extend their full support to BJP candidate Devyani Rana, describing her as a dynamic and committed leader dedicated to carrying forward the vision of inclusive development.

"Devyani Rana represents the spirit of progress and empowerment. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, the BJP

is determined to ensure equitable growth and strengthen the foundation of a 'Viksit Bharat' starting from the grassroots," Rekha Mahajan said.

The BJP Vice President also underscored the importance of active citizen participation in democratic processes, urging residents to vote in large numbers to ensure continuity of good governance.

Rekha said that the overwhelming public response during the door-to-door campaign clearly indicates a big win for BJP candidate Devyani Rana in the upcoming elections.

She added that the enthusiasm and trust shown by the people reflect their faith in the BJP's development-oriented policies and the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Rekha Mahajan expressed confidence that the electorate of Nagrota constituency would ensure a decisive victory for Devyani Rana, reaffirming their support for progress, good governance, and inclusive growth.

Expressing gratitude for the warm reception by locals, Rekha Mahajan assured them that the party remains committed to addressing their concerns and accelerating development in Nagrota constituency.

BJP's strong connect with people will ensure massive victory for Devyani Rana: Sat

STATE TIMES NEWS

NAGROTA: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma (CA) held an extensive interaction with local workers, senior citizens, and enthusiastic supporters during a series of programmes organized in support of BJP candidate Devyani Rana in Upper Katthad, Kishanpur-Manwal, Manwal Railway Station, and adjoining areas under the Nagrota Assembly

Constituency. The event was also attended by District Prabhari Ayodhya Gupta, District President Jammu North Nand Kishore Sharma, District President Udhampur Arun Gupta, Vikrant Gupta, Pardeep Sharma, and several prominent local leaders.

Addressing the gathering, Sat Sharma said that the massive participation of people from all walks of life clearly indicates that the people of Nagrota have made up their minds to

bring the BJP to victory. He said that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country has witnessed unprecedented development, empowerment of every section of society, and restoration of pride in our cultural identity.

He said that the BJP stands for stability, growth, and justice for all. The people of Nagrota are ready to strengthen this vision by ensuring the victory of Devyani Rana in

the upcoming by-election, he asserted.

Reiterating the BJP's commitment to inclusive growth, Sat Sharma emphasized that the Modi government has delivered on its promises be it infrastructure development, welfare schemes, or empowerment of women, youth, and marginalized sections.

During his visit, Sat Sharma also met 109-year-old Govind Singh Ji at Dharampur village in Amb Panchayat, seeking his

blessings. He described Singh Ji's long life and optimism as "a symbol of the timeless spirit of India that continues to guide us towards strength and unity."

Nand Kishore Sharma stated that BJP's organizational strength and the people's faith are the biggest assets. He said that the BJP activists are working tirelessly in every nook and corner, taking the message of development and good governance to every voter.

Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 observed across all CVPPL locations

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JAMMU: The Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 was observed across all CVPPL locations from 27th October to 2nd November 2025. The theme for this year was 'Vigilance: Our Shared Responsibility'.

To promote transparency and integrity, a variety of activities were organized, including the Integrity Pledge, walkathon, painting, debate, quiz, essay writing, and other outreach programs. Employees, local residents and students from nearby schools and colleges actively participated in these events. During the closing cere-



Managing Director of CVPPL felicitating a winner.

mony, the Managing Director of CVPPL commended the vigilance officers for their dedicated efforts and highlighted that transparency and integrity are vital for the nation's economic, political, and social progress.

He urged all employees to uphold the highest standards of

honesty, transparency and good governance and emphasized the importance of collective efforts in combating corruption.

The event concluded with the felicitation of the winners of various competitions conducted during the week.