

# CS favours expanding Ayush footprints with new services; colleges and hospitals

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dooloo, on Saturday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to evaluate the progress under the National Ayush Mission (NAM) in Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting focused on service delivery, infrastructure creation, public outreach, and the overall strengthening of Ayush-based healthcare systems across the Union Territory.

The review was attended by Secretary, Health & Medical Education; Principal, Government Medical College Srinagar; Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration; Directors of Health Services Jammu and Kashmir; Director Ayush, and other senior officers. The Chief Secretary was briefed on the

operationalization of 523 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (Ayush) across the UT, fully functional since March 31, 2025, providing preventive, promotive, and therapeutic services grounded in traditional Ayush principles.

Regarding infrastructure, it was informed that the 50-bedded Integrated Ayush Hospital at Chawalgam, Kulgam, is fully operational, recording 12,852 OPD visits in 2024-25 and 5,546 visits in 2025-26 up to December 2025. An amount of Rs 105 lakh has been sanctioned under SAAP 2025-26 for allied works, including landscaping, herbal garden development, and manpower support. Similarly, the 50-bedded Integrated Ayush Hospital at Billawar, Kathua, has achieved 80 percent physical progress, with finishing works under-



way and completion expected by March 2026. Rs 70 lakh has been approved for boundary wall construction.

The 10-bedded Integrated Ayush Hospital at Gadhi Garh, Jammu, is also fully operational, serving 7,609 patients in 2024-25 and 4,713 patients in 2025-26 till December 2025. Rs 122.50 lakh has been allocated for an additional block and manpower enhancement. The Chief Secretary

reviewed the implementation of Ayush public health programmes and was informed that several targets have been exceeded. Under the National Programme for Prevention and Management of Osteoarthritis and Musculoskeletal Disorders, 62 units have been operationalized, screening 59,628 people and providing treatment to 48,576 patients. Under other programmes, SUPRAJA focuses on maternal and neonatal health through 33 units, AYURVIDYA on school health through 40 units, KARUNYA on palliative care with 40 units, and VAYO MITRA for geriatric healthcare with 22 units. Mobile Medical Units and NPCDCS components have further expanded Ayush outreach to remote and under-

served areas.

On financial progress, over 71 percent expenditure was achieved during 2024-25. For 2025-26, Rs 37.31 crore has been onboarded through SNA-SPARSH, with significant releases already made to implementing agencies. Overall expenditure is expected to exceed 80 percent by March 2026.

The Chief Secretary emphasized timely completion of ongoing projects, optimal utilization of funds, and integration of Ayush services with mainstream healthcare.

He highlighted the role of Ayush in preventive, promotive, and holistic healthcare, directing officials to sustain momentum to ensure accessible, affordable, and people-centric Ayush healthcare services throughout Jammu and Kashmir.

# J&K Hapkido Team shines at National Championship with three medals

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Hapkido team delivered an impressive performance at the 14th Countrywide National Hapkido Championship 2025-26, winning a total of three medals, including two gold and one silver, at the prestigious Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi. The championship was held from January 5 to January 7, 2025.

Demonstrating exceptional skill and determination, Saksham Kumar and Sachin Kumar clinched gold medals in their respective categories, while Lakshay Bhatia secured a silver medal, bringing pride to the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.

The medal-winning athletes were trained under the guidance of Coach Suresh Kumar, whose dedicated



Coach Suresh Kumar along with medal winners.

coaching played a vital role in the team's success. Coach Suresh Kumar also serves as the Secretary of the Countrywide Hapkido Association of Jammu & Kashmir, and his contribution to the development of the sport in the region has been widely appreciated.

The outstanding achievement of the J&K Hapkido team highlights the growing

standard of martial arts training in the region and serves as an inspiration for young athletes to pursue excellence at the national level.

Officials, sports enthusiasts, and well-wishers have congratulated the players and coaching staff for their remarkable performance and wished them continued success in future competitions.

# Lawrence Public School felicitates Samgey Khajuria for historic BCCI Triumph



School Management honouring Samgey Khajuria.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Lawrence Public School, Jammu, on Saturday felicitated its Class 10 student Samgey Khajuria in recognition of his outstanding leadership and remarkable achievement in cricket at the national level.

Samgey Khajuria captained the Jammu &

Kashmir Under-16 cricket team to a historic victory in the Vijay Merchant Trophy (Plate) 2025-26, held at Surat.

Under his dynamic captaincy, the team delivered an extraordinary performance by securing six consecutive innings victories, clinching the title and creating history by winning

Jammu & Kashmir's first-ever BCCI trophy.

Samgey's composed leadership, discipline and dedication played a decisive role in guiding the team through a dominant campaign, setting a new benchmark for youth cricket in the region. His success reflects his hard work, perseverance and strong sportsmanship.

The school management, Principal, teachers and students congratulated Samgey on this landmark achievement and expressed immense pride in his contribution to J&K cricket. Lawrence Public School reaffirmed its commitment to holistic development, celebrating Samgey's success as a moment of honour for the institution and the region.

# Yudhvir, Priya Sethi inaugurate Sankalp Naya Avtar High-Life Expo in Jammu



MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi inaugurating expo.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi and BJP J&K UT Vice President and former Minister Priya Sethi today inaugurated the two-day Sankalp Naya Avtar High-Life Expo at Garden Estate, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, being held from 10th to 11th January 2026.

The expo attracted a large number of visitors and offered a vibrant platform for business, lifestyle, and public service engagement.

The inauguration ceremony was held in the presence of prominent citizens including Dr. A.K. Kapoor, P.B. Kapoor, Dr. Rahul Kapoor, Gayika Kapoor, Rahul Sahai, Rupika Sahai, Ritesh Kapoor, Chief Editor of Daily Excel Express

besides BJP District President South Naresh Singh and bjp Mahila Moreha JK UT President Neha Mahajan.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Yudhvir Sethi said that such exhibitions play a crucial role in strengthening the local economy.

He stated that platforms

like the High-Life Expo help small entrepreneurs, startups, and artisans reach a wider audience and grow their businesses. He added that Jammu has immense entrepreneurial potential and such initiatives encourage innovation, self-employment, and economic self-reliance among the youth.

Priya Sethi, BJP J&K UT Vice President and former Minister, appreciated the organizers for creating a space where commerce, creativity, and public awareness come together. She said the expo reflects the changing aspirations of society and provides valuable exposure to local talent. She further stated that supporting such initiatives is essential for promoting women entrepreneurs, designers, and small business owners in the region.

The exhibition featured a wide range of stalls showcasing home and kitchen essentials, jewellery, clothing, shawls, furniture, automobiles, and decorative items, offering visitors a complete lifestyle shopping experience under one roof.

Special stalls by the Indian Army Recruitment Unit, J&K Police Cyber Crime Department, and J&K Bank attracted significant attention by providing career guidance, digital safety awareness, and banking services to visitors, especially the youth.

The expo served as an effective platform for local entrepreneurs, designers, and service providers to interact directly with customers. Visitors expressed satisfaction over the quality and variety of products displayed.

The organizers said the High-Life Expo aims to promote business opportunities, public awareness, and community engagement, making it a meaningful initiative for Jammu.

# MLA BR Sharma calls on LG



MLA BR Sharma calling on LG Manoj Sinha.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Baldev Raj Sharma, Member of Legislative Assembly, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi on Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and discussed

the rehabilitation of families affected due to recent natural calamities in his constituency. He was accompanied by Saraf Singh Nag, Chairman, District Development Council Reasi.

# KK Gandhi's "The Yatra" takes center stage at Masters & Grandmasters Art Auction

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Mumbai is set to witness a landmark celebration of Indian art as Giftex.in, in collaboration with Asta Group, presents "Modern & Contemporary Art in Focus - Landscapes", a prestigious Masters & Grandmasters auction scheduled for 19th and 20th January 2026.

The event marks Giftex's significant expansion into the cultural domain, blending its legacy of excellence with India's rich artistic heritage.

Established in 1988, Giftex has evolved over

three decades into India's largest and most respected platform for corporate and personalised gifting. With this upcoming auction, Giftex.in and Asta Group reinforce their commitment to promoting fine art and cultural dialogue beyond commerce.

A special highlight of the auction is the inclusion of "The Yatra" by renowned Jammu-based artist KK Gandhi, who has been specially invited to participate in this elite showcase.

Displayed alongside works by legendary Masters and Grandmasters

of Indian art, Gandhi's painting holds its own in an illustrious line-up that includes iconic names such as M.F. Husain, F.N. Souza, S.H. Raza, Tyeb Mehta, Akbar Padamsee, Ram Kumar, Krishen Khanna, Anjali Ela Menon, and many others who have shaped India's modern and contemporary art movement.

"The Yatra" is a deeply introspective work, exploring themes of movement, spirituality and inner transformation, resonating powerfully with the exhibition's broader narrative.

# Silver Star Award conferred to Wg Cdr M.M Joshi by Chhattisgarh Governor



Governor of Chhattisgarh Ramen Deka presenting Award to Wg Cdr M.M Joshi.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Ramen Deka, Governor of Chhattisgarh today presented Silver Star Award to Wg Cdr M.M Joshi, National Commissioner Special Program Bharat Scouts & Guides in presence of Dr. A.K Jain Ex M.P, National President Bharat Scouts & Guides along with Dr. K.K Khandelwal IAS Chief National Commissioner.

He was conferred upon with the Silver Star Award, one of the highest National Distinction of the

Movement, in recognition of his exceptionally distinguished and meritorious service to the Scouting Movement.

Wg Cdr M.M Joshi is a prominent figure of J&K who has played a pivotal role in strengthening Scouting & Guiding in the Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh through his exemplary leadership as State Commissioner & also as National Commissioner Special Program at the National Headquarters. He is widely respected for his

discipline, vision & commitment to youth development. He has been instrumental in promoting the values of service, character building & national integration.

At the national level he has provided constant guidance & firm support in his capacity as National Headquarters for Special Program. His leadership & mentorship have significantly contributed to the planning & execution of National level programmes & initiatives of the Bharat Scouts & Guides.

Also serving as the Chairman of Lawrence Public School, Jammu he inspires youth to embrace Scouting ideals & community service. The award was presented during the Opening Ceremony of the First National Rover/Ranger Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides held at Dudhali, Balod, Chhattisgarh.

# JMC Com conducts inspection of Municipal wards under Swachh R-Day campaign

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As part of the ongoing Swachh Republic Day campaign, the Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Dr. Devansh Yadav on Saturday undertook an extensive inspection tour of ward number 50, 51, 52, 53, and 54, covering localities such as Channi Himmat, Channi, Trikuta Nagar Extension, Basant Vihar, Nanak Nagar and surrounding areas.

During the visit, Dr. Yadav reviewed the overall sani-

tation scenario, including cleanliness of roads, lanes, drains and public spaces. Stressing the importance of maintaining high standards of hygiene, the Commissioner directed the concerned officials to ensure regular garbage lifting, proper segregation of waste, and timely cleaning of drains to prevent waterlogging and health hazards. As part of the enforcement measures under the campaign, illegal encroachments and unauthorized stalls raised on footpaths and roads were

removed to restore public spaces and ensure unhindered movement of pedestrians and vehicles. Dr. Yadav instructed the enforcement teams to remain vigilant and take strict action against repeat violators. Interacting with officers and field staff on the spot, the Commissioner issued clear directions for improving coordination among departments, strengthening monitoring at the ward level and ensuring effective implementation of sanitation-related initiatives.

# Sant Bhai Khushhal Singh Gurmat Education & Research Centre Marh Bagh: A Beacon of Sikh Learning, Service, and Hope in J&K



**DR JASBIR SINGH SARNA**  
Sant Bhai Khushhal Singh Gurmat Education and Research Centre, Marh Bagh is a great centre dedicated to the Sikh community and underprivileged children in Jammu and Kashmir. This noble institution has been established at the residence and sacred abode of Sant Bhai Gurbakhsh Singh Danna. At this holy site, the great saint devot-

ed sixty years of his life to meditation, spiritual discipline, honest labour, and selfless service to society.

Dera Santpura Danna, located in the serene village of Danna in Muzaffarabad, has long served as a beacon of Sikh missionary activity, spirituality, and education. Established by Sant Bhai Daya Singh, a disciple of Sant Bhai Punjab Singh, the Dera became a hub for

spreading Sikh values and traditions across the region. Sant Bhai Punjab Singh, a disciple of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, laid its foundation in the late 17th century, initiating a tradition of service and spiritual guidance that successive leaders have upheld. Despite historical upheavals, including the turmoil of 1947, Dera Santpura Danna has remained steadfast in its

mission. In the serene month of March 2024, the Research Centre at Marh Bagh opened its doors to a vibrant tapestry of learners, as two dozen eager minds embarked on their academic journey. These torchbearers converged at Marh Bagh, bound not only by their individual aspirations but also by the shared dream of illuminating new realms of thought and discovery.

At this centre, Sikh children from various districts of Jammu and Kashmir come to receive both modern education and spiritual training. Students from Kashmir, Doda, Bhaderwah, Kathua, Nowshera, and Jammu pursue their studies here. Educational arrangements have been made for students from Class 6 to Class 12. Dera Santpura Danna remains a symbol of

resilience, spiritual guidance, and education, bridging its historic roots with the evolving needs of the Sikh community.

A special feature of this institution is that during summers, air-conditioning is provided for the children, and during winters, heating arrangements are made for their comfort. Sangat from India and abroad visit this centre and consider it a privilege to

contribute a portion of their honest earnings towards its support.

The Seva of this institution is being carried out under the guidance of the respected Sant Bhai Tejwant Singh Danna and his dedicated team, which includes Sardar J.P. Singh (IPS, IG Retd.), Manjeet Singh, Amarjeet Singh, T.P. Singh, Dr. Jasbir Singh Sarna, Giani Kulwant Singh Missionary,

Surinder Singh (Advocate), Surinder Kaur (Advocate), Sarabjit Singh, Jatinder Singh Lucky, Jagjeet Singh, and others. From abroad, notable contributors include Joginder Singh Bali, Updesh Kaur Bali, Sharanpal Singh Bali, Maninderjit Singh Manu (Australia), Jeet Singh (Holland), Gureharan Singh Bagri (USA) and Baldev Singh (MD Peaks).