

DSU organises one day training cum review meeting

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A Divisional-Level One-Day Training cum Review Meeting under the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP)-Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) for District Surveillance Units (DSUs) was organised by the State Surveillance Unit (SSU), IDSP, Jammu Division, under the guidance and supervision of Basser-ul-Haq Chaudhary, Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM), Jammu & Kashmir and supervised by Dr Abdul Hamid Zargar, Director Health Services Jammu.

The meeting was organized with the objective of reviewing district-wise implementation of IHIP-IDSP, strengthening disease surveillance systems, improving timeliness and quality of reporting and enhancing preparedness and response to public



Dignitaries and participants at Training cum Review Meeting.

health emergencies across the Jammu Division.

Dr. Harjeet Rai, Epidemiologist & State Surveillance Officer (SSO), IDSP, Jammu Division, briefed the participants about the purpose and agenda of the training cum review meeting. Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar, Director Health Services, Jammu, underscored the importance of IHIP as a robust digital platform for real-time disease surveillance, data-driven deci-

sion-making and strengthening public health response mechanisms.

Dr. Harbaksh Singh, Chief Medical Officer, Jammu, emphasized the critical role of District Surveillance Units in early detection, reporting and containment of outbreaks. The Technical Sessions focused on district-wise review and thematic discussions of all the districts of Jammu division. Key thematic sessions included Community Reporting

under IDSP by Dr. Prem Lata, Medical Officer (Epidemiology); Outbreak Investigation and New Initiatives under IHIP-IDSP by Dr. Simran Nag, State Epidemiologist, IDSP; DPHL Assessment by Ajay, State Microbiologist, IDSP and Community Assessment for Public Health Emergencies by Umar Anayat, District Epidemiologist, IDSP, Doda. The sessions emphasized strengthening labora-

tory support, community-based surveillance, outbreak investigation protocols and recent initiatives under IHIP.

The meeting was attended by Chief Medical Officer, District Surveillance Officers, Epidemiologists, Microbiologists, Data Managers and Data Entry Operators who also presented their performance, challenges and best practices related to IHIP-IDSP implementation.

Health infrastructure crumbling in Jagti: BJP

Samaj Seva Samiti raises concerns in meeting with Director Health Services

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a hard-hitting and strongly worded interaction, Senior BJP leader Chetan Wanchoo, accompanied by a delegation of Samaj Seva Samiti, Jagti, met Director Health Services, Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar, and forcefully brought to his notice the alarming condition and severe shortcomings prevailing at Sub District Hospital (SDH) Jagti, which is failing to meet even the basic healthcare needs of the local population.

Wanchoo informed the Director that in recent days there has been a sharp rise in Gastroenteritis cases in the Migrant Camps of Jagti and Nagrota, resulting in a large influx of patients being admitted to SDH Jagti. He stated that due to an acute shortage of doctors, nurses, and supporting staff, patients are being denied timely and proper medical attention. This gross negligence, he said, has created deep public anger and unrest



Senior BJP leader Chetan Wanchoo accompanied by delegation of Samaj Seva Samiti Jagti meeting with Director Health Services, Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar.

among the people, who feel completely abandoned by the Health Department. He cautioned that if immediate corrective steps are not taken, the situation could spiral into a major health disaster.

Highlighting another pressing and life-threatening concern, President Samaj Seva Samiti Jagti, Sheshmag, said that rabies cases are on the rise in Jagti, primarily due to the unchecked menace of stray dogs and monkeys in the area. He expressed serious concern and disappointment over the fact that SDH Jagti is facing a shortage of anti-

rabies vaccines, calling it a shocking failure of the system. He emphasized that the non-availability of such a critical vaccine is unacceptable and puts innocent lives, especially children, at grave risk.

Further strengthening the delegation's stand, Mandal President BJP Jagti, Pyare Lal Pandita, demanded immediate introduction of dialysis facilities, upgradation of the Gynaecology Operation Theatre, and urgent filling of vacant posts at the hospital. He said that due to the staff shortage, patients are not being prop-

erly examined or treated, while the existing staff is overworked and under immense pressure, which is adversely affecting the quality of healthcare services.

Taking cognizance of the serious issues raised, Director Health Services Dr. Abdul Hamid Zargar assured the delegation that the staff shortage will be addressed at the earliest possible time. He also informed that anti-rabies vaccines have been provided immediately and assured that all other genuine demands and issues would be resolved on a priority basis.

The BJP leadership and Samaj Seva Samiti made it unequivocally clear that these assurances must be translated into action without delay. They warned that if the Health Department fails to improve the situation on the ground, they will not hesitate to intensify their struggle and launch strong protests in order to safeguard the health and lives of the people.

Astro India Mahindra unveils XEV 9S- India's Big New Electric 7-Seater SUV, XUV 7XO

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Astro India Automobile, the authorised dealer of Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd, on Saturday unveiled two of Mahindra's most advanced SUVs - the all-new XEV 9S and XUV 7XO - amid an enthusiastic gathering of patrons and customers.

The launch event was held in the presence of Chairman Mohinder Gupta, Managing Director Vikram Mahajan, Director Satyam Gupta, Dr. C.D. Gupta, along with executive members of the Amar Singh Club. The Mahindra XEV 9S, India's first authentic electric-origin 7-seater SUV, marks a major leap in the country's electric mobility journey. Priced from Rs 19.95 lakh (ex-showroom), the XEV 9S is built ground-up on Mahindra's advanced INGLO electric platform and powered by MALA,



Chairman Mohinder Gupta, MD Vikram Mahajan, Director Satyam Gupta, Dr. C.D. Gupta and others unveils XEV 9S and XUV 7XO at Astro India Automobile, Jammu.

India's fastest automotive intelligence system. Designed as "India's Big New Electric," the SUV offers uncompromised space, comfort and performance for modern families and professionals. Equipped with a 70 kWh battery delivering 180 kW power and 380 Nm torque, and higher variants featuring a 79 kWh battery with 210 kW output, the XEV 9S accelerates from 0-100 km/h in just 7 seconds. The range includes six

variants, with the top-end Pack Three priced at Rs 29.45 lakh (ex-showroom). Bookings open on January 14, 2026, with deliveries starting January 23, 2026. Highlights include best-in-class cabin space, advanced ADAS, three 31.24 cm screens, premium second-row features, and low running costs of around Rs 1.2 per km.

The Mahindra XUV 7XO, priced from Rs 13.66 lakh (ex-showroom), redefines premium

SUVs by introducing five segment-first innovations, including the world's first DAVINCI suspension, coast-to-coast triple HD screens, India's first ICE software-defined vehicle, Dolby Vision and Atmos integration, and Level 2 ADAS with dynamic visualization. Bookings open on January 14, 2026, with same-day deliveries for select variants.

With expressive design, powerful petrol and diesel engine

options, AWD capability, over 120 safety features and engineering aimed at a 5-star Bharat NCAP rating, the XUV 7XO sets new benchmarks in its segment.

Astro India Automobile, with its 3S facility at National Highway Bari Brahmana, continues to deliver world-class sales and service through its expanding network of showrooms and outlets across Jammu, ensuring unmatched customer reach and satisfaction. To reach out to the customers and meet them at their doorsteps, Astro India Automobiles has Showrooms at Toph Sherkhania, Narwal, Udhampur, Kathua and Rajouri. Astro India is also catering to its customers in the far-flung rural areas of the territory and has Outlets at RS Pura, Pather, Doda, and Sunderbani.

Sainik Samaj Party reiterates demand for Separate Jammu State/UT

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Sainik Samaj Party, J&K UT, has once again strongly reiterated its demand for a separate Jammu State or Union Territory, citing growing discrimination against the Jammu region by the elected government of the National Conference (NC) and its allies.

Addressing a press interaction, Col S.S. Pathania (Retd), Chief Convener and President of the Sainik Samaj Party, said that the party had raised this demand nearly five years ago and had received widespread public support. However, he added that the movement could not gain the required momentum at that time. Now, due to increasing regional imbalance and continued neglect of Jammu, the demand has regained urgency and strength.

Col Pathania criticized the performance of the Omar Abdullah-led government, calling it dismal, lacklustre, and Kashmir-centric. He said that



key sectors such as tourism, education, healthcare, industries, power supply, smart city projects, and youth employment have all suffered, resulting in widespread public dissatisfaction in the Jammu region.

He pointed out several recent developments that have intensified public anger, including the controversy over the medical college at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, selection of only Kashmir-based teams for the Santosh Trophy and Under-14 Cricket Team, and the decision to establish a National Law College in Kashmir. These decisions, he

said, have created a deep sense of injustice and marginalization among the people of Jammu.

Col Pathania further stated that a Union Territory with an area of about 42,000 square kilometres, with diverse geography and demography, cannot be governed effectively under a dual power structure. He said that the demand for a separate Jammu State/UT is rapidly gaining support, with political parties, civil society groups, NGOs, intellectuals, and social organizations raising their voices in unison. He stressed that meaningful change is possible only when a demand becomes a people's movement, and signs of such a movement are now clearly visible. Urging the Union Government to take note of the aspirations of the people of Jammu, he said that smaller states and UTs are the new normal for better governance, efficient administration, and balanced development, and Jammu deserves long-overdue justice after 78 years.

BJPMM KDD holds meeting with newly inducted Executive Members; Performs Shiv Mantra Jaap for 'Somnath Swabhimaan Parv'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the guidance of Neha Mahajan, J&K State President BJP Mahila Morcha, the BJP Mahila Morcha Kashmir Displaced District (KDD) on Saturday held its first formal organisational meeting along with a spiritual programme at Jagti, Nagrota. The programme was conducted under the leadership of District President BJP Mahila Morcha KDD, Sujata Koul, marking an important step in strengthening the newly constituted district unit.

The day began with a spiritual observance at Shri Jagatishwar Mahadev Mandir, Lane No. 23, Jagti, where members of the Mahila Morcha KDD gathered to perform a collective Shiv Mantra Jaap.

The prayer ceremony was organised in connection with the "Somnath Swabhimaan Parv" and symbolised cultural resurgence, spiritual strength and the timeless values associated with the historic Somnath Temple. Following the spiritual programme, the organisational



BJPMM KDD members performing Shiv Mantra Jaap.

meeting was held at the BJP Party Office, Jagti, Nagrota.

The meeting served as an introductory and orientation session for the newly inducted executive members and office bearers. Detailed discussions were held on the roadmap for 2026, with special emphasis on the empowerment of displaced Kashmiri women and ensuring effective door-to-door delivery of welfare schemes launched by the Modi Government.

Addressing the gathering, District President Sujata Koul congratulated the newly

appointed team and said that the executive body represents a healthy blend of experienced activists and energetic new members. She stated that the primary mission of the Mahila Morcha KDD is to act as a strong bridge between the displaced Kashmiri community and the government, ensuring that every woman benefits from development initiatives aimed at achieving a "Viksit Bharat."

The meeting witnessed active participation from the newly appointed office bearers,

including General Secretary Sushma Pandita; Vice Presidents Pancy Koul, Jai Kishori Kaw and Khemlata Koul; Secretaries Pinky Razdan, Supriya Bhat and Shashi Bala; Social Media In-charge Rajkumari Pandit; Executive Members Meenakshi Handoo, Priya Bhat and others, along with KDD Mahila Mandal President Savita Sehgal. All executive members collectively took a pledge to work with dedication for the party ideology and to strengthen the organisation at the Mandal and Booth levels. Concluding the meeting, Sujata Koul urged the office bearers to remain in constant touch with the public and to work with the spirit of "Nation First, Party Next, Self Last," reaffirming the KDD unit's commitment to the welfare of displaced Kashmiri Pandits and the core principles of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

ADG Armed reviews operational preparedness of IRP 7th, Border 1st Bns

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Anand Jain, ADG Armed, J&K, accompanied by Vinod Kumar, DIG IR Jammu, and Sameer Sharma, DIG AP Jammu, conducted review of IRP 7th Battalion and Border 1st Battalion at Amb Gharota, Jammu to assess the functioning and operational preparedness of both the units. The ADG was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour, followed by a detailed briefing by the concerned commandants on the prevailing security scenario, deployment patterns, training standards, and infrastructural status. Jain interacted with officers and jawans, appreciating their dedication, professionalism, and sustained efforts in maintaining peace and security. During the visit, inspection of residential barracks, training infrastructure, weaponry, and other facilities was carried out. He emphasized continuous upgradation of training, physical fitness,



and the adoption of modern technology to effectively counter emerging security challenges. He also stressed the importance of inter-unit coordination for swift and effective response during exigencies. The ADG inaugurated the CCTV Surveillance Room at the Battalion Headquarters of both the units. A joint Darbar of both the units was also conducted. He assured that grievances and genuine issues will be addressed in time bound manner. The ADG reviewed welfare and logistics arrangements, including medical facilities, living conditions, and recreational amenities, and

reaffirmed the commitment of the Police Headquarters towards enhancing morale and operational efficiency. While congratulating the personnel who have been awarded DGP Commendation medal on the eve of new year, Anand Jain commended the exemplary service of both battalions and exhorted upon them to uphold the highest standards of integrity, discipline, and public service.

Among those present included Sanjeev Kumar Khajuria, Commandant, Border 1st Bn, Pawan Parihar, SSP, Commandant, IRP 7th Battalion, and other officers.

BJP Kunjwani Mandal holds Public Outreach Programme in Ward 55

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Kunjwani Mandal activists organised a public outreach programme at Ward No. 55, Deeli, in the R.S. Pura-Jammu South Assembly constituency to strengthen direct engagement with the people at the grassroots level. The programme was led by BJP Jammu and Kashmir General Secretary and former Deputy Mayor of Jammu, Baldev Singh Billawaria.

During the outreach, Billawaria interacted extensively with local residents, party workers and community leaders, patiently listening to their concerns, grievances and suggestions.

Addressing the gathering, he said that the core objective of such public contact programmes is to establish a direct connect with the people and to gain first-hand understanding of issues affecting them at the



BJP J&K General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria interacting with people.

ground level. Residents highlighted several pressing issues related to area development, pending infrastructure projects and the need for improved civic amenities. Responding to these concerns, Billawaria assured the public that a detailed report of all pending and stalled development works in the area would be immediately forwarded to the sitting MLA, Dr. Narinder Singh, for early completion on a priority basis. He also assured that the

issues would be brought to the notice of Jammu Lok Sabha MP Jugal Kishore Sharma to ensure balanced and equitable development in every part of Jammu.

A major concern raised by locals was the problem of frequent, unannounced and irregular power cuts, which they said were severely affecting daily life, especially during the winter season. Billawaria took serious note of the issue and assured the people that it

would be taken up on priority to ensure regular and uninterrupted power supply. He asserted that unannounced power cuts are unacceptable under any circumstances.

Criticising the NC-led government, Billawaria said that despite promises of 200 units of free electricity during elections, the government has failed to ensure even basic power supply, exposing its inefficiency and insensitivity. Reiterating BJP's commitment to transparent governance, he urged party activists to remain actively engaged with the public and spread awareness about central government schemes so that maximum people can benefit from them. Prominent party leaders present included Rajinder Chib (Popi), Ashok Sharma, Suman Raina, Varun Chadhak, Romesh Sharma, Bodh Raj and other senior BJP members.

BJP backs anti-drug message, releases banner of film "The Last Dose" in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, in the august presence of J&K BJP Vice-Presidents Rajiv Charak and Rekha Mahajan, along with senior BJP leaders, today released the banner of the socially impactful film "The Last Dose" at the BJP Headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Releasing the film banner, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra highlighted the grave threat posed by the growing drug menace, stating that drug abuse not only destroys an individual or a single family, but severely damages the social fabric and economic productivity of the entire region. He emphasized that entertainment media has a powerful role to play in creating awareness, shaping public opinion, and mobilizing society against this menace, which has already crippled countless youths in Jammu & Kashmir.



J&K BJP leaders releasing banner of film "The Last Dose".

He called upon civil society, educational institutions, and media platforms to actively promote such meaningful cinema and congratulated the entire team led by Khwaish Gupta for creating a powerful film that can act as a movement against drugs. "The film 'The Last Dose' highlights a highly sensitive and socially relevant issue of drug abuse and its damaging impact on society, particularly on the youth," Dr. Pardeep added. Rajiv Charak, while addressing the gathering, gave an in-depth assessment of the

alarming spread of drug abuse in various parts of Jammu city, noting that it has already claimed several precious young lives. He underscored the importance of responsible media, social media platforms, and the emerging film industry of the Jammu region in highlighting this issue and awakening society. Rekha Mahajan said that films like The Last Dose are need-of-the-hour interventions, as they communicate hard truths in a language that resonates with the youth. Narinder Singh,

Convenor, BJP Sanskriti, Art & Culture Cell, stated that the Cell remains committed to encouraging art, culture, and cinema that reflect social realities. Sahil Mahajan, Cell Co-Convenor, made a strong and resolute statement, asserting that he remains consistently involved in promoting such meaningful initiatives and is firmly committed to nurturing and promoting budding talent from Jammu & Kashmir.

Lead role is played by Khwaish Gupta, and produced by Shivdeep Gupta, Priya and Gupta. Psycho Brothers are Writer & Director of the film "The Last Dose", which will be released exclusively on the Khwaish Gupta Production platform.

BJP senior leader Bharat Bhushan, Sanjiv Sharma, social media co-incharge Naveen Sharma, Media Dept Co-convenor Sanjay Bakshi, and others were also present.