

## BJP holds Viksit Bharat Rozgar-Ajeevika awareness meet

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
BISHNAH: A meeting was organized by the BJP Jammu Border district in connection with the public awareness campaign Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) in Bishnah. The meeting was addressed by BJP Jammu & Kashmir General Secretary and Convener of the VB - G RAM G (Rural), Baldev Singh Billawaria, as the main speaker, Local MLA Rajeev Bhagat, Jammu Border In-charge Rajinder Singh Chib, and Jammu & Kashmir BJP Kisan Moreha President Shri Rakesh Pant were also present at the meeting.

Addressing the gathering, Billawaria said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Central Government is continuously implementing effective policies and schemes to empower rural India, make it self-reliant, and cre-



BJP J&K Convener of VB - G RAM G (Rural), Baldev Singh Billawaria speaking at the event.

ate employment opportunities. Reacting to the comments made by the Congress regarding the Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin), Billawaria said that Congress's attempt to spread confusion by linking this public welfare campaign with "Ram Naam" is unfortunate. He clarified that "VB G-RAM-G" does not represent any individual or emotional symbol, but stands for the commitment to rural employ-

ment, livelihood empowerment, and a self-reliant India.

He stated that the BJP works above politics with the objective of public service and nation-building, whereas the Congress repeatedly views even development-oriented schemes through a political lens. He added that the people of the country have now clearly understood such misleading and negative attempts and are firmly standing with development,

employment, and good governance.

Billawaria emphasized that programs like the Employment Guarantee and Livelihood Mission will prove to be a milestone in economically empowering rural youth, women, farmers, laborers, self-help groups, and the weaker and marginalized sections of society. He clarified that the objective of the scheme is not merely to provide wages, but to create sustainable employment and

self-employment opportunities for rural youth, women, and farmers.

He urged all party workers to actively and dedicatedly spread awareness about the Central Government's public welfare schemes from door to door and connect people with these initiatives. He said that the goal of Viksit Bharat can be achieved only through organizational strength and strong public outreach.

During the meeting, local MLA Rajeev Bhagat shared his views and said that coordinated efforts, regular reviews, and extensive public outreach are essential to ensure effective implementation of schemes. He stated that this public awareness campaign will serve as a strong medium to reach villages, connect people with government schemes, and translate the vision of a developed India into reality at the grassroots level.

## Seh Sarkaryavah Atul Limaye unfurls Tricolour at Keshav Bhawan

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: On the occasion of the 77th Republic Day of the nation, the national flag was unfurled by the Seh Sarkaryavah Atul Limaye at Keshav Bhawan, Ambphalla, Jammu, the provincial office of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Jammu & Kashmir. Prant Sanghchalak Dr. Gautam Maingi, Seh Sanghchalak Dr. Vikrant Sharma, Prant Pracharak Mukesh Kumar, Prant Vayvashta Parmukh Nagarmal Gupta, along with personnel from the security forces and volunteers were present on the occasion. The programme was organised by the Dr. Hedgewar Smriti Nyas, Jammu & Kashmir.

Extending Republic Day greetings to the people of the UT and the country, Seh Sarkaryavah Atul Limaye said that this is an extremely



RSS Seh Sarkaryavah Atul Limaye unfurling Tricolour.

sacred day for all of us. He stated that the day signifies a resolve to continuously protect and promote India's national tricolour, the constitutional values of India, and the ancient and Sanatan spiritual ethos of the nation. India, as a glorious democracy, is renowned across the world.

Referring to the Tricolour,

the Ashoka Chakra, and the national motto, he said that the soul of India is founded on truth and righteousness. He described "Satyameva Jayate" (Truth Alone Triumphs) and "Yato Dharmaastato Jayah" (Where there is Dharma, there is Victory) as the core spirit of Indian governance, the justice system, and democracy.

## Noomani conferred prestigious Tribal Award on Republic Day 2026



Ch. Muhammad Asad Noomani, Chairman of Sarimastan Tribal Welfare Foundation receiving award.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: Ch. Muhammad Asad Noomani, Chairman of Sarimastan Tribal Welfare Foundation, was felicitated with the Prestigious Tribal Award by the Tribal Affairs Minister, Javed Ahmed Rana, on the occasion of Republic Day-2026.

The award ceremony was

held in the august presence of senior officers from the District Police and Civil Administration.

This marks the second time that Noomani has been conferred with this distinguished honour, underscoring his sustained and exemplary contribution towards tribal welfare and social uplift-

ment. Notably, in the previous year, Noomani was also honoured with the UT Award for Social Work by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, in recognition of his unwavering commitment to public service.

Son of the late Maulana Muhammad Sharief Noomani, Ch. Asad Noomani has remained at the forefront of social service and grassroots activism, with a special focus on education, empowerment of the downtrodden and the organisation of healthcare services in remote, unserved and rural back-

ward areas. Through his leadership of the Sarimastan Tribal Welfare Foundation, he has played a pivotal role in bringing meaningful change to marginalized communities.

Addressing the meeting, Tajinder Singh Wazir said

## Farmers' bodies raise concerns over exclusion from pre-budget consultations

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Different farmers' bodies of Jammu province today held a meeting under the chairmanship of Tajinder Singh Wazir, President of the JK Kissan Council and Member of the JK Kissan Advisory Board and expressed serious concern over the breaking of the long-standing tradition of involving the real farming community in pre-budget preparations.

The farmers stated that while inviting beneficiaries of holistic agriculture development policies for consultations is a welcome step and shows government appreciation, the actual farmers who provide grassroots feedback are being left out of the pre-budget discussions. Terming this exclusion as discriminatory, the farmers said they were compelled to raise their concerns through the media.

Addressing the meeting, Tajinder Singh Wazir said that the agriculture and allied sectors are currently passing through a "golden era" in terms of schemes and public sector fund allocation. However, due to lack of proper planning and accountability in the execution of public sector projects, farmers are facing uneven outcomes—some experiencing stagnation while others see only a ray of revival in the J&K economy. He stressed that J&K agriculture requires a special revolving fund of Rs 300 crore to ensure uninterrupted implementation of centrally sponsored and state sector schemes, keeping in view the time-sensitive nature of agriculture.

Wazir further said that in other parts of the country, farmers are being provided matching grants to strengthen their economy, but in J&K, limited state share results in a reduced central share for state-sponsored schemes. Delay in submission of utilisation certificates and excessive emphasis on public sector funding were described as major challenges for farmers.

Highlighting the floriculture sector, he said that despite being one of the most vibrant sectors, it has remained underdeveloped for the last two decades. J&K continues to import tulips and other planting material worth crores of rupees from abroad, and even flowers used during the budget session of the J&K Assembly are imported. The farmers appealed to the Chief Minister to allocate a substantial share in the upcoming



Discussion on agricultural issues.

budget for revival of commercial floriculture through interest subsidies, "vocal for local" initiatives, revival of sick units, insurance cover, and revised components for floriculture development across the Union Territory.

The farmers also demanded a performance audit by an honest third party of assets created in the public sector to assess whether desired objectives have been achieved, safeguard public money, and fix responsibility for underdevelopment.

Other key demands included special focus on creation of permanent mandies (markets) for grain procurement in Jammu province, establishment of agriculture skill development centres, mitigation of climate change impacts on agriculture, and

effective utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds in agriculture and allied sectors.

They stressed proper utilisation of schemes like Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana, and PMDD. The farmers further demanded that all agricultural inputs and machinery be made tax-free, special provisions for insurance and pension for farmers be included in the upcoming budget, and all pending budget announcements of previous state budgets be implemented.

Among others Vijay Rajinder Singh, Kuldeep Raj, Baldev Singh, Tarseem Pal, Radha Ram, Ravi Kumar and Parshant attended the meeting.

## SDM Office Uri official Pawan Singh conferred Jeevan Raksha Padak



**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
URI: Pawan Singh, an official working in the SDM Office Uri, has been conferred the prestigious Jeevan Raksha Padak by the President of India, in recognition of his exemplary courage and dedication to public service.

According to a notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)

on 25 January 2026, Shri Pawan Singh is among 36 individuals from different States and Union Territories who have been honoured this year under various categories of the Jeevan Raksha Padak awards. Hailing from Doda district of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Pawan Singh has been serving in Uri for the past several years.

He is widely known for his commitment, bravery and selfless service, particularly in situations involving risk to personal safety for the protection of others.

The conferment of the award has brought pride to the region, with colleagues and locals lauding his courage and unwavering sense of duty.

## Mukti Organization distributes blankets among needy

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The mercury is continuously dropping in Jammu. The harshness of winter is increasing. Even in such severe cold, the blanket distribution program run by the 'Mukti Organization' is consistently setting an example of humanity for those in need.

To provide relief to the needy, Mukti Organization has intensified its blanket distribution campaign for the poor, helpless, and needy people. For those living under the open sky or in slums during the biting cold, this campaign is nothing less than a lifeline. The organization is running the campaign in areas of Jammu city including Bohri and Anand Nagar and distributing blankets among the needy.

Mukti Organization's General Secretary, Pooja Sharma, stated that so far, more than 400 blankets have been distributed to people living in slums in Bohri,

Udaywala, and other areas, as well as to other needy individuals.

## JKMPCL Jammu Milk Plant celebrates Republic Day



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: On the occasion of 26th January 2026 (Republic Day), Chairman of JKMPCL Ashok Kumar Angurana hoisted the National Flag at the JKMPCL Jammu Milk Plant with great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The ceremony was attended by staff members of JKMPCL.

After the flag hoisting, the Chairman addressed the staff members. In his address, he emphasized the importance of working with dedication, discipline, and honesty for the growth and success of JKMPCL. He motivated all employees to perform their duties sincerely and contribute positively towards the organization's objectives.

The Chairman Sir also advised all staff members that their presence is mandatory and important during national events such as Flag Hoisting ceremonies on 26th January (Republic Day) and 15th August (Independence Day), as these occasions symbolize national pride, unity, and respect for the nation.

President Kuldeep Sharma, District Prabhari Vinay Gupta, Mandal President Shamsher Dass, former Sarpanch Ashwani Sharma, Jagdish Bakshi, Babu Ram, Ashu, Ashok Sharma, Rajveer Singh, Darshan Chib, Dev Raj, Suneet Singh, and Satveer

Sunil Boggia, and Engineer Radhey were also present.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat said that providing pucca road connectivity to every village in the constituency remains his top priority. He urged the public

## Sat, Mohan Lal launch Sungal Lower C road work

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Giving a fresh push to development in the Akhnoor Assembly constituency, blacktopping work from the Akhnoor-



MP Sat Sharma (CA) along with MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat inaugurating road work.

Sumah road to Karala Mohalla in Panchayat Sungal Lower C was formally inaugurated at an estimated cost of Rs 32.50 lakh. The project is expected to strengthen rural connectivity and fulfill a long-pending demand of the local residents.

The event was attended by Jammu & Kashmir BJP President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma (CA), Akhnoor MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat, District BJP

Kour, along with prominent citizens and local residents.

From the Public Works Department (PWD), XEN Sanjeev Sharma, AEE

lic to keep a close watch on the quality of construction, emphasizing that public participation is vital for durable development. He assured that all villages in the Akhnoor constituency will be connected with a proper road network in a phased manner. He further stated that work on the proposed Industrial Estate in Sungal will be expedited, creating employment opportunities for local youth.

Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma highlighted various Central Government welfare schemes, stating that under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, development is being ensured at the grassroots level with the vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas."

He said that the benefits of Central schemes are reaching the last person in the queue and referred to the VB-GRAM initiative and other rural development programs aimed at strengthening infrastructure.

## Shastri felicitated on Republic Day



**STATE TIMES NEWS**

NAGROTA: On the auspicious occasion of 77th Republic day celebrations Dansal block Administration felicitated Subash Kumar Shastri for his multifarious social selfless services at Nagrota. Honouring Shastri with a Memento & certificate of appreciation in recognition of his untiring services, Sumit Kholi JKAS, Tahsildar Nagrota along with Vinod Kundal SDPO, Parvez Sajjad, SHO Nagrota recalled his contribution in the field of sports, Yoga & social activities to shun the menace of drug abuse & to promote the concept of cultural heritage of India as advocated by 'Art of living' organisation under Navchetna through various outreach programmes. Not

only this Shastri being active member of Volleyball Association of J&K & presently Treasurer of Jammu district Volleyball Association has done commendable work in bringing laurels to JKUT by clinching Gold Medal for the first time in Khelo India youth Games in boys section held at Patna, Bihar in 2025 as Manager. Shastri also represented JKUT Volleyball Men team as one of the officials in 72nd National Volleyball Championship held at Varanasi, UP in the first week of January 2026. After rendering over 30 years service in Education dept of J&K, Shastri retired as Headmaster & continued to pursue his mission of bringing youth in Nation building activities till date.

## POWERGRID NRTS -II celebrates Republic Day across all establishments in Northern Region

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: POWERGRID Northern Region Transmission System -II celebrated 77th Republic Day at POWERGRID township, near Bahu Plaza Jammu with gaiety & enthusiasm. Shafat Ahmed Wani, Chief General Manager (AM) POWERGRID Northern Region-II unfurled the flag in the presence of Sh. S.K.Chowan, Chief General Manager (Projects), senior officials, employees of the company and their family members.

In his brief address, Shafat Ahmed Wani gave a brief account of the milestones achieved by POWERGRID in general and NRTS -II in particular. He appreciated employees of the Region for their continued outstanding contributions. Shafat Ahmed Wani enlightened the employees about the up-coming projects



and urged them to continue to serve the organization with dedication as these projects are going to test their Mettle. In his speech, he made special mention of the employees who worked in tireless and challenging conditions during this year's monsoons in J&K and Himachal Pradesh.

A cultural program with patriotic fervor was also organized on this occasion in which employees and their family members gave mesmerizing performances. Winners of vari-

ous competitions organized in connection with Republic day were also felicitated on this occasion.

Similar functions were organized at all establishments of POWERGRID in the Region comprising of states HP, Punjab, Haryana & UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Chandigarh.

POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED is a Maharatna Enterprise under Ministry of Power having its regional headquarters of

Northern Region-II at Jammu. POWERGRID is engaged in inter-state bulk power transmission. POWERGRID has 1,82,584 ckm of transmission lines, 287 Sub-stations and more than 5,99,016 MVA of transformation capacity. With the adoption of latest technological tools and techniques, enhanced use of automation and digital solutions, POWERGRID has been able to maintain average transmission system availability >99%.