

Expose Opposition's misinformation, highlight Centre's achievements: Rekha Mahajan to BJP workers

STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: BJP Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory Vice President and Prabhari Samba, Rekha Mahajan, on Monday addressed the monthly meeting of BJP District Samba, emphasizing the need to further strengthen the party at the grassroots level and remain connected with public issues. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of District President Asha Rani and witnessed the participation of senior party leaders and workers.

Addressing the gathering, Rekha Mahajan said that the BJP has always worked with the vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, and it is the responsibility of every party worker to carry this message to the last person in society.

She urged the district leadership to intensify outreach programmes, listen to public grievances, and ensure that the benefits of welfare schemes of the Central Government reach every eligible beneficiary.

Rekha Mahajan highlighted the importance of organizational discipline and unity,



BJP J&K Vice President Rekha Mahajan chairing meeting at Samba.

stating that a strong and well-coordinated organization is the backbone of the BJP.

She called upon party workers to counter misinformation and opposition propaganda by effectively communicating the achievements of the BJP-led government at the Centre, particularly in areas of infrastructure development, social welfare, and national security.

Addressing party workers, Rekha Mahajan said that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Bill, 2025 has been passed by Parliament, marking a revolutionary step towards building

a developed India.

She stated that the new mission will replace MGNREGA and significantly accelerate the pace of rural development while ensuring transparency and accountability.

Rekha Mahajan said that VB-G RAM G will put a strong check on corruption and inefficiencies that plagued the earlier system, while increasing guaranteed employment days from 100 to 125. She added that the scheme will not only provide livelihood security to rural households but will also focus on durable asset creation, thereby strengthening the rural economy and generating long-term benefits for villages.

She stressed the need to sen-

sitize farmers and agricultural labourers about the benefits of VB-G RAM G over MGNREGA in simple and easily understandable language. She said party workers must reach out to rural communities and explain how the new mission will create more work opportunities, better wages, and productive infrastructure that supports agriculture and allied activities.

Rekha Mahajan also called upon BJP workers to strongly counter the misinformation being spread by the opposition, which is falsely portraying VB-G RAM G as anti-farmer and anti-poor. She said facts, ground-level examples, and clear communication should be used to expose such

propaganda and reassure people about the pro-farmer and pro-worker intent of the scheme. Reaffirming the Prime Minister's commitment to farmers and workers, Rekha Mahajan said VB-G RAM G should be seen alongside other landmark reforms aimed at transforming rural India. She added that the mission is fully aligned with the Viksit Bharat 2047 vision and will play a key role in ensuring inclusive growth, prosperity, and dignity for rural citizens.

State Secretary Arun Kumar Sharma, while addressing the meeting, discussed organizational matters and future programmes, urging workers to remain proactive and disciplined. District Seh Prabhari Manmohan, BJP Chhamb and Sangthian Mantri Inderjeet also addressed the gathering, motivating party workers to work with dedication and commitment.

Mandal General Secretaries Amit Dubey and Rakesh Samyal shared updates on mandal-level activities, while members of the district team presented feedback from the grassroots.

Rohingya should not dare to act like owners: Shiv Sena



Shiv Sena (UBT) J&K Unit chief Manish Sahni and others lodging police complaint.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Taking strong cognizance of the assault on Hindu youths in a Rohingya settlement adjacent to the Rajiv Nagar area of Jammu, Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni has demanded strict legal action against the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis who assaulted these youths.

Sahni said that upon receiving news of the assault on Shan Goswami, Vinay, and Sushant Goswami (the victimized Hindu youths) in the Rohingya colony, he reached the youths' residence (Goswami Colony) this morning to gather com-

plete information about the incident.

Sahni said that the youths told him that late last night, while passing through Rohingya colony, they stopped at a shop to buy a bottle of water. Some suspicious individuals standing there made objectionable remarks about the tilak (religious mark) on their foreheads. When they objected, about 50-70 people started beating them.

The three youths managed to escape with great difficulty, although they sustained several injuries. Upon the arrival of the Shiv Sena activists, the concerned police station officer also

reached the spot. They were informed about the entire incident. Sahni said that the police have assured immediate and strict legal action.

Sahni issued a stern warning to the Rohingyas and Bangladeshis illegally settled in Jammu, saying, "You have come as refugees, do not dare to act like owners."

Sahni demanded that the police immediately verify the identities of the residents of this colony and investigate the illegal stalls and shops on both sides of the colony and take appropriate legal action.

Arjun Singh of Movement Kalgi was also present on this occasion.

J&K Sant Samaj Nyas holds key meeting



Sants after the meeting at Baba Shri Krishna Giri Samadhi.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A significant meeting of the Jammu & Kashmir Sant Samaj Nyas was held at Baba Shri Krishna Giri Samadhi, under the guidance of Mahant Shri Shanti Giri Ji Maharaj, with Mahant Shri Rajesh Bittu Ji playing a central and leading role in the overall coordination and organisation of the event.

The meeting witnessed in-depth deliberations on various issues and challenges being faced by saints and religious institutions across the region. Mahant Shri Rajesh Bittu Ji, in his capacity as Organisation General Secretary, actively guided the discussions and emphasised the need for struc-

tured dialogue with the administration to find practical and lasting solutions.

Administrative officers from Jammu, Udhampur and Kathua districts were present and participated in the discussions, assuring cooperation on matters concerning the Sant Samaj.

During the meeting, Mahant Shri Mohan Giri Ji of Kathua was entrusted with the responsibility of leading the initiative to submit formal representations and memorandums to the administration regarding the issues raised by the Sant Samaj. Additionally, two to three independent committees were constituted to address local con-

cerns in their respective areas. Mohan Bharati Ji, office bearer of the Jammu & Kashmir Sant Samaj Nyas, stated that the meeting focused on strengthening collective efforts and unity among saints. He added that the Sant Samaj would play a more proactive role in social and administrative matters in the coming days.

Prominent saints present on the occasion included Mahant Shri Ram Narayan Dass Shastri Ji, Arjun Giri Maharaj Ji, Shudh Kirti Ji, Sanjay Dass Ji, Jyoti Anand Saraswati Ji, Jasmer Maharaj Ji, Sai Dass Maharaj, along with several other respected members of the Sant Samaj. A Bhandara (com-

munity feast) was also organised on the occasion, during which the Sant Samaj bestowed special blessings upon all attendees.

Addressing the gathering, Mahant Shri Rajesh Bittu Ji welcomed all saints and participants and assured dedicated and sincere efforts towards resolving all emerging issues of the Sant Samaj. He stressed the importance of unity, discipline, and organised action for strengthening the institution.

It was also announced that new members would be inducted to further strengthen the organisation. Shri Sai Dass Shastri Ji was appointed as Mantri, while Shri Shudh Kirti Ji was unanimously elected as Koshadhyaksh (Treasurer). All members expressed unanimous support for these decisions.

The meeting concluded with a strong consensus on strengthening unity within the Sant Samaj and collectively working towards its evolving role and responsibilities in society.

LoP Sunil meets Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti



LoP Sunil Sharma meeting members of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti.

STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Amidst the ongoing controversy regarding the allocation of MBBS seats at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, a significant meeting of the Core Group of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti was held today. The Leader of the Opposition in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly and Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader, Sunil Sharma, appeared before the committee. He presented the BJP's official stance on this sensitive matter and provided detailed answers to the sharp and pertinent questions raised by the committee members.

During the meeting, Shri Sunil Sharma shared crucial information, stating that the Bharatiya Janata Party is

extremely serious about this issue. He informed the committee that BJP MLAs have already met with the Honorable Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir regarding this matter. Additionally, he mentioned that a party delegation met with the BJP National President and Union Health Minister, Shri J.P. Nadda, along with other top leadership in Delhi. Through these meetings, the BJP has fully apprised the central leadership of the sentiments and demands of the people of Jammu.

Shri Sunil Sharma emphasized that the BJP thoroughly understands the gravity of the situation and is playing an active role regarding the Medical University issue. He assured the committee that all

BJP MLAs are in constant touch with the central leadership and top officials. Shri Sharma promised to personally place the suggestions and directions provided by the Sangharsh Samiti before the high command to ensure a high-level, just, and speedy resolution. He clarified that the BJP would fully support any unanimous and public-interest decision taken in the future.

Colonel Sukhvir Singh Mankotia, Convener of the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Sangharsh Samiti, expressed satisfaction with the facts and the party's stance presented by Shri Sunil Sharma. He stated that the committee's sole objective is to find a logical and swift solution to this issue to protect the interests of Sanatan Dharma. During this session,

Colonel Mankotia made an important announcement, stating that the committee would soon meet with leaders of other political parties in Jammu. He clarified that the committee aims to understand their stand to see whether they stand with the interests of Jammu and the public in this struggle. He reiterated that the primary goal is a prompt resolution.

Furthermore, Parshotam Dadhichi, President of Shree Sanatan Dharma Sabha, remarked that the clarity with which Sunil Sharma presented his side has sparked positive hope. He expressed optimism that a concrete solution to the controversy surrounding admissions in the Shrine Board University would emerge soon.

The meeting was attended by prominent members including Akshay Kumar, Arun Gupta, Prabhat Singh, Sushant Sharma, Sarfaraz Karan Singh Wazir, Advocate Baldev Singh, Advocate Deepak Sharma, Neeraj Anand, Sanjay Gupta, Deepak Gupta, Shilpi Verma, Abhishek Gupta, C.M. Seth, Narayan Singh, R.K. Chibber, Subhash Jandial, Preeti Choudhary, Rajan Singh Happy, and Kartik Sudan.

CS Ladakh Ashish Kundra interacts with JKAS Officers

STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Chief Secretary of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Ashish Kundra held an interactive session with JKAS officers posted in Leh district. The interaction aimed at fostering open dialogue, understanding ground realities, and strengthening people-centric governance in the region. During the meeting, the Chief Secretary took brief introductions from all officers and encouraged them to freely share their views and experiences. Emphasising a non-hierarchical and open work culture, Shri Kundra urged officers not to be constrained by

rigid administrative structures but to think independently and innovatively in addressing public issues. He laid strong emphasis on regular field visits, stating that unless officers reach villages and remote areas, it is difficult to fully understand the grievances and basic needs of the people. He highlighted issues such as mobile connectivity, access to essential services, and infrastructure gaps, and noted that local officers, being well-acquainted with the terrain and culture, are best positioned to bring meaningful change in their respective areas.

Stressing youth outreach, the



Chief Secretary underlined that the youth will shape the future of Ladakh and should be encouraged to explore opportunities beyond conventional government jobs. He advocated promoting entrepreneurship, innovation, and skill development, particularly in sectors

aligned with Ladakh's unique strengths. Kundra highlighted the important role of Leh Municipality in maintaining cleanliness, noting that Leh serves as the gateway to Ladakh and leaves a lasting first impression on visitors. He called for collective efforts to keep the city clean, organised, and welcoming. He emphasised the need for balanced and unified development of both Leh and Kargil districts, stating that inclusive growth across the Union Territory remains a core objective of the administration. The Chief Secretary also

spoke about developing Ladakh as a high-value, sustainable tourism destination on the lines of Bhutan, focusing on quality tourism and high-spending visitors rather than mass tourism, while preserving the fragile ecology and cultural heritage of the region. During the interaction, JKAS officers raised various issues and suggestions, including implementation challenges of government schemes, and the need for greater awareness among the public about welfare programmes. They also highlighted Ladakh's unique and valuable assets such as

pashmina, orchards, sea buckthorn, and the potential for youth entrepreneurship in pashmina-related activities, aviation, hospitality, winter tourism, and other allied sectors. Broader developmental concerns and region-specific challenges were also discussed.

The Chief Secretary assured the officers that their concerns and suggestions would be examined seriously and encouraged them to work collaboratively with a sense of purpose, innovation, and commitment to serve the people of Ladakh effectively.

YRS stages statewide hunger strike over MBBS Admissions at SMVDIME



YRS members sit on hunger strike in Jammu.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Yuva Rajput Sabha (YRS), an organisation representing Dogra Hindu youth across the Jammu division, on Monday staged a 9-hour peaceful hunger strike at 19 district headquarters across the region to protest the alleged systematic denial of MBBS seats to meritorious local students at the **Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Institute of Medical

Excellence (SMVDIME). The main sit-in was held at the statue of Maharaja Hari Singh at Tawi Bridge, a location described by organisers as symbolic of Dogra identity and contribution. YRS alleged that SMVDIME was established through public contributions, including land, donations, endowments, and temple trust resources primarily provided by the Jammu and Hindu community. Despite this, the organisation claimed that over 70 per cent of MBBS seats in recent admission cycles have gone to students from outside Jammu, leaving many qualified Dogra Hindu candidates without admission. The group said this trend contradicts the founding purpose of an institution named after Mata Vaishno Devi. Addressing the protest, Mandeep Singh Rimpuy,

President of YRS, demanded that MBBS seats be reserved for students from the Jammu division, in line with population and regional contribution. He stated that local students should not be compelled to migrate to states such as Punjab or Delhi to pursue medical education when a medical institution exists in their own region. Former YRS State President Vikram Singh Vicky said that Jammu continues to lose many bright students every year due to limited access to medical seats, warning that continued neglect could turn the region into a "talent desert." Senior YRS leader Rajan Singh "Happy" criticised political leadership for failing to ensure equitable access to medical education, stating that calls for unity remain hollow when Dogra Hindu students are denied fair opportunities.

The protest received support from various organisations from across Jammu. YRS announced that if no written assurance is received from the authorities within days, it will escalate the agitation by organising a massive protests in Jammu and Kashmir, and submitting a nationwide petition seeking a Parliamentary inquiry into alleged admission irregularities at SMVDIME.

Samooch Theatre organises Children's Theatre Workshop

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Samooch Theatre organised a one-day Children's Theatre Workshop at Purkhoo Camp, Jammu, aimed at developing communication and creative skills among children through theatre, music, dance and storytelling. Over 20 children participated in theatre games and improvisation sessions during the workshop.

In 2025, Samooch Theatre carried out a series of cultural and theatre initiatives, including staging the play "Beake" at the Bharat Rang Mahotsav in New Delhi, organising a three-day theatre festival in Jammu, a 10-day children's workshop in Srinagar, and staging "Shyama Prasad Mukherji," "Mai Vivekananda," and



Children during the workshop.

"Bawa Jitmal" across multiple locations. The group also presented folk theatre productions and children-centric cultural activities. All productions were directed by Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, assisted by

Krishan Bala, with stage management by Anita Chand Puri.

Samooch Theatre reaffirmed its commitment to promoting meaningful theatre and traditional performing arts in the region.

Systematic discrimination against Jammu youth unacceptable: Pawan

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The recent selection of the Jammu and Kashmir Under-14 Cricket Team has once again exposed the deep-rooted, systematic discrimination being meted out to the Jammu region. The selection of 13 players from Kashmir and only 3 from Jammu is not a coincidence-it is a clear, deliberate, and politically motivated act that reflects regional bias rather than merit.

This shameful imbalance proves that talent, performance, and hard work of Jammu's young cricketers have been blatantly ignored, while regionalism and power-preservation have become the real criteria for selection under the present dispensation.

The Omar Abdullah-led government is directly accountable for this injustice. The so-called Sports Minister, Satish Sharma, has completely failed in his constitutional and moral



duty to safeguard the interests of Jammu's youth. Instead of acting as a guardian of sports and fairness, his tenure has become synonymous with the destruction of sporting merit, politicisation of selection processes, and crushing the aspirations of Jammu's young talent.

Let it be made absolutely clear: This is not merely a sports-related issue. This is a direct attack on Jammu's identity, self-respect, and future.

Young players who rightfully deserved opportunities have