

Yudhvir, Arun laud V&M Clinics' 24x7 Free Medical Camp Initiative at JKTDC Jammu



MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi being honoured.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: V&M Clinics (24x7), in collaboration with the Jammu & Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation (JKTDC), organised a free medical camp at the JKTDC venue in Jammu, drawing large public participation.

The event was graced by Yudhvir Sethi, MLA Jammu East, and Arun Gupta, President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Jammu.

Both dignitaries interacted with doctors and patients and underscored the importance of public-private and community partnerships in strengthen-

ing grassroots healthcare delivery.

Speaking on the occasion, Sethi appreciated V&M Clinics' unique round-the-clock healthcare model, noting that the clinic's provision of free medical services from 9:00 PM to 7:00 AM sets an important example in ensuring access to healthcare for the underprivileged.

Arun Gupta also lauded the initiative, highlighting the role of responsible institutions and civil society in supporting inclusive, accessible healthcare for the people of Jammu.

Specialist consultations were provided by Dr

Nadeem N. Jan (Vascular Surgeon), Dr Vinod Raina (Pediatrics), Dr Shafeeqa Bano (Gynaecology), Dr Ayushi Magotra (Homeopathic Dermatology), and Dr Zulqarnain Beigh (Cupping Therapy), along with other senior healthcare professionals. The camp was organised under the leadership of Dr Anisa Nisar Jan, Executive Director, Varicose and More Pvt. Ltd., with logistical support from Dr Riaz Khan (JKAS), General Manager, JKTDC, Jammu.

The wellness medical event was managed by IM-INVENT MEDIA -an Event n Wedding brand by Siddharth Mahajan.

The camp also received support from Rotary Club Jammu, while Atulaya Healthcare and Global Human Rights Trust under the leadership of its chairman Dr H R Rehman were specially acknowledged as long-standing collaborators for their consistent contributions toward free diagnostics and community health outreach initiatives.

SJFI hails Chhattisgarh, 3 other states for enhanced journalists' pension

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: A meeting of the national executive committee of the Senior Journalists Federation of India (SJFI) held online on Saturday, congratulated the State Governments of Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Goa and Tamil Nadu for their recent announcements enhancing the pension amounts being paid to senior journalists in their respective states.

The meeting, presided over by Sandeep Diskshit, national president, expressed great satisfaction that various State Governments are taking the matter of the retired journalists' welfare and social security seriously in recent times. In this context, it is to be noted that the SJFI has been making a consistent campaign for ensuring social security for senior journalists in all states of India. The committee, in a resolution, urged all other state governments to launch journalist pension schemes or enhance the existing pension amounts. It also urged the Central Government to take into consideration the demands raised in a memorandum submitted by the SJFI to the Prime Minister including a

national pension scheme and a nationwide welfare fund for senior journalists. It hoped the next budget of the Central Government would announce some steps for the benefit of the country's retired journalists.

The meeting, in another resolution, expressed condolences on the death of veteran Assamese editor, Prafulla Govinda Baruah, and veteran English journalist Prabha Jagannathan, in recent days.

The meeting was attended by the NEC members from various states. They included Anandam Pulpalupula (Telangana), Suhasini Prabhuganankar (Goa), Kanhu Nanda (Odisha), Benudhar Panda (Odisha), Aswani Kumar (J&K), C Gouridasan Nair (Kerala), Sabanayakan (West Bengal), T Janardhan (AP), K P Vijayakumar (Kerala), George Kallivayalil (Delhi), Shastri Ramachandran (Delhi), and Franco Louis (Kerala). Alexander Sam(Kerala), Subhash Naik & Gurudas Sawal (Goa), and advocate Inuran Ali, legal counsel, also attended the meeting. N P Chekkattu, secretary general, presented a report.

Free Multispecialty Health Check-up Camp organized on Christmas



Doctors with Rev. Fr. Sebastian Nagathungal at medical camp at St. Mary's Garrison Church, Gandhi Nagar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the eve of Christmas, the Youth Commission of the Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar, in collaboration with SIBA Cooperatives, organized a free multispecialty health check-up camp on Sunday at St. Mary's Garrison Church, Gandhi Nagar.

The medical camp received an overwhelming response from the local community and witnessed enthusiastic participation from several reputed hospitals, institutions, organizations, and dedicated medical professionals.

Prominent contributors included Ujala Cygnus JK

Medicity Hospital, Goel Eye Hospital, JK Electronic Bars, Jammu Institute of Ayurveda & Research, Dr. Vishav Dev Singh Dadwal, Sunny, Sumali, Sanju, and JKDCF, under the leadership of its Chairman Vikrant Dogra.

Social and service organizations such as Rotary Club Jammu Stars, IWC Jammu Sampark, IWC Jammu, IWC Jammu Tawi, IWC New Gen, and IWC Kesaria extended valuable support. Media partners JK Update News Channel, Boney Kumar (Sach News), and other representatives ensured wide coverage of the event.

The efforts of Sidharth Verma (Co-founder, SIBA Events), Baljeet Singh (Co-founder, SIBA Events), Meenakshi Verma, Jasmeet Kour, and Manmeet Singh (Team SIBA) were instrumental in the smooth execution of the camp.

Rev. Fr. Sebastian Nagathungal honoured all doctors and medical professionals and delivered a meaningful Christmas message emphasizing healing, compassion, and service as taught by Jesus Christ. Rev. Fr. Jafat Masih, Youth Director, Diocese of Jammu-Srinagar, expressed heartfelt gratitude to all collaborators.

Modi govt transforming J&K into hub of connectivity, security and development: Dr. Pardeep

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah's acknowledgement of enhanced Central funding to Jammu & Kashmir is a clear validation of the unwavering commitment of the Narendra Modi-led government towards the holistic development, security and prosperity of the Union Territory, said Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP.

Dr. Pardeep Mahotra said that the liberal and consistent Central allocations have fundamentally transformed Jammu & Kashmir; economically, strategically and socially, something that remained a distant dream for decades under previous regimes.

Highlighting a major recent milestone, Dr. Pardeep said that the arrival of a food-grain freight train directly into the Kashmir Valley marks a historic shift in logistics and supply-chain efficiency. "Earlier,



essential supplies took considerably longer time to reach Kashmir from Punjab through road networks. The new rail-based freight movement saves time, reduces costs, conserves resources and strengthens national food security, benefiting not just J&K but the entire country," he said.

Dr. Pardeep further pointed out that just two days ago, the induction of tanks and artillery into the Kashmir Valley through a military special train crossing the world's highest railway bridge over the Chenab River stands as a glaring example of India's growing

defense reach, preparedness and operational capability. "This historic movement underlines how the Modi government has not only modernized the armed forces but has also built robust infrastructure and logistics systems, particularly along sensitive and strategic borders," he said.

Dr. Pardeep emphasized that four-laning of highways, construction of strategic bridges and tunnels, expansion of road networks, and the completion of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project have revolutionized connectivity in Jammu- Kashmir.

Dr. Pardeep said that the Modi government's development vision for J&K goes far beyond connectivity. "With Central support, Jammu & Kashmir has witnessed the establishment of new medical colleges across districts, two AIIMS at Jammu and Awantipora, strengthening of

higher education institutions, expansion of technical and skill-based institutes, and the creation of a separate Railway Division, all of which have generated employment, enhanced service delivery and strengthened regional integration."

Dr. Pardeep added that systematic identification and development of existing as well as new tourism destinations, along with infrastructure upgradation, has revitalized tourism, boosted the local economy and created sustainable livelihood opportunities for youth and entrepreneurs.

"Peace, development and national security have progressed hand in hand under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership," Dr. Pardeep said, adding that the facts now acknowledged even by political opponents expose the decades of neglect, policy paralysis and underdevelopment that plagued Jammu & Kashmir earlier.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:BJP spokesperson and Convener, International Affairs Gaurav Gupta on Sunday launched a seathing attack on the Bangladesh administration following the brutal lynching of Hindu man Dipu Chandra Das, calling the incident a "shocking collapse of law and order" and a grave failure to protect minorities.

In an uncompromising statement, Gaurav Gupta said the killing allegedly over fabricated accusations exposes the alarming rise of radicalism, religious hatred and mob justice in Bangladesh.

"The savage lynching of Dipu Chandra Das is not an isolated crime; it is proof that mob rule has replaced the rule of law in Bangladesh. Beating a man to death, tying his body to a tree and setting it on fire is



the behaviour of a lawless society, not a civilised state," Gupta said.

Gupta said the incident raises serious and unavoidable questions about the safety of minorities and Indian citizens in Bangladesh, accusing Dhaka of failing in its fundamental duty to protect human life.

"The Government of Bangladesh must stop offering excuses and start delivering justice. Cosmetic arrests will not suffice. Exemplary punishment is

the only acceptable response to such barbarity," he asserted.

Taking aim at what he described as systemic intolerance, Gupta said attacks on Hindus and other minorities have become recurrent and predictable, pointing to a dangerous climate of impunity.

"This lynching reflects a larger, deeply disturbing pattern of targeting minorities. The continued silence and inaction of authorities only emboldens radical elements and erodes communal harmony," he warned.

Emphasising India's firm stand, Gaurav Gupta said New Delhi will not ignore attacks on its citizens or the persecution of minorities in neighbouring coun-

tries. "India will not remain a mute spectator when Indians are killed and minorities are hunted down. The safety, dignity and rights of Indians abroad are non-negotiable, and Dhaka must take this message seriously," he said.

Gupta further called upon the international community to take note of the deteriorating human rights situation in Bangladesh, stressing that violence driven by religious hatred cannot be normalised or justified under any pretext.

Concluding his statement, Gaurav Gupta said, "Justice delayed or diluted is justice denied. Those responsible must be punished swiftly and publicly so that such heinous crimes are never repeated."

Jammu native Maneesh Chhibber gets international award



Senior journalist Maneesh Chhibber, a native of Jammu, receiving ICJ Award-2025 for excellence in journalism.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANGKOK: Senior journalist Maneesh Chhibber, a native of Jammu, was on Sunday awarded the International Council of Jurists (ICJ) Award-2025 for excellence in journalism at a glittering ceremony in Bangkok.

The award was presented by ICJ president and former Supreme Court Bar Association president Adish C. Aggarwala in the presence of former Punjab and Haryana High Court Chief Justice Vijender Jain, former Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan Justice Awn S Al-Khasawneh and former high court Judge VP Vaish. The citation of the award given to Chhibber read

that he was being bestowed the award in Recognition of his distinguished journalistic career across India's news platforms including The Indian Express, The Print, Tiranga News and The Wire.

"His unwavering commitment to investigating reporting, incisive legal analysis and nationally impactful scoops, most recently, the burnt-cash-in-room expose involving a then Delhi High Court Judge exemplify his dedication to credible journalism. Widely cited by tourists and legal experts, he remains an authoritative voice on India's higher judiciary," the citation said. Jurists from several countries attended the award ceremony.

Mahotsav 2025 concludes Jammu Maha Aarti with applause



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: The three-day Mahotsav 2025 - Jammu Kashmir Ladakh, organized by LEAD-LJK (LJK Economic Growth And Development Dialogue), concluded on a high note amid loud applause and enthusiastic participation.

The third and final day of the Mahotsav was dedicated to the Kashmir region, showcasing its rich cultural heritage through soulful performances by artists from Kashmir; along with vibrant presentations reflecting the traditions of all three regions-Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. BJP President J&K & Member Rajya Sabha, Sat

Sharma and Ex-president Ravinder Raina along with other party members were present. The day began with the observance of World Mediation Day, presented by Commissioner, Higher Education Department, Shantmann, highlighting the importance of dialogue, harmony, and alternative dispute resolution in society. This was followed by a powerful theatrical performance on the life and stories of Baba Jitto Ji, which received wide appreciation from the audience. Parsattom Daddichhi, President, J&K Sanatan Dharam Sabha, was present on the occasion and

lauded the artists for their impactful performance. Adding a spirit of sportsmanship and tradition, various traditional games such as Kabaddi and Tug of War were organized. Secretary, J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, graced the event and encouraged the promotion of indigenous sports and youth participation. Gul distributed prizes to the winning teams and personally interacted with the players, encouraging them to continue excelling in sports.

A major highlight of the afternoon session was the Jammu Aarti, coordinated by the Raghunath Ji Corridor Vikas Council, Jammu, which created

a deeply spiritual and emotional atmosphere and drew large participation from visitors. MD/CEO, Smart City, Devyansh Yadav and Brahma Kumari The Mahotsav concluded with a grand closing ceremony, marking the successful culmination of three days of cultural celebration, dialogue, and community engagement.

On the occasion, LEAD Convenor Harinder Gupta, along with core members Surinder Mohan Gupta, Rajesh Gupta, Sanjeev Sharma, Raman Suri, Kamal Kishore Sharma, CA Rajeev Gupta, and Vikram Gajral, were present. Other prominent members including, Vishal Abrol, Gaurav Abrol, R.K. Chibber, Alankrit Mahajan and several LEAD associates also attended the closing ceremony. Mahotsav 2025 stood as a vibrant platform celebrating unity in diversity, regional pride, and cultural harmony, leaving a lasting impression on participants and visitors alike.

MLA Nagrota flags off farmers on exposure visit to PAU Ludhiana



MLA Nagrota Devyani Rana flagging off group of farmers.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Member Legislative Assembly Nagrota Devyani Rana on Sunday flagged off a group of farmers on a 7-day Training Programme to Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), Ludhiana. The outside UT tour for the farmers has been organised under the HADP Project "Promotion of

Commercial Cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants" by Department of Agriculture Sub Division Marh. A group of 60 farmers from Mathwar Block are participating in the training programme to gain practical and technical knowledge on cultivation, skills, exposure to scientific practices, processing and

marketing of high value medicinal and aromatic plants.

Devyani Rana highlighted the significance of crop diversification towards medicinal and aromatic plants for enhancing farm income and employment opportunities. She appreciated the Agriculture Department for arranging exposure-based training outside the UT and interacted with the farmers, encouraging them to adopt scientific and commercial cultivation practices after completion of the training.

The training programme is being conducted as per the directions of Director Agriculture Jammu Anil Gupta and under the supervision of Chief Agriculture Officer Jammu Manohar Lal Sharma.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BISHNAH: Fatima Convent School, Bishnah, celebrated its Annual Day Celebration 2025-26 with great enthusiasm, under the inspiring theme "Carnival of Cultures in the Light of Christmas." The vibrant programme beautifully reflected the values of unity, cultural diversity, and the joy and peace associated with the Christmas season.

The event was graced by Anand Jain, ADGP, Armed Police, Jammu & Kashmir, as the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour were Pallavi Bhardwaj, and Most Rev. Ivan Albert Pereira, Bishop of the Jammu-Srinagar Diocese and



ADGP Armed J&K, Anand Jain being welcomed.

President of the Jammu-Srinagar Education Society, while DYSP Raqshesh Aggram, Jammu, attended as the Special Guest.

Welcoming the gathering, Principal Rev. Fr. Prenful Tigga, along with Vice Principal Rev. Sr. Dr. Mercy,

FCC, and Manager Rev. Fr. Jaimon Joseph, highlighted the school's commitment to holistic education grounded in values, discipline, and cultural harmony.

The programme was further honoured by the presence of Rev. Fr. Sebastian

Nagathungal, Vicar General and Vice President of the Jammu-Srinagar Education Society, Rev. Fr. Varkey, the first Principal of the school, and Rev. Fr. Shaiju Chacko, Chairman of the Jammu-Srinagar Education Society. Several priests, religious sisters, and nearly 2000 parents attended the celebration.

The programme commenced with a ceremonial band reception, followed by a colourful cultural extravaganza featuring performances by nearly 700 students. Through dances, music, and dramatic presentations, students showcased India's rich cultural heritage. A reverent Nativity enactment formed

the spiritual highlight of the celebration and was warmly appreciated by the audience.

Adding special significance, the Silver Jubilee of Rev. Sr. Mercy, FCC, was solemnly celebrated. In recognition of her 25 years of dedicated service in education, the Most Rev. Bishop honoured her with a memento and shawl amid loud applause.

The event also included felicitation of dignitaries and distribution of prizes for academic excellence. The presence of alumni added warmth to the occasion. The celebration concluded with a grand finale and refreshments, leaving lasting memories for all present.