

J&K Bank carries out Special Disbursal Day

Fast-tracks Mission YUVA implementation, disburses 1263 cases

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 SRINAGAR: Reaffirming its commitment to the Jammu & Kashmir Government's flagship Mission YUVA programme aimed at empowering youth through self-employment and entrepreneurship, J&K Bank today observed "Mission YUVA Disbursal Day" across the Union Territory in a mission mode to fast-track credit delivery to approved beneficiaries.

The Special Disbursal Day culminated with pressing of a symbolic button by MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee, marking the successful conclusion of the single-day drive during which 1263 cases were disbursed, against the target of 1111 cases, under Mission YUVA across operational levels. The event was attended virtually by Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, Chief General Manager Imtiyaz Ahmad, General Managers, and Divisional Heads along with Zonal Heads and other senior officers of the Bank. The teams from all zones also participated to ensure seamless execution of the drive.



MD & CEO J&K Bank, Amitava Chatterjee at a programme.

Congratulating the operational heads and frontline teams for the successful conduct and surpassing the target of the Special Disbursal Day, MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee lauded their commitment and coordinated efforts in translating sanctions into timely disbursements. Speaking on the occasion, Amitava Chatterjee said, "The successful rollout of Mission YUVA is a result of the collective commitment and coordinated efforts of all stakeholders involved, and each one of them deserves appreciation. I am particularly encouraged by the posi-

tive feedback from the Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, who is closely monitoring the progress of the program and has expressed satisfaction with the momentum it has gained." Highlighting the broader objectives of the initiative, he said, "Mission YUVA is not merely a lending programme; it is a transformative initiative of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir to unlock the entrepreneurial potential of our youth. As the principal banking partner, J&K Bank remains fully committed to translating this vision into sustainable livelihood opportunities for the people

across Jammu and Kashmir, who have always reposed their trust in the Bank." Stressing the importance of long-term outcomes, the MD & CEO remarked, "With its comprehensive design and strong institutional support, Mission YUVA has the potential to emerge as a benchmark for future employment-generation initiatives both at the UT and national levels. This very spirit should inspire us to put our heart and soul into the mission and bring an increasing number of aspiring entrepreneurs into its fold." He further added, "The initiative also complements our robust focus on MSME lending, which has been a hallmark of the Bank's growth strategy in recent years - an approach reaffirmed by the Bank being recognised as the Best MSME Bank by Chamber of Indian Micro Small and Medium Enterprises recently." In his remarks on the occasion, Executive Director Sudhir Gupta said, "J&K Bank carries a deep socio-economic responsibility towards the people of

Jammu & Kashmir, and there can be no better way to fulfil this commitment than by ensuring the success of Mission YUVA. The scheme represents a powerful instrument for nurturing entrepreneurship and accelerating inclusive growth across the region." "I am confident that we will achieve the envisaged targets and set new milestones as we continue our efforts to drive meaningful socio-economic transformation and create lasting opportunities for the youth of Jammu & Kashmir", he added. Under the supervision of the Bank's Retail, Agriculture and MSME (RAM) Vertical, Zonal and Cluster Heads closely monitored progress throughout the day, providing on-the-spot support to branches to ensure effective implementation and achievement of targets. As part of the special drive, branches proactively followed up with beneficiaries to complete pre-disbursement formalities in advance, ensuring readiness for same-day credit.



Watch O Suno Dogri honours Tawi Tales, RJ Juhi Mohan, Behrupia with ‘Tunde Par Maan Aai’ Award



"Tunde Par Maan Aai" Award-2025 winners posing with Watch O Suno Dogri members.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Celebrating voices that continue to enrich and reimagine the Dogri language in contemporary spaces, Watch O Suno Dogri on Friday conferred its annual "Tunde Par Maan Aai" Award-2025 on individuals and platforms that have made significant contributions to Dogri culture through creativity, commitment, and innovation. The awards were presented in a dignified ceremony attended by prominent literary and cultural figures of the region. This year, the honours were bestowed upon Raj Kumar Behrupia for his motivational content deeply rooted in Dogri ethos; RJ and theatre artist Juhi Mohan for her dynamic engagement with Dogri through radio and performing arts; and Dr. Vikas

Padha and Ajay Khajuria, the voices behind the popular Tawi Tales podcast, which has emerged as a contemporary platform celebrating Dogri narratives, history, and everyday experiences. The ceremony was graced by eminent Dogri poet Padma Shri Jitendra Udhampuri as the Chief Guest and noted writer Padma Shri Mohan Singh as the Guest of Honour. The function was presided over by Padma Shri Prof. Lalit Magotra, President of Dogri Sanstha Jammu, lending further prestige to the occasion. Instituted to be presented annually on Dogri Maanta Diwas, the "Tunde Par Maan Aai" Award comprises a memento and a shawl as a mark of honour and respect. Addressing the gathering, Prof. Lalit Magotra described

the award as a meaningful initiative that encourages grassroots cultural work and strengthens the foundation of the Dogri language. Padma Shri Jitendra Udhampuri urged the youth to take pride in their linguistic heritage and actively contribute to its preservation and growth. Padma Shri Mohan Singh emphasized the importance of recognizing dedicated cultural contributors who often work away from the lime-light. In his closing remarks, Jagmohann Sharma 'Yoon Hi', founder of Watch O Suno Dogri, reaffirmed the organization's commitment to nurturing the Dogri language and culture through innovative platforms and community-driven initiatives, ensuring its continued relevance in modern times.

SSP Jammu reiterates zero tolerance towards drug abuse

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Thana Diwas was organised on Friday at Mahajan Sabha, Shalamar by Police Station City in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, witnessing wide participation from market associations, traders, hoteliers, welfare committees and citizens.

The programme was attended by SSP Jammu Joginder Singh, SP City North Vivek Shekhar, SDPO City North Vikram Bhau and SHO PS City Inspector Shakti Devi. Participants appreciated Jammu Police for proactive action in crime prevention, traffic management and public safety. Key issues raised included roadside parking at Shalamar and Residency Roads, traffic congestion on



SSP Jammu Joginder Singh with others at a Thana Diwas.

Raghunath Bazar-City Chowk-Shalamar Chowk stretch, installation of CCTV cameras in the old city, regulation of street vendors, unattended vehicles and the Sunday Market. Addressing the gathering, SSP Jammu emphasised the importance of timely communication and coordination

between police and the public. He informed about the launch of the tenant verification web portal "KIRAYEDAR" on a trial basis, which will soon be expanded to include shop employees, street vendors and outsiders. He reiterated zero tolerance towards drug

abuse, highlighting sustained action against elements attempting to lure youth into narcotics. SSP Jammu also spoke on labour verification, traffic challenges due to rising vehicular density, implementation of one-way systems, establishment of a dedicated cyber department and devel-

opment of an integrated city-wide CCTV network linked with a newly constructed PCR building. SP City North, Jammu acknowledged the Chamber of Commerce and Mahajan Sabha for facilitating the programme. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by SDPO City North, appreciating the active participation and cooperation of all stakeholders. Jammu Police reiterates its firm commitment towards maintaining law and order, ensuring public safety and addressing civic concerns through effective police-public partnership. Citizens are urged to continue extending cooperation and promptly share information to collectively work towards a safe, secure and peaceful Jammu.

BDC Vice Chairman Bhaderwah, Sarpanches honour Chairman NATF Vishal Chopra



BDC Vice Chairman Sajad Mir, along with sarpanches honouring NATF Chairman Vishal Chopra.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: A felicitation ceremony was held at Bhaderwah where BDC Vice Chairman Sajad Mir, along with local sarpanches, honoured Vishal Chopra on his appointment as Chairman of the National Anti-Terrorism Front (NATF)-India. The event

reflected collective appreciation for his leadership and commitment to national service. Addressing the gathering, Vishal Chopra reaffirmed his unwavering dedication to the nation, stating, "I will never allow my country, Bharat, to bow down." He emphasized his resolve to

work tirelessly for the unity, integrity, and security of the country through the platform of NATF. BDC Vice Chairman Sajad Mir congratulated Chopra on his new role and assured him of his full support. He expressed readiness to work shoulder to shoulder with NATF in its mission, adding that local representatives were keen to actively contribute to the organization's objectives and serve the nation with commitment and responsibility. The programme concluded with a strong message of unity and determination, highlighting a shared resolve to strengthen national security and uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India through collective efforts and patriotic spirit.

POWERGRID bolsters cancer care in Punjab with Rs 12.25 Cr. medical equipment contribution



POWERGRID officials during a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 CHANDIGARH: Principal Dr. Deep Khare and Vice Principal Amita Arora also applauded the students' achievements and encouraged them to continue excelling in science and technology, reaffirming Jodhamal School's mission to shape future-ready innovators and critical thinkers. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Power, has strengthened cancer care facilities in Punjab by handing over state-of-the-art medical imaging equipment worth Rs 12.25 crore to the Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital & Research Centre (HBCHRC), New Chandigarh. The handover took place on December 26, 2025, under POWERGRID's Corporate

Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative and is expected to significantly enhance diagnostic and interventional oncology services across North India. The contribution includes two advanced medical systems designed to improve accuracy in diagnosis and treatment planning. These comprise a Bi-Plane Digital Subtraction Angiography (DSA) System worth Rs 5.75 crore, which will support

complex neurovascular and interventional procedures, and a 128-slice CT scan machine valued at Rs 6.50 crore, offering high-speed, high-precision imaging crucial for early cancer detection and effective treatment strategies. The equipment was formally presented during a ceremony held at HBCHRC, New Chandigarh. The event was attended by POWERGRID Independent

Directors Shiv Tapasya Paswan, Sajal Jha, and Rohit Vaswani, along with Jasbir Singh, Executive Director (CSR), and Tarun Bajaj, Executive Director (NR-II). Representing the host institution, Dr. (Prof.) Ashish Gulia, Director, HBCHRC, along with his team, was present on the occasion. Speaking during the ceremony, POWERGRID representatives reaffirmed the organization's commitment to strengthening India's healthcare infrastructure. They stated that the provision of advanced diagnostic equipment would enable faster and more accurate diagnoses, enhance interventional capabilities, and reduce the need for cancer patients in Punjab and neighboring regions to travel long distances for specialized treatment.

Secretary ITD reviews SAKOON 2.0

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Secretary, Information Technology Department, Dr. Piyush Singla, on Friday chaired a meeting on SAKOON 2.0 at Civil Secretariat Jammu.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Ravi Shanker Sharma, Special Secretary; Mahima Madan, Additional Secretary; Sanjay Gupta, Scientist-F NIC and Megha Khajuria, In-Charge, IT Cell, Information Technology Department. During the meeting, the Secretary emphasized that the SAKOON application shall be hosted on the State Data Centre (SDC) to ensure enhanced data security and system reliability. Piyush Singla said that SAKOON is a digital governance platform designed to securely and transparently report, track and resolve disaster management and relief incidents through role-based workflows, automated notifi-



Secretary IT Department, Dr. Piyush Singla chairing a meeting on SAKOON 2.0.

cations, document uploads and multi-level escalations. This will ensure timely action, accountability and effective coordination among departments, he added. He added that this platform has the potential to significantly enhance workflow ease and operational efficiency, revolutionizing online incident management during disasters. It was decided to clearly define and map the roles of ADDC/ADC within the application workflow, particularly with respect to date-wise

monitoring and timely disposal of incidents/cases at all administrative levels. The Secretary further directed that the C2G (Citizen-to-Government) feature shall be enabled to facilitate seamless citizen interaction and grievance reporting. Considering the large volume of cases, it was also decided that Tehsildar-level bulk case upload functionality shall be enabled to expedite the data entry and reduce pendency. The Secretary stressed the need for time-bound imple-

mentation, stronger inter-departmental coordination and strict compliance with prescribed timelines to enhance the effectiveness, transparency and security of the SAKOON 2.0 platform, which has significant potential to improve the disaster management in the UT of J&K. Additionally, incident categories such as Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOF), lightning incidents and boat capsizing cases have been incorporated to facilitate faster response and quicker relief delivery.

Himayat 2.0: Javid Dar hands over sanction orders for district level trainings

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
 JAMMU: Minister for Agriculture Production, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Cooperative and Election Departments, Javid Ahmad Dar, on Friday said that Himayat 2.0 aims to equip the youth of Jammu and Kashmir with market-relevant skills to enable gainful employment in high demand jobs. He was speaking while distributing sanction orders among the Project Implementation Agencies (PIAs) at Panchayat Bhawan, Railway Road, Jammu. The Minister said the revamped programme focuses on outcome-oriented skill development, aligning training with current and emerging market demands. He emphasized



Agriculture Minister, Javid Ahmad Dar handing over sanction orders.

that Himayat 2.0 gives special priority to rural youth and high-growth sectors to drive inclusive socio-economic development. Stressing the need for a diversified skill base, he directed the PIAs to introduce new trades and strong soft-skill components aligned with industry

requirements. He asked them to ensure implementation with commitment, transparency and accountability. Secretary, Rural Development Department, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, described Himayat 2.0 as a shift from skill training to assured employability, with a sharper focus on

standards, accountability and long-term employment outcomes. He noted that skills remain the most sustainable form of empowerment and that the government has established a system that is clear in intent and supportive in execution. The Chief Executive Officer, Himayat, briefed the gathering on the roles and responsibilities of PIAs, underlining the importance of quality training, placement performance and strict adherence to programme guidelines. The event was attended by Heads of Departments of Panchayati Raj and IWMP, senior officers, representatives of PIAs and other stakeholders associated with the implementation of Himayat 2.0.