

CEO reviews academic, administrative issues pertaining to Govt High Schools

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A comprehensive review meeting was convened on Monday by the Chief Education Officer (CEO) Ajeet Kumar Sharma to review key academic and administrative issues pertaining to the High Schools. The meeting was attended by Headmasters from across the District Jammu.

Detailed deliberations were held on the preparedness of students for the forthcoming Annual Examinations. The Chief Education Officer stressed the importance of timely completion of syllabus,



CEO Ajeet Kumar Sharma chairing meeting.

proper academic planning and ensuring fair and smooth conduct of examinations. The status of school buildings post floods was also reviewed and headmasters were directed to ensure

Shiksha. The Chief Education Officer instructed all institutions to ensure judicious, transparent and timely utilization of funds strictly as per guidelines and observing all codal formalities. The meeting further reviewed the implementation of the schemes under Samagra Shiksha, with directions to ensure effective execution of student-centric initiatives and maximum benefit to stakeholders.

The Chief Education Officer also highlighted the importance of proper updation and maintenance of academic, administrative,

and financial records and directed institutions to maintain records meticulously for inspection and audit purposes.

Further, all Headmasters were directed to ensure improvement in school enrolment in the forthcoming academic session by actively involving School Management Committees (SMCs) and the local community through awareness and outreach activities to bring more children into the formal education system.

The meeting was also attended by Distt Education Planning Officer, Principal SRML HSS Parade Jammu and staff of CEO Office Jammu.

The meeting concluded with directions to all concerned to ensure strict compliance with the instructions issued and to work collectively towards improving the overall quality of education in the district.

HPS hosts three-day craft demonstration-cum-awareness programme



Students along with faculty members during the programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SAMBHA: Humanity Public School (HPS), Bassi Kalan, Bari Brahmana, hosted a three-day Craft Demonstration-Cum-Awareness Programme from 22 to 24 December 2025 in collaboration with the Handicrafts Service Centre, Jammu, under the aegis of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

Students of Classes 8th and 9th actively participated in the programme and observed live demonstrations by skilled artisans.

Renowned artisans and State Awardees conducted demonstrations during the programme. These included Sushma Devi, State Awardee in Hand Block Printing; Arvind, expert in Metal

Embossing; Garo Devi, specialist in Soft Toys Craft; and Leela Devi, State Awardee in Grass, Leaf, and Reed Craft. The programme also highlighted the potential of handicrafts as a source of self-employment and sustainable livelihood, emphasizing the importance of preserving traditional skills. The event was organised under the guidance of Swati Mathura, Assistant Director A&C, and Omveer Singh Sheoran, Handicrafts Promotion Officer, whose support ensured the smooth and successful conduct of the programme.

On the concluding day, a competition was organised on the theme "Festivals of India / Dream World", in which students showcased their creativity and imagination through artistic expressions. Dristhi Bhagat (Class 9th) secured the first

prize, followed by Priya Rajput (Class 8th) with the second prize, and Pranav Choudhary

Arti Khajuria appointed President of Rehari-Bakshi Nagar Mandal BJP Mahila Morcha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has announced the appointment of Arti Khajuria as the President of Rehari-Bakshi Nagar Mandal Mahila Morcha.

Her appointment reflects the party's commitment to strengthening women's leadership and organizational presence at the grassroots level. Party members extended their congratulations and expressed confidence that



she will inspire women workers and contribute actively to the BJP's mission of inclusive development.

Satish lauds Bharat Scouts & Guides for shaping responsible citizens, nation building

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Minister for Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, IT, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Science and Technology, Satish Sharma, on Monday said that the Bharat Scouts and Guides, Jammu and Kashmir UT branch has been playing a pivotal role in shaping the character, courage and commitment of the youth for more than a century.

The Minister was speaking at the function organised by the Bharat Scouts and Guides here today. DG Youth Services and Sports, Anuradha Gupta, Secretary in the Agriculture Department, Rajinder Singh Tara, Rtd Wing Commander Manoj Joshi, other office bearers of the organisation and a gathering of Scouts, Guides, Rovers, rangers and unit leaders were present on the occasion.

The Minister conveyed the warm greet-

ings and best wishes of Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and the Jammu and Kashmir government. He said that the J&K UT Branch of Bharat Scouts and Guides continues to grow from strength to strength, producing disciplined, responsible and socially aware citizens who are always ready to serve the nation.

The Minister described the Scout and Guide movement as not merely an extra-curricular activity but a way of life, guided by the Scout Promise and Law which instil in young people the values of duty to God and the country, service to others, physical fitness, mental alertness and moral integrity.

Highlighting the crucial role played by Scouts and Guides during emergencies, Satish Sharma said that in times of natural calamities and crisis, they are always among the first responders. He recalled the

exemplary services rendered by J&K Scouts and Guides during the devastating floods and other emergencies, when they worked tirelessly alongside the Armed Forces, NDRF and civil administration in relief distribution, running community kitchens and bringing hope to thousands of affected families.

"The spirit of 'Service before Self' displayed by the Scouts and Guides reflects the finest values of our society and strengthens the nation in times of adversity," the Minister said.

Satish Sharma assured continued support of the government towards organisations that work for the holistic development of youth and contribute to build a resilient, disciplined and service-oriented society.

The Minister also announced a contribution of Rs 11 lakh out of his CDF for Bharat Scouts and Guides.

Notably, the highest single attachment during the year amounted to ₹4 crore, wherein movable and immovable properties of narco-kingpin Majid Ali R/o Nagrota, Jammu were attached under the NDPS Act in connection with FIR Nos. 89 & 90/2025 of PS Majalra, marking a significant blow to organized drug syndicates.

Reinforcing zero tolerance, Udhampur Police, along with the District Administration, demolished illegally raised drug properties worth crores of notorious peddler Makhana Din in Narsoo, Chenani.

Doda Police secure conviction under preventive provisions

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: As part of its continued efforts to maintain public order and discipline in the district, Doda Police have secured a conviction under preventive provisions.

On December 28, 2025, a police party from Police Station Bhaderwah apprehended two individuals, namely Parminder Singh and Joginder Singh, who were found roaming in a drunken condition and creating public nuisance.

Both the individuals were produced before the Hon'ble Special Mobile Magistrate on 29.12.2025. After due legal proceedings, the Hon'ble Court imposed a fine of ₹1,000 each upon them under Section 355 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Six absconders nabbed

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: In a significant enforcement drive against crime and long-pending offenders, Police Station Surankote has arrested six absconding accused persons involved in different criminal cases registered over the past several years. The arrests were effected after sustained surveillance, meticulous tracking of movements, and well-coordinated efforts by dedicated police teams of PS Surankote.

The arrested persons had been evading arrest for years despite being involved in serious criminal offences. Acting on specific inputs and renewed efforts to execute pending warrants, police teams intensified operations, leading to the successful apprehension of all six absconders from different locations.

All the arrested accused have been taken into custody and shall be produced before the competent court of law for further legal proceedings, as per due process. The arrested absconders include Mohd Arif, S/o Feroz Din, R/o Fazlabad, FIR No. 192/2002 U/S 325/323 RPC; Zakir Hussain, S/o Barkat

JPDCL launches DSM initiatives

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL), in collaboration with the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, Government of India, on Monday organised a launching event for Demand Side Management (DSM) initiatives under the capacity building of DISCOMs programme at the Government Convention Centre, Jammu. The event was graced by Additional Chief Secretary, Power Development Department, Shailendra Kumar as the Chief Guest while Chairperson Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC), J&K and Ladakh, Raj Kumar Chaudhary attended as the Guest of Honour. Addressing the gathering, the ACS underscored the importance of energy efficiency as a key pillar of power sector reforms. He stated that Demand Side Management plays a vital role in reducing peak demand, improving reliability

Two-week online refresher course in Commerce and Management concludes at JU

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A Two-Week Online Refresher Course in Commerce and Management, organised by the Department of Commerce, University of Jammu, in collaboration with the UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (UGC-MMTC), University of Jammu, concluded successfully today. The programme was conducted from 15 to 29 December 2025.

The successful organisation of the course was made possible through the continuous support and guidance of the University administration, particularly Prof. Umesh Rai, Vice-Chancellor, University of Jammu; Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies; Prof. Alka Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Business Studies; and Prof. Hardeep Chahal, Senior-most Faculty Member, Department of Commerce. Their academic vision and encouragement played a pivotal role in the smooth execution of the programme. The programme received strong

support from the UGC-MMTC under the leadership of Prof. Sandeep Pandita, Director, UGC-MMTC, with effective coordination by Ranjit Kalra, Deputy Director, UGC-MMTC, ensuring the seamless conduct of all sessions.

The refresher course was coordinated by Prof. Tarsem Lal, Course Coordinator, with valuable assistance from Dr. Harleen, Deputy Course Coordinator. Their dedicated efforts ensured efficient academic planning and administrative management throughout the two-week duration.

Around 124 participants from universities and colleges across different regions of the country actively took part in the programme. The course aimed to enhance teaching competencies, research skills, pedagogical innovation, and overall professional development of faculty members in higher education.

The programme featured expert lectures, interactive sessions, seminars, and microteaching presentations.

Eminent academicians deliberated on contemporary themes such as artificial intelligence in teaching and research, innovative management practices, sustainable development, research methodology, business intelligence, time management, publication in high-impact journals, outcome-based education, NEP-related challenges, research ethics, academic well-being, and student diversity and inclusion.

Daily seminars and microteaching sessions provided opportunities for experiential learning, peer interaction, and reflective teaching practices. The organisers expressed gratitude to the University administration, UGC-MMTC, resource persons, participants, and the organising team.

The programme concluded with the confidence that the knowledge and skills gained would significantly contribute to improving teaching quality and research excellence across higher education institutions.

Youth commitment towards Swadeshi strengthens Atmanirbhar Bharat: Sat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: BJP J&K President and Rajya Sabha MP, Sat Sharma CA said that the enthusiastic participation of students clearly reflects the growing sense of national responsibility among the youth towards building an Atmanirbhar Bharat.

He stated that young minds today are aware that the future of India depends on supporting indigenous products and strengthening domestic industries.



BJP J&K President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma receiving Swadeshi Sankalp Patras.

Sat Sharma further said that Swadeshi is not merely a purchasing choice but a patriotic responsibility, which directly contributes to employment generation, economic stability, and national growth.

"When youth prefer Indian products, they strengthen local manufacturers and help reduce dependence on foreign goods," he said.

Sat Sharma added that students play a crucial role in shaping India's economic future and must become ambassadors of the Swadeshi

movement in their families, institutions, and communities.

He emphasized that this movement will empower small entrepreneurs, startups, and traditional industries across the country.

He also stated that the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Atmanirbhar Bharat can only be achieved when the younger generation actively participates in nation-building through conscious and responsible choices.

Sat Sharma said that the strong response to the

Swadeshi Sankalp Abhiyan proves that India's youth is ready to take leadership in creating a self-reliant, strong, and prosperous nation.

Rekha Mahajan said that the campaign had received an inspiring response from schools and students. She explained that the Swadeshi Sankalp Patras represent a collective promise by the youth to support indigenous products, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

She further said that encouraging students to adopt Swadeshi values is a powerful step toward shaping a strong, confident, and economically independent India.

She also highlighted that the programme was designed not just to raise awareness, but to create a long-term mindset change among young citizens. The submission of more than 3,000 Sankalp Patras stands as a symbol of public participation and trust in the Atmanirbhar Bharat movement.

Drug peddler arrested; 100 grams Charas recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
DODA: Doda Police apprehended one more drug peddler and recovered a charas-like substance weighing approximately 100-110 grams from his possession.

A police party of Police Station Doda, led by SI Mushtaq Ahmed, was performing routine naka duty at Gumpat Bridge, Pul Doda. During the naka, a motorcycle bearing registration number JK-02BE-7828, coming from Thathri towards Doda City, was intercepted. On being signaled to stop, the rider attempted to evade the police party but was promptly apprehended.

During checking, a black-colored polythene bag was recovered from the possession of the accused, containing a charas-like substance weighing approximately 100-110 grams.

The accused has been identified as Shoket Ali, S/o Abdul Rehman, R/o Amrit Garh, Chiralla, Tehsil Chiralla, District Doda.

Accordingly, a case FIR No. 280/2025 under Sections 8/20 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Doda, and further investigation has been taken up. The entire operation was carried out under the supervision of SSP Doda Sandeep Mehta, JKPS, DySP Hqrs Doda Sh. Krishan Raj, and SHO PS Doda Sh. Parvaiz Khanday.

Udhampur Police attach worth Rs 21 cr illegal drug properties

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: In a major crackdown under the provisions of the NDPS Act, Udhampur Police during the year 2025 has attached properties worth ₹21 crore in 28 NDPS cases, belonging to hardcore drug smugglers operating across J&K.

The attached properties include 21 Residential houses along with land, 02 shops, 01 flat, 47 vehicles, and 04 savings bank accounts all identified as assets raised from the proceeds of narcotics smuggling.

The Investigating Officers, during sustained enquiries, established that these assets were acquired through the illegal drug trade and were accordingly attached under Section 68(F) of the NDPS Act, thereby disrupting the financial networks of narcotics traffickers.

Hussain, R/o Murrah, FIR No. 13/2009 U/S 458/323/34 RPC; Mohd Aslam, S/o Ghulam Hussain, R/o Sangliani; FIR No. 108/2008 U/S 351/325/323 RPC; Burjo, S/o Faiz Akbar, R/o Chandimarh, FIR No. 09/2012 U/S 436 RPC; Mohd Afzal, S/o Mohd Rafiq, R/o Sailaan, FIR No. 34/2012 U/S 436/149/326/325/147/109 RPC and Nazir Ahmed, S/o Mohd Rafiq, R/o Sailaan, FIR No. 152/2014 U/S 452/147/324/323/427 RPC.

Burglary case solved; accused, arrested stolen property recovered

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KISHTWAR: District Police Kishtwar has successfully solved a burglary case with the arrest of the accused and recovery of stolen property, reaffirming its commitment towards crime control and public safety.

SSP Kishtwar Naresh Singh, while sharing the details, stated that on 26-12-2025, a written complaint was lodged by Rinku Devi W/o Sandeep Kumar, R/o Lachkazana, Kishtwar, regarding theft in her residential house. Acting promptly on the complaint, FIR No. 261/25 under Sections 331(4) & 305 BNS was registered at Police Station Kishtwar, and investigation was taken up immediately. During the course of investigation, a police team led by SHO PS Kishtwar Insp. Firdous Ahmed, assisted by PSI Sofi Ashraf, under the supervision of Addl. SP Kishtwar Sh. Pardeep Singh Gorla-JKPS, interrogated the suspected person. During sustained interrogation, the accused Touseef Ahmed S/o Parvaiz Ahmed, R/o Zela, Kishtwar, confessed to his involvement in the commission of the crime. On his disclosure, stolen property including cash amounting to ₹66,000/- and gold jewellery, along with an additional Rs 6,000 cash, was successfully recovered at his instance.

