

# People with vested interests misleading farmers: Kavinder

### 'Farmers' issues have best addressed by PM Modi'

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister, Kavinder Gupta on Wednesday said that the people having vested interests are misleading farmers to satiate their own cause.

In a statement issued to media persons, the senior functionary of the party accused the so-called farmers unions of swaying the naive tiller community to fulfill their vested political aspirations.

He asked the farmers to revisit their decision to support such entities which are forcing the Annadattas to confront against the dispensation which is standing tall in support of farmers as it has envisaged, conceived and crafted a number of welfare schemes for the tiller community to bail out the this section from poverty and has been rolling



out initiatives from time to time to double their income besides providing exclusive support apart from the centrally sponsored schemes meant for one and all in the country.

Kavinder said that the farmers' issues have been best addressed by PM Modi led Govt at the Centre.

He mentioned that the schemes and initiatives by the government like Kissan Sammaan Nidhi, Kissan Credit Card, Kissan Fasal Bima, Soil Health Card,

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSSY), National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), SVAMITVA Yojana, and many more such schemes have been providing benefits to all the farmers of the nation.

The former deputy Chief Minister said that the melancholy among the farmers is only because of propaganda by the entities having political vested interests because they have somehow spread a wrong narrative against the Modi Government on unfounded grounds.

He said that instead of becoming part of an unruly mob in the so-called protests, the need of time is that every single farmer should mull over the issues and himself or herself decide whether supporting so-called farmers unions is right or not.

# Dr Andrabi inspects Waqf properties in Akhnoor

### All abandoned vacant spaces will be rented out soon through auctions: Darakhshan



Chairperson JKWB Dr Darakhshan Andrabi paying obeisance at spiritual shrine in Akhnoor.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AKHNOOR: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Wednesday toured Akhnoor area in Jammu and inspected many Waqf managed properties.

She paid obeisance at some spiritual shrines also and took stock of the facilities at these shrines. Dr Andrabi met some devotees at the shrine of Baba Ghulam Shah and Balle Da Bagh to get the on the spot feedback regarding facilities and improvements required. During the tour Dr Andrabi spoke to media also and said that Waqf Board has upgraded facilities at all major shrine throughout J&K where many works are still going on, but now we are planning to reach out to places of remote places also and formulate a work plan for upgrading facilities here

also. "Now the properties of Waqf Board are being looked after in every area by the Board and streamlining of records and the usages are being ensured strictly as per the Waqf Act in vogue", said Waqf Chairperson. She said that all abandoned vacant spaces will be rented out soon through public auctions. Dr Andrabi also met some public delegations at Jiya Pota Ghat, Hari Ghat & Hari Mandir Park. She was accompanied by the Administrator Aabid Hussain, Tehsildar Waqf Board Fareed Ahmad, Naib Tehsildar Vaidya Sagar and General Secretary of BJP ST Morcha Khuda Baksh.

# Gaurav calls on CS Dulloo, submits memorandum; advocates for development of Jammu Region

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jammu, today held a constructive meeting with Atal Dulloo, Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir, to advocate for much-needed attention and development in the Jammu region.

During the meeting, Gupta presented a comprehensive memorandum, outlining key areas where development initiatives are essential to unlock the region's full potential.

Recognizing the significant strides in development and progress under Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo's leadership, Gaurav underscored the importance of extending these efforts to ensure equitable growth across all parts of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory. Gupta emphasized the historical neglect faced by Jammu Province in favor of focusing on other regions, particularly Kashmir. He highlighted the dire need to prioritize and promote tourism sites across the Jammu region, particularly in areas with untapped potential such as Dudu, Basantgarh, Patnitop, Bani, Bhasholi, Rajouri, Poonch, Udhampur, Bhadarwah, among others. He proposed leveraging successful initiatives, such as hosting international events like the G20 Summit, in Patnitop with an aim to promote picturesque areas of Jammu Province. In his memorandum, Gupta also highlighted the rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and economic potential of the Jammu region, calling for global recognition to attract investments, tourists, and collaborations. He sought



Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary CCI Jammu calling on CS, Atal Dulloo.

involvement of major private players in the tourism industry to invest in the development of these areas, citing their expertise and resources as invaluable assets in enhancing infrastructure and amenities. Additionally, Gupta expressed his appreciation for the intensified efforts towards the ongoing Artificial Lake project on River Tawi, highlighting its immense promise in enhancing the aesthetic appeal and recreational opportunities in the region. He also commended the Chief Secretary for his leadership and dedication to the advancement of Jammu and Kashmir, expressing optimism about the region's bright future under his guidance.

The Chief Secretary gave a patient hearing to the issues raised by Gaurav Gupta, acknowledging the importance of addressing the developmental needs of the Jammu region. He assured Gaurav of the administration's commitment to fostering inclusive growth and prosperity in all parts of the Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

# Annual Science Projects Exhibition 2023-24 held

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: May Fair Higher Secondary School's Annual Science Projects Exhibition 2023-24, themed "Global Science for Global Well-being," was organized on Wednesday.

Dr. Yasir Hamid Sirwal, Deputy Director, J&KBOSE, inaugurated the Exhibition along with Guests, Sandeep Sharma School Management Committee member, Vijay Kumar Basu-Chairperson & Abhey Basur Director, May Fair Schools & Sunny Nanda General Secretary (J&K Sports Speedball Association) were also present on the occasion.

The participation from young minds at May Fair Schools across grades 7 to



Students displaying science models during an exhibition.

12 responded to the challenge in the current global ground with inspiring projects and demonstrations that left the visitors in admiration.

Projects Wind Power and Chadrayaan of Aashita Class 9th and Vanshika & Suraiya Class 11th respectively bagged first prize

while Projects Dialysis and Smart City of Pawana Class 7th and Shivam Class 9th respectively got second prize and This prize was shared by the projects Phases of Moon and Renewable Energy Resources respectively of Ritu Class 10th and Ayushmaan , Kavya , Anish Class 8th.

# Power shutdown

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCJammu has informed that the power supply to IIT Jagti, Nagrota will remain affected on February 15 from 10 am to 3 pm.

# DBPS celebrates Basant Panchami

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha, Chankaya Chowk Parade, Jammu organised a function to celebrate the festival of Basant Panchami which marks the change of season in Jammu Division.

The function was held under the Chairmanship of President of DBPS Ved Parkash Sharma in which prominent persons of Jammu. Besides the members of the Sabha pertained the participants recited Bhajan Kirtan.

Sr: BJP Leader Chandher Mohan Sharma, NMC President Subash Shastri, former DC B.S. Janwal and Sr. member of the Sabha Advocate PC Sharma threw light on the importance of this festival and offered the prays of Mata Saraswati Ji.

Other presents were Pt. V.M. Magotra, N.C. Sharma, Satyanand Sharma, Former JMC Commissioner Soujanay Sharma, Retd. Col. Rajeev Khajuria, Shiv Ram Sharma, Jaganath Sharma, M.L. Padha, Pt. Barita Ram Sharma, Gurdas Sharma, Satpal Sharma, K.L. Sharma, Prem Balotra, Romesh Sharma, Sunil Sharma, S.S. Baru, Rajesh Bargotra, Devinder Sharma (Baboo), Surinder Sharma, Sham Mishra, Surinder Sharma and others. Halva Prashad was also distributed among the participants.

# Yogi leads KMDF delegation calls on CS Dulloo, submits memorandum



KMDF led by M.K. Yogi calling on CS, Atal Dulloo and presenting a memorandum.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The All Kashmiri Migrant Democratic Front (KMDF) led by its patron, M.K. Yogi called on Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo and presented a memorandum of demands to him outlining urgent demands for the Welfare and Rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants.

The memorandum outlined a series of demands aimed at addressing the longstanding grievances of the displaced Kashmiri community.

It demanded immediate revision of the monthly cash assistance to alleviate financial hardships faced by migrants, introduction of a new employment package for unemployed migrant youths to facilitate their return and rehabilitation in the Valley, expediting clearance of pending medical claims for migrants suffering from

chronic illnesses, The memorandum further demanded provision of soft drinking water supply to migrant camps, particularly in Jagti and Nagrota and to expedite provision of self-employment loans to empower migrant youths and overaged individuals economically.

It also sought temporary reactivation of the engineering wing within the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (RC) office to oversee development and maintenance works in migrant camps, installation of digital equipment and adequate staffing in medical centers to provide comprehensive healthcare services, implementation of a one-time settlement scheme and compensation for damaged property in the valley, reservation in both Central and State government jobs for Kashmiri migrant youths and equivalency of

migrant cards with Below Poverty Line (B.P.L) cards to ensure access to essential benefits and services.

Addressing various issues faced by PM Package employees, including transfer of medical cases, online work facilitation, pending promotions, timely salary disbursement, and provision of accommodation, the KMDF emphasized the importance of prompt action by the authorities to address these pressing issues and improve the living conditions of Kashmiri migrants.

The memorandum is signed by several representatives of the KMDF, including M.K. Yogi, Tej Krishan Dhar, Sunil Pandita, Pran Nath Pandita, Ashok Kumar Koul, Ashok Dhar, Anil Bhan, Vijay Kumar Mulsoo, Sarsothi Nath, Sanjay Raina, S.L. Koul, Bharat Kachroo, and others.

# 37th Convocation of IGNOU to be held on Feb 20

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: The 37th Convocation ceremony of IGNOU will be held on 20th February, 2024.

The Convocation ceremony is being organized at 39 Regional Centres across the Country including the Regional Centre Jammu.

The main function will be held at the New Delhi Headquarters of IGNOU.

The Live coverage of the Convocation ceremony will be broadcast through YouTube, Facebook, Gyanidhara and Gyandharshan channels.

The students who have completed their respective programmes of study in the Term End Examinations held in June 2023 and December 2023 are eligible to apply for receiving the Degree/Diploma/Certificate in the 37th Convocation. The Online portal for registration and remitting the requisite fee



has been thrown open and can be accessed following the link <https://onlineservices.ignou.ac.in/convocation/login.aspx> on IGNOU website [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in) under the Register Online drop down menu.

The fee per certificate is Rs.600 which can be paid online following the same link by means of Credit/Debit Card/Net Banking, etc.

A total of 12447 students from Regional Centre Jammu have qualified their respective programmes successfully and are eligible to receive Diplomas

and Degree Certificates under the 37th Convocation.

The programme wise break up of qualified students includes 5694 students of Master Degree programmes, 6232 students of Bachelor Degree programmes, 416 students of Diploma/Post Graduate Diploma programmes and 105 students of Certificate/Post Graduate Certificate programmes. In the 37th Convocation, the Degrees/Diplomas are also available through NAD/DigiLocker.

"As per the details provided by New Delhi HQ. of IGNOU, as many as 310 qualified students have submitted the requisite fee and consent to receive their respective Degree/Diploma certificates in person in the Convocation function at Regional Centre Jammu. The Convocation ceremony of Jammu region is going to be organized at the

Convention Centre, Circuit House, Canal Road, Jammu from 9AM onwards on 20th February, 2024 in which Degrees will be conferred upon the qualified candidates", said Dr. Jai Prakash Verma, Regional Director, Regional Centre Jammu.

The Press Note issued by the IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu stated that the participating students need to reach the venue by 8:30 AM and register themselves at the registration counter well in time in order to avoid chaos.

The male students should wear White / Off white or cream coloured Bharatiya Paridhan (Indian Dress) preferably made of Handloom / Khadi and female students should wear White / Off white or cream coloured Bharatiya Paridhan (Indian Dress) Sari or Salwar Kurta or Salwar Kameez, etc. preferably made of Handloom / Khadi.

# Beti Bachao Beti Padhao: inspiring journey of Sakshi

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Sakshi Raina's journey indeed encapsulates the essence of "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao," showcasing the triumph of determination and resilience against all odds.

From her humble beginnings in the village of Lamberi to her academic pursuits at the University of Leicester, her story is a testament to the power of perseverance and the unwavering support of family.

Facing the diagnosis of keratoconus at a young age could have easily derailed Sakshi's dreams, but instead, it became the catalyst for her remarkable journey of self-discovery and accomplishment.

Rather than letting her condition define her, Sakshi embraced it as a challenge to overcome, propelling her towards academic excellence and professional success.

Her dual master's



degrees in political science and mass communication, along with her contributions to platforms like Zee News, exemplify her dedication to education and her passion for media.

Despite the challenges posed by her condition, Sakshi's determination never wavered, ultimately leading to her acceptance into the prestigious University of Leicester—a testament to her academic prowess and unyielding spirit.

Throughout her journey,

Sakshi's father stood as a pillar of support, demonstrating the importance of familial encouragement in the pursuit of one's dreams. His unwavering belief in Sakshi's abilities, coupled with his financial support, enabled her to overcome the obstacles in her path and reach new heights of success.

As Sakshi embarks on this new chapter of her life, her story serves as an

inspiration to countless individuals facing challenges of their own. It is a reminder that with perseverance, determination, and the support of loved ones, anything is possible. Sakshi Raina's achievements not only bring pride to her family and her country but also serve as a shining example of the limitless potential that resides within each individual.

# Pulwama Balidan Diwas commemorated at CUJ



Central University of Jammu faculty paying tributes to Pulwama martyrs on Wednesday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Central University of Jammu (CUJ) solemnly observed Pulwama Balidan Diwas, commemorating the supreme sacrifice of our brave hearts who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

The event, held under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain, was a poignant tribute to the martyrs of the Pulwama attack.

Prof. Jain, along with faculty members, staff, and students, paid solemn floral tributes to the martyrs.

The event served as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by our armed forces and security personnel in ensuring the safety and security of our nation. As part of the commemoration, floral tributes were offered and moments of silence, to honor the memory of the fallen heroes.

The Vice Chancellor expressed heartfelt condolences to the families of the martyrs and reaffirmed the

university's commitment to preserving their legacy and upholding the values for which they sacrificed their lives.

# RMMC to hold free diabetes check-up camp on Feb 16

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Ramakrishna Mission Medical Centre, Udhewwala, Jammu, is organizing a free diabetes check-up camp on February 16, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This initiative aims to raise awareness about diabetes and provide essential healthcare services to the community.

Led by Dr. Sanjay Raina, MBBS, MD Medicine, PG in Diabetology, MRCP (UK), currently serving at Amrita Hospital, Delhi, the camp will offer free check-ups for blood sugar, HbA1c, blood pressure, and a full-body checkup comprising 65 parameters at a nominal fee of Rs 700, reduced from Rs 1400.

# FFMA pays tributes to martyred CRPF jawans



FFMA members paying tributes to Pulwama martyrs.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: To pay homage to the CRPF martyrs, who were martyred in a Fidayeen attack at Pulwama in 2019, the Freedom Fighters Memorial Association (FFMA) held a function at Maheshpura Chowk, here on Wednesday.

Rajiv Mahajan Chairman of the Association organized the

function. Floral and candlelight tributes were paid by showering petals, candles were lit in the honour of the Martyrs and a two-minute silence was observed in their honour.

Speaking on the occasion, the members said that Pakistan has become a "soar" in the civilized world, a country for breeding deadly terror-

ists a safe haven for international terrorists.

R.C Puri (Vice Chairman, Retd. K.A.S) said that our jawans were very much prepared to counter the terrorist activities by Pakistan and we the whole "Nation" were very much proud of Jawans.

Rajiv Mahajan said that the Army and para-military forces were the backbone of the country and this was the activeness and vigilance by our Jawans, that the whole of India sleeps comfortably they added the whole of India was with the army and para-military Jawans and were always with them in their happiness and sorrows.

The prominent who spoke on the occasion were Ved Gandotra, Karnail Chand, Pritam Sharma, Nirmal Kishore, K.L Varma, Parbhat Kapahi and others.

# Dr. Vikas assumes charge as ACD Jammu



Dr. Vikas Sharma assuming charge as Assistant Commissioner Development Jammu at Directorate of Rural Development Jammu on Wednesday.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**

JAMMU: Dr. Vikas Sharma on Wednesday assumed charge as Assistant Commissioner

Development (ACD) Jammu at Directorate of Rural Development Jammu.

He served as Deputy

Director Information PR Jammu prior to this and earlier served in various capacities in different departments.