

Former Mayor Rajendra Sharma extends support to Movement Kalki, strengthens ongoing protest

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Movement Kalki's ongoing protest received a significant boost on Tuesday as former Mayor Rajendra Sharma visited Amphala Chowk, Jammu, to extend his support to the movement. His presence infused new energy and strength into the cause.

The protest has been continuously running for 129 days, advocating for cow protection and the preservation of Sanatan Dharma.

On this occasion, Movement Kalki's Advisor Pritam Sharma and several key office bearers and supporters were present. The meeting focused on discussing future strategies and upcoming plans for the movement.

Rajendra Sharma praised the efforts of Movement



Former Mayor Rajendra Sharma briefing media in Jammu.

Kalki, stating that the organization is playing a crucial role in protecting Sanatan Dharma, ensuring cow protection, and promoting social welfare. He formally announced his full support for the movement and urged the public to actively participate in it.

He stated, "This move-

ment by Movement Kalki is not just for Jammu and Kashmir but serves as a message of social and religious awakening for all of India. It is a major step towards preserving Sanatan culture and creating a corruption-free society."

Movement Kalki's Advisor

Pritam Sharma emphasized that Rajendra Sharma's support has given new strength to the organization. He urged all Sanatanis to unite and become part of this sacred movement, raising their voices against evils like cow slaughter.

He also highlighted Rajendra Sharma's remarkable contributions during his tenure as Mayor, particularly in fighting corruption and ensuring transparency in educational institutions and government departments. His efforts helped curb bribery and corruption in schools, colleges, and government offices.

"Movement Kalki shares the same vision of creating a corruption-free society while upholding religious

and social values," said Pritam Sharma.

The event was attended by key members of Movement Kalki's Legal Advisory Board, including Advocate Someshwar Kohli, Board Members Pawan Sharma, Anuradha Yogi, Sunita Kundal, Antu Kotwal, Monika Sharma, Sapna Hindu, Neha Malhotra, Mela Ram, and several other prominent figures.

Additionally, a large number of media representatives, social activists, and Movement Kalki supporters were present at the gathering.

Movement Kalki leaders emphasized that this support will further strengthen the organization, and they remain committed to relentlessly pursuing their goals.

IYC hosts 'Young India Ke Bol' in J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Youth Congress successfully organized the 'Young India Ke Bol' event in Jammu & Kashmir here today at PCC Hq. under the leadership of National Secretary Maan Singh Rathore. The event saw enthusiastic participation from 47 contestants representing different districts of the region.

Young India Ke Bol is a flagship initiative of the Indian Youth Congress aimed at identifying and nurturing young spokespersons who can effectively represent the organization. As part of this initiative, a formal appointment letter will be issued to the selected candidates in the coming days, officially recognizing their roles and responsibilities.

Ravinder Singh Chouhan secured the first position, earning a cash prize of Rs 10,000 along with a certificate of achievement. Divya Sharma claimed the second position,



A winner being given certificate.

receiving a cash prize of Rs 7,500 and a participation certificate, while Faisal Iqbal Wani stood third. All participants were awarded certificates of appreciation for their contributions. The program was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Ravinder Kumar Sharma, Chief Spokesperson of JKPC & Ex-MLC; Ved Mahajan, Ex-Vice President of J&K Pradesh Congress Committee & Ex-MLC; Shashi Sharma, Namrata Sharma Ex General Secretary PCC & Spokesperson, Kapil Singh,

PCC Spokesperson; Prof. Pardeep Pandita; and other prominent figures. The event was meticulously organized by Rahul Tandon State General Secretary PYC J&K. A panel of professional jury members analyzed the speeches, and the winners were declared based on their evaluations.

The event underscored the commitment of the Indian Youth Congress to providing a platform for young voices, encouraging youth participation in constructive discourse and leadership.

Omar-led Govt is committed to development, progress of Border areas: Manhas

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Addressing a meeting of Block Khour at Village Dhon Chack in Chamb Assembly Segment of District Jammu Rural A, Ragbhir Singh Manhas District President Jammu Rural "A" said Omar Abdullah Government is committed to development and progress of the Border areas. The meeting was organized by Mohinder Singh Block President Khour and his teams.

In the meeting, local leaders emphasized the need of giving priority to the Border youth in employment and for improvement for living conditions of the Border areas.

Ragbhir Singh Manhas said that the problems brought in the meeting shall be put before the concerned quarters in the government



NC Block President Khour Mohinder Singh welcomed by party workers.

so that living conditions of the border areas could improve and he also endorsed the demand of the Border far giving special employment package.

Others who spoke on this occasion included Madan Lal Block President Akhnoor, Manga Sharma Block President Samoa, Devinder Singh Block President

Mathwar, Bishan Dass Block President Bhagat Block President Mandal, Devi Dyal Jogi Block Secretary Khour, Kuldeep Khour District President Jammu Rural A Women Wing, Vishawjeet Singh District Vice President Jammu Rural A YNC, Veer Ji Bhat Secretary Minority Cell and others.

YCET conducts placement drive for students

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A placement drive by KK Constructions & Builders and Tech. Mahindra was conducted for the students of Yogananda College of Engineering & Technology (YCET).

KK Constructions & Builders, a company of Engineers and team of fully dedicated experts specialized in civil structures, interiors, plumbing/electrical works, housing complexes, institutional projects, development work including infrastructure with roads and bridges, industrial structures.

The company's philosophy is based on innovation, quality and team work which make them in leading position.

Tech. Mahindra is an Indian multinational information technology services and consulting company that offers technology consulting and digital solutions to global enter-



Organisers along with selected students.

prises across industries, enabling transformative scale at unparalleled speed.

The Placement Cell of YCET played a pivotal role in organizing such event, which witnessed active participation from representatives of the participating company.

The college's focus on career counseling and industry-oriented skill development was evident, enabling students to excel during the placement

process.

The representatives from the company and Yogananda College of Engineering and Technology were involved to properly drive the placement process.

The students at YCET put in a lot of preparation towards the placement drive. The placement started with the Pre placement talk followed by Group Discussion and ended up with personal interview.

In the first round 32 students were screened out, during the second round 14 students were shortlisted out of which finally 8 students got

selected. Four students namely Aniket Rathore, Umar Fareed Jaral, Aryan Raina, Vinay Kumar Basson were from Civil Engineering where as four students namely Vikrant Singh Aithman, Sakshi Manhas, Komal Kumari, Sarthak Sharma were from Computer Science and Engineering.

The Session began with the welcome address given by Er. Rajnish Magotra, (HoD, Civil Engineering Department). He said that company's are world to us because they provide professional path to our students. The bouquet was

IIM Jammu inaugurates Trekking-Based MDP for Leadership Skills for NTPC Managers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu inaugurated an innovative trekking-based Management Development Programme (MDP) for NTPC's young leaders at the Prahalad Classroom on Tuesday.

The program, held from February 24 to 26, 2025, aims to enhance leadership skills through experiential learning in the lower Himalayas. The batch comprised 49 participants from across India.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Program Director, Dr. Ateeque Shaikh, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy (EE&C), and



Officials along with participants during the programme.

Dr. Chinmaya K. Swain, Program Director, IIM Jammu.

Speaking at the event, Prof. Jabir Ali emphasized that NTPC is the pride of India, playing a crucial role in the nation's progress. He noted that the program provides a collaborative learning platform, merging IIM Jammu's academic expertise with NTPC's practical insights. Reflecting on IIM Jammu's rapid growth from its transit

campus on Canal Road to its permanent campus at Jagti, he encouraged participants to actively engage in discussions and make the most of this unique learning opportunity. Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Program Director, underscored the limitless potential of human capacity, quoting Mark Twain: "The two most important days in life are the day you are born and the day you discover why." He encouraged participants to

seize the opportunities presented by this training program.

Welcoming the NTPC professionals, Dr. Ateeque Shaikh, Chairperson, EE&C, highlighted the program's uniqueness, thanked NTPC for their nominations, and introduced IIM Jammu's expanding executive education initiatives. He urged participants to immerse themselves in the learning experience while enjoying the

institute's vibrant campus.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Chinmaya K. Swain, followed by the National Anthem.

This one-of-a-kind leadership program integrates field-based experiential learning, focusing on trekking in the Himalayas, leadership empowerment, team building, sustainability, good governance, conflict resolution, strategic thinking, and digital transformation. Participants will also develop intrapreneurship skills, negotiation abilities, and leadership communication strategies.

Through such innovative initiatives, IIM Jammu continues to strengthen its role in shaping future-ready leaders, equipping them with the skills to drive meaningful contributions in both industry and society.

AJBRCEAK delegation meets MLA Sham Lal, urges early transfer policy & safe accommodation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A delegation from the All Jammu-Based Reserved Category Employees Association Kashmir (AJBRCEAK), led by its President, Anil Radha, met today with Hon'ble Sh. Sham Lal Sharma Ji, MLA of the Jammu North Constituency, to present their pressing demands. During the meeting, Anil Radha emphasized the urgent need for the early notification of a Comprehensive Transfer Policy, for which an empowered committee has already been constituted.

Henraj Lakhotra, Drafting Secretary of AJBRCEAK, raised concerns regarding Jammu-based reserved category teachers who have been posted in remote areas like Uri and



Delegation members calling on MLA Sham Lal Sharma.

Julha zones in Baramulla district for the past 12 years without a transfer.

Additionally, Vijay Kumar, another member of the association, highlighted the need for safe and secure accommodation for all Jammu-based reserved

category employees at the district level and called for their adjustment in safe zones or district headquarters within the Kashmir Valley.

Other members of the delegation included Ram Krishan Salgotra Ji and Anil Kumar Ji.

Devotion & artistry illuminate Day 2 of Maha Shivratri Mahotsav at Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The second day of the Maha Shivratri Mahotsav 2025 at Panjvaktra Mahadev Mandir was a mesmerizing blend of devotion and artistic brilliance, drawing devotees and art lovers alike.

As the evening unfolded, the temple reverberated with the Vedic chanting of mantras from the Shukla Yajur Veda by the students of Panjvaktra Mahadev Ved Pathshala. The sacred recitations filled the air with divine

rhythm, Sr. Amarjeet Singh on violin, Prabhat Bali & Master Ram on tabla, and Nirmal Sufi on harmonium. Later, an enchanting Bharatnatyam performance by Ms. Pallabi Dass Ghosh captivated the audience.

Through graceful movements and intricate expressions, she portrayed the divine essence of Lord Shiva, leaving everyone spellbound.

The Maha Shivratri Mahotsav 2025 will culminate tomorrow with the much-anticipated Shiv



Singers presenting devotional songs during the event.

energy, enhancing the spiritual ambiance of the Mahotsav. The highlight of the evening was a soulful semi-classical bhajan session by Dharmesh Nargotra, Dr. Roshni Shaminotra, Dr. Jasmeet Kour and Devengi Sharma. Accompanied by masterful musicians-Sh. Rakesh Anand on flute, Sh. Parshotam Kumar on

Vikas Gupta, attended the Mahashivratri Mahotsav at Ransoo in Reasi district. In his address, he emphasized the significance of such cultural and religious events in promoting Jammu & Kashmir's rich heritage and boosting tourism and invited everyone to partake in the celebrations.

The Mahashivratri Mahotsav features a series of cultural events and religious ceremonies, offering an enriching experience for visitors. This event serves as a vibrant celebration of faith, culture and community, inviting people from all backgrounds to unite in devotion and festivity.



MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi lighting the ceremonial lamp.

Bharti JKAS (Assistant Director Tourism, Jammu), Shashi Khajuria (Coordinator, Peer Kho Temple), Peer Rajinder Nath (Mahant, Peer Kho Temple), Dr. Deepak Abrol (Head, AOI), and Advocate Rajesh Gupta. In his address, Chief Guest Yudhvir Sethi underscored the profound significance of the Mahashivratri Mahotsav, extending a heartfelt invitation to the public to join in the celebrations. He encouraged everyone to immerse themselves in the region's rich cultural heritage and unite in promoting communal harmony and progress.

Director Tourism Jammu, Dr.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Department of Tourism, Jammu and Kashmir, under the guidance of Commissioner Secretary Tourism, J&K, Yasha Mudgal, organized the Mahashivratri Mahotsav in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages (JKAACL) and the district administrations of Jammu, Samba, and Reasi. This festival celebrates the region's rich cultural and religious heritage, focusing on revered temples such as Peer Kho and Panchvaktar Mahadev in Jammu, the sacred Shiv Temples at Purnmandal and Utterbehni in Samba, and the holy Shivkhori Shrine in Ransoo, Reasi. The four-day festivities at Peer Kho Cave Temple commenced on February 25, 2025, inaugurated by Chief Guest Yudhvir Sethi, MLA Jammu East, alongside dignitaries including Sunaina Sharma Mehta, JKAS, Joint Director Tourism, Jammu. Also present were Parvash Khajuria (Income Tax Officer), Sugandhi Banotra



CUJ officials during the meeting in Jammu on Tuesday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Centre for Molecular Biology (CMB) at Central University of Jammu, established in 2016, recently hosted its annual meeting of the Advisory Committee for the DBT Government of India-supported M.Sc. Biotechnology program. This meeting was chaired by Prof. Sanjeev Jain, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu.

The M.Sc. Biotechnology program, introduced by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, commenced in 2020 and has been running successfully with financial support until the academic year 2026-2027.

Admission to this program is based on the Graduate Aptitude Test (GAT-B) conducted annually by the National Testing Agency (NTA), and each selected student is granted a monthly fellowship of Rs 5000 for the entire two-year duration.

The meeting was attended by distin-

guished members, including Prof. Amitabha Bandopadhyay from the Department of Bioengineering, IIT Kanpur; Prof. Salgotra from the Department of Biotechnology, SKUAST Jammu; Anil Suri, President of the Industrial Organization, Bari Brahmana, Jammu; and all faculty members of CMB.

The session witnessed an insightful presentation of the annual report by Prof. Mushtaq Ahmed, Project Investigator, who shared key updates on the program's progress.

In his report, Prof. Ahmed highlighted that DBT had extended the program until the academic session 2025-2027, following a positive evaluation of its performance over the past five years.

Prof. Sanjeev Jain, while chairing the meeting, expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the dedicated faculty of CMB in successfully running the program and in ensuring its continued growth and success.