

## !! Continuations from Page 1 !! BHU nurtured spirit...

in the monograph prepared during Amrit Mahotsav. He said the monograph had rightly observed that the students of BHU were not mere scholars; they were agents of change.

The Monograph had said: "BHU has emerged as an important partner in India's economic development efforts. BHU became a breeding ground for revolutionary ideas, instilling a sense of patriotism and activism in its students, many of whom went on to become prominent figures in India's fight for freedom. BHU has not only focused on providing a world-class education to Indian women, but it has also defied the oppressive colonial regime by nurturing them to become future leaders, achievers, and thinkers. The spirit of BHU, with its unwavering dedication to the nation, remains etched in the annals of anti-colonial history, forever igniting the flame of inspiration within future generations. It urges them to relentlessly strive for greatness and to uphold the cherished values of freedom, unity, and progress".

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor also lauded the efforts of the BHU's distinguished alumni and human capital for their accomplishments and valuable contributions to path-breaking inventions and creating a vibrant ecosystem that has driven widespread social and economic changes across the world.

He also extended his hearty greetings to all on the auspicious occasion of Basant Panchami and Saraswati Puja.

## Most middle class...

bloom in Delhi." Lotus is BJP's poll symbol.

Slamming the Aam Aadmi Party government in the capital for its alleged false promises and corruption, he said its policies have led to closing of factories, adding that those who have looted people will have to account for it.

He also promised to act tough on alleged corruption in the AAP government and make them repay.

Modi said the AAP knows how people of Delhi are angry with them and hate them and now they have resorted to "spreading falsehood".

"The AAP-da government stands unmasked and exposed before the people of Delhi now. But, they are again and again seeking votes on the same false promises. Delhi's people will no longer suffer such falsehood," he said.

While on the one hand is 'AAP-da' which stands for false promises, on the other is 'Modi's guarantees', the prime minister said.

Modi said be it the poor or the middle class, the life of every family should be prosperous, and Delhi will get such a double-engine government which instead of fighting, works for the welfare of people and ensures that their dreams are fulfilled.

"An AAP-da government should not come in Delhi even by mistake as it could destroy another five years here. We are seeing how ahead of the Delhi elections, the straws of the 'jhadoo' are scattering," he said while referring to some AAP MLAs jumping ship to the BJP.

His government at the Centre, he asserted, has stood for strengthening the four pillars of poor, farmers, youth and women, and the Budget is the guarantee of fulfilling 'Modi's guarantees'.

The Budget's focus on employment generating sectors like tourism and manufacturing will benefit the youth, he said.

Modi also spoke of welfare promises made in the BJP manifesto, including for senior citizens and women, to highlight the benefits a BJP government in the national capital will bring to them.

When Modi gives a guarantee, he puts his heart, mind and soul into fulfilling it, the prime minister said.

With the middle class, including salaried employees, making up for a significant section of voters, the prime minister said his government takes decisions which meets their dreams and aspirations.

He cited examples of previous Congress regimes, where they would have to pay a large chunk of their incomes back to the government as income tax.

He said during Nehru's tenure one would have to pay 25 per cent of Rs 12 lakh earned as taxes and during Indira Gandhi's tenure one would have to pay back a substantial amount too, but not any more.

"The Congress governments imposed tax only to fill its coffers, but the BJP government opened its coffers to help increase people's capabilities," he said.

Taking on the AAP's claims, the prime minister told people that no jhuggi will be demolished in Delhi and no welfare scheme shut if the BJP comes to power in Delhi.

Reaching out to people from Purvanchal, Modi noted that he is an MP from the region, a reference to Varanasi.

He added that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government is working day and night to develop Bihar and mentioned several state-specific proposals in the Budget.

Expressing confidence about the BJP's win, Modi said, "You can note it down that the BJP government will be formed in Delhi on February 8, and by March 8 on International Women's Day, women will start receiving Rs 2,500 in their bank accounts."

Women, he said, have worked as his protective shield and have made a big contribution in ensuring the third term of his government at the Centre.

Those who live in 'sheesh mahal' cannot relate to a poor family's jhuggi or a middle class family's 2BHK flat, Modi said, in a swipe at former chief minister and AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal.

The AAP has committed scams and corruption in every field, including in health measures for people, the prime minister claimed.

With several AAP leaders, including sitting MLAs who were not given ticket by the party in the polls, quitting it, Modi said they have realised the massive anger people have for the party.

## 11-year-old...

taken to a hospital where Pradeep Kumar was declared dead while his six-year-old sister Monika Devi, who sustained serious injuries, is undergoing treatment, police said.

## Big wave against...

Nirmala Sitharaman in the Union Budget presented on Saturday.

Shah claimed that there is a "big wave" against the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Delhi in these elections and its leaders are aware of it.

"People are going to sweep the AAP out with a 'jhadoo' (broom, which is also the AAP's poll symbol) this time... It's because they know there is a 3G government in Delhi," he told the gathering.

The senior BJP leader was campaigning for his party candidate Mohan Singh Bisht, contesting from Mustafabad assembly seat.

Shah alleged that AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal did not fulfill the promises he made to the people.

"The AAP is a party which betrays people and makes false promises. On the contrary, the BJP and our leader Modi ji do what they say," he added.

The time has come to free Delhi from this "AAP-da" (disaster), liquor mafia, scams and root out 'kattar beimaans' (outright dishonest), Shah said as he appealed to the people to give their mandate to the BJP for the development of the city.

"Don't be lazy even a bit or else those responsible for (Delhi) riots will return after getting elected... You have to decide whether you want those who threw Delhi into riots or those who saved (the city)," the home minister told the gathering.

Later, Shah also held a roadshow in Rohtash Nagar and addressed a public meeting in Karawal Nagar, campaigning for BJP candidates Jitendra Mahajan and Kapil Mishra contesting from these assembly seats respectively.

Addressing the public meeting in Karawal Nagar, Shah alleged that Kejriwal has "deceived" all 'purvanchalis' and people from Uttarakhand living in Delhi by not fulfilling his promise of cleaning the Yamuna river.

"He had said he would clean Yamuna. He did not make any effort, nor did he let us do anything for cleaning the river. Yamuna is so dirty.. Make a BJP government, I will come to take a holy dip with you in Yamuna during Chhath puja after two years."

He also targeted Kejriwal on the 'Sheesh Mahal' scam and other cases of alleged corruption during the AAP's rule in Delhi, and claimed the former chief minister is set to be defeated by the BJP candidate in the New Delhi assembly seat.

"Time up for your lies, Kerjival ji. The AAP-da is set to be ousted on February 8," he said.

## Maha Kumbh: UP...

deployed, particularly on pontoon bridges, to avoid any mishap.

Other key measures include increased security at the New Yamuna and Shastrri bridges, deployment of armed state and central police forces at major crowd points like Tikarmani Turm and Phaphamau Bridge, and strategic traffic diversions.

Rail and bus operations have been streamlined, with additional trains and shuttle services for devotees. The Prayag Junction and key city intersections are under heightened security, while extra forces including Rapid Action Force and Provincial Armed Constabulary personnel, have been stationed at sensitive locations.

The government aims a "zero-error" safety approach, ensuring an orderly and secure 'Amrit Snaan' experience, according to an official statement.

Two senior IAS officers Ashish Goyal and Bhanu Chandra Goswami, who were

part of the team that successfully conducted the 2019 Ardh Kumbh, have been called in to oversee the smooth conduct of the Mela. They have joined Mela Adhikari Vijay Kiran Anand, forming a trio that was part of the mega fair six years ago.

The chief minister visited Prayagraj on Saturday, his first since the tragic crowd crush at Sangam Nose on Mauni Amavasya (January 29) which left 30 dead and 60 injured. Police said overcrowding caused the stampede as the devotees jostled for space, breaking a barrier and falling onto those sitting and waiting on the other side to take a holy dip.

On that day, more than seven crore people had taken the holy dip -- the highest for any single day -- although the government expected 10 crore pilgrims.

Adityanath inspected the incident site and went to hospitals to check on the condition of the injured. He also reviewed the Basant Panchami snan preparations and instructed officials to ensure the event is executed "without any errors".

Rupam Chandra, a devotee returning after taking a holy dip, told PTI, "After bathing at the Sangam ghat, devotees are being cleared away. Police are blowing their whistles in every direction to ensure the ghats are emptied. That is why we left immediately after bathing."

An official from the Mela administration said the entire police force has been instructed to pay special attention to crowd control throughout the fair area.

Peethadheeswar of Juna Akhara, Swami Avdheshanand Giri, spoke about the Amrit Snaan on Basant Panchami. "After Mauni Amavasya, all Akharas will participate in the Amrit Snaan on Basant Panchami as per the predetermined sequence. We are extremely delighted and proud of the incredible and divine arrangements of the Maha Kumbh."

The crowd of devotees for the Basant Panchami Snaan has started swelling, and by 6 PM on Sunday, 1.23 crore people had already taken a holy dip in the Ganga and at the Sangam. Since January 13, more than 33.61 crore devotees have performed the Ganga Snaan, according to official figures.

Meanwhile, President of the Akhil Bharatiya Akhara Parishad, Mahant Ravindra Puri, urged devotees to remember that, according to belief, the five 'kos' (approximately 10 km) area of Prayagraj is considered the Sangam.

Therefore, devotees can attain the spiritual benefits of the Maha Kumbh by bathing anywhere from Phaphamau to Arail. "The Sangam area has limited space, so I request all devotees to avoid unnecessary crowding in the Sangam region," Puri added.

Basant Panchami marks the third and the final Amrit Snaan date at the Kumbh.Two more special snaans are on February 12 (Maghi Purnima) and 26 (Mahashivratri).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit the Mahakumbh Nagar on February 5, and therefore, the next few days are expected to be challenging for the Mela administration and the police.

The Amrit Snaan is the grandest and most sacred ritual of the Maha Kumbh Mela, attracting millions of pilgrims from around the world to the banks of the Triveni Sangam. Devotees believe that taking a dip during such special celestial alignments washes away their sins and paves their path to the 'moksha' or salvation.

Meanwhile, the entire Prayagraj division's medical infrastructure was put on high alert on Sunday with the CM's direction that all doctors across the Mahakumbh Nagar and the entire division remain vigilant to ensure the safety and well-being of devotees.

"Over 1,200 medical personnel are fully prepared in the Mahakumbh Nagar to provide immediate assistance. The entire medical force will remain stationed at the fairground and will only be relieved after February 6. Additionally, a backup plan has been put in place to address any emergencies," the government said in a statement. Similarly, Swarup Rani Nehru Hospital and Tej Bahadur Sapru Hospital have been placed on high alert.

"At Swarup Rani Nehru Hospital, 500 staff members have been put on standby, most existing patients have been discharged, and 150 beds have been reserved for emergencies. Sixty resident doctors have been placed on 24-hour alert mode, 30 CT scan machines are ready, along with MRI and ultrasound facilities, ensuring all necessary tests can be conducted. A 200-unit blood bank has also been set up at SRN Hospital, and all facilities are linked to an alarm system for quick response," it added.

Dr. Gaurav Dubey, the nodal officer for medical services at the Maha Kumbh fair, said that the government's emergency response system, particularly ambulance services, is playing a crucial role.

"In case of need, patients will be transferred to Swarup Rani Nehru Hospital or Tej Bahadur Sapru Hospital (Bailey Hospital). Medical teams across Prayagraj, the division, and Mahakumbh Nagar are fully prepared," he said.

"The chief minister has instructed that no doctor or medical staff should leave their post until February 5. Over 1,200 doctors and paramedical staff have been deployed for the event," he added.

The government said accommodation and food arrangements have been made for doctors and medical staff at Swarup Rani Nehru Hospital to ensure their immediate availability.

## Land dispute turns...

dispute in Lale Da Bagh area.

Police said, the incident, occurred on February 1, involving confrontation over 21.5 marlas of land between Rekha Devi and Brij Raj Singh, the brother of the land's previous owner, Brij Bhushan Singh Jamwal. During the altercation, Brij Raj Singh allegedly fired three shots from a firearm. Fortunately, no injuries were reported, police said.

FIR 31/2025 has been registered at Domana Police Station under sections 109, 191(2), 329(3) BNS, and 3/25 of the Arms Act. The police has arrested one accused in this connection so far while two others are still absconding.

## Delhi Govt refused...

India Against Corruption movement -- went against the wishes of Anna Hazare to form a political party, he claimed.

"When the anti-corruption agitation was going on under Anna Hazare's leadership, they said they would not form a political party... Anna Hazare kept saying 'don't do this, don't break the people's trust'..." Singh said.

He also accused the AAP supremo of not keeping his promises.

While claiming that the Congress had no existence in Delhi's politics, Singh said, "Rahul Gandhi claimed he would die but not compromise with the BJP.. Did any one ask you to compromise with the BJP?"

Slamming Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, the veteran BJP leader said, "He made certain remarks about the Maha Kumbh... Can he make such remarks against other religions?"

## Over 800 delegates...

conference was conducted under the supervision of National President IAPC, Dr Sushma Bhatnagar. Dr Lahori further said this was the first time in the history of IAPCON that 285 paper presentations were presented by doctors, paramedics, and volunteers, which included oral and poster presentations.

A gold medal for the best-performing doctor and paramedic was awarded by IAPC.

The conference focused on evidence-based practice and resolved to reinforce the importance of evidence-based practice in palliative care, with a focus on integrating research into clinical practice. "The conference facilitated meaningful exchanges between Indian and international experts, paving the way for future collaborations and knowledge sharing," Dr Lahori said. The conference provided a platform for healthcare professionals to enhance their skills and knowledge in palliative care, ultimately improving patient outcomes, he added. Regarding policy implications, Dr Lahori highlighted that IAPCON 25 underscored the need for policy reforms and advocacy efforts to strengthen palliative care services in India. IAPCON 25 has set the stage for a new era in palliative care in India, with a renewed focus on evidence-based practice, international collaboration, and capacity building, he said.

"The conference has also underscored the importance of policy advocacy and community engagement in promoting palliative care services," he added.

Outlining the future agenda of IAPC, Dr Lahori said "as we build on the momentum generated by IAPCON 25, we remain committed to advancing the field of palliative care in India. We look forward to continued collaboration, innovation, and progress in the years to come." The conference saw participation from 800 delegates from across India and the globe, 50 international faculty members from 20 countries, 103 scientific sessions, and 8 plenary lectures, in addition to 14 pre-conference workshops on various aspects of palliative care in different medical institutions of Jammu.

Dr Lahori said IAPCON 25 has been a game-changer with delegates appreciating the efforts of the organizing team for their warm hospitality and acknowledged the restored peace in Jammu and Kashmir, which will pave the way for future international medical events. The President of the J&K chapter and the organizing secretary expressed gratitude to the delegates and faculty for their support in making the event successful.

He also thanked Dr. Shakti Gupta, Director AIIMS Jammu, for his continuous support in making the conference successful.

## India under Modi...

would play a pivotal role in advancing precision oncology, cardiovascular genomics, and genetic screening for rare disorders.

Union minister Singh stressed the need for an India-specific genomic database, highlighting the country's unique genetic diversity.

"India is a subcontinent in itself, with more than 4,600 distinct demographic groups. Our gene sequencing efforts, which have already mapped 10,000 healthy individuals across 99 communities, will help create a robust dataset tailored to Indian-specific health challenges," he said.

Singh reaffirmed the government's commitment to completing 10 lakh genome sequences in the coming years to enable more accurate disease prediction and personalised interventions. He also pointed out the resurgence of infectious diseases alongside the rise in non-communicable diseases, urging a hybrid approach that combined traditional diagnostics with genetic insights. He said a key objective of the centre was to make precision medicine affordable and accessible to the masses.

While personalised treatments have traditionally been costly, AIIMS - Jammu aims to leverage indigenous research and government-backed biotech initiatives to bring down costs and integrate precision medicine into public healthcare programmes, he said.

The minister highlighted initiatives such as Ayushman Bharat, which has provided health coverage to hundreds of thousands, and the recently launched Bio-E3 policy that focuses on biotechnology for economic growth, environmental sustainability, and employment generation.

"The government's National Research Foundation (Anusandhan) will play a crucial role in funding next-generation research in genomics and personalised medicine," he said. Singh elaborated on how precision medicine could be a game-changer for cancer treatment, enabling doctors to design targeted therapies instead of relying solely on conventional chemotherapy and radiation.

He cited India's recent success in conducting the first-ever genetic therapy trial for haemophilia at CMC Vellore where patients showed a 60 per cent improvement in clotting factor production, with zero bleeding episodes.

The trial results, acknowledged globally and published in the New England Journal of Medicine, underscored India's rising stature in genetic research, he said and added genomic medicine would play a crucial role in tackling lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, now affecting younger age groups in India.

Singh said a recent study found that the prevalence of Type 2 diabetes in Jammu was slightly higher than the national average, making AIIMS - Jammu's research even more critical in developing effective intervention strategies. Singh reaffirmed the government's vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047, where health care was not only curative but also predictive and preventive. "This is just the beginning. The future of medicine is personalised, and India is well on its way to leading the world in genomic healthcare," he said.

## Khatana hails Union Budget 2025 as public-friendly, calls it PM Modi's masterstroke

### STATE TIME NEWS

NEW DELHI: Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP, Er Gulam Ali Khatana, has welcomed the Union Budget 2025, terming it as public-friendly and inclusive, catering to all sections of society, including farmers, small and medium businesses, women, and employees.

In his reaction to the budget presented by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Khatana said that it provides significant relief to citizens across the country.

Highlighting the key aspects, he emphasized that the government has enhanced the income tax exemption slab, allowing individuals earning up to Rs 12 lakh annually to be free from tax obligations.

"This budget is a masterstroke by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, ensuring that every section of society benefits from the government's pro-people policies. The tax relief will provide a much-needed financial boost to middle-class families, while measures for small businesses and farmers will further strengthen India's economy," Khatana stated.

He further lauded the initiatives in the budget that focus on economic growth, social welfare, and employment generation. "The budget reflects the vision of a developed India, with provisions to uplift entrepreneurs, create job opportunities, and empower women economically," he added.

Khatana asserted that the budget demonstrates the Modi government's commitment to inclusive development, reinforcing the country's economic resilience while ensuring financial relief for the common people.

## Chamber of Traders Federation elects new leadership for 2025-27

### STATE TIME NEWS

JAMMU: The Chamber of Traders Federation has successfully conducted its elections, with the results officially announced by Election Commissioner Vinod Sachdeva in the presence of election committee members Parveen Gupta, Balvinder Singh, Devinder Gupta, and Kanwaljeet Singh. The election process witnessed active participation, reflecting the strong democratic spirit within the federation.

As per the official results, Neeraj Anand has been re-elected as President, reaffirming his leadership and commitment to the traders' community. His continued tenure is expected to bring further stability and progress to the organization.

The newly elected team for the term 2025-27 includes Shiv Kr. Gupta as Senior Vice President, Tushar Mahajan as Vice President, Dinesh Gupta as Secretary General, Ajay Gupta as Treasurer, Sachin Gupta as Secretary, and Rahul Sharma as Joint Secretary.

The election event was attended by a large number of trade leaders and federation heads, symbolizing unity and enthusiasm among the traders. Among the prominent attendees were the federation's founder Yashpal Gupta, along with Attar Singh, Vinod Mahajan, Kailash Nagar, Raman Gupta, and S.K. Sharma, who extended their best wishes to the newly elected team.

Their presence highlighted the significance of the federation's role in strengthening the business community. Speaking on the occasion, President Neeraj Anand expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the members for their continued trust and support. He emphasized the federation's unwavering commitment to addressing traders' concerns, advocating for business-friendly policies, and strengthening the interests of the trading community. He assured that under his leadership, the federation would continue to work towards a more progressive and business-friendly environment.

## NCC Cadets plant 960 saplings in CUJ campus

### STATE TIME NEWS

JAMMU: In a remarkable environmental initiative, the NCC cadets (SD/SW) of 4 J&K BN, JK&L Directorate, successfully planted 960 saplings and plants within the Central University of Jammu campus. The plantation drive was led by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sanjeev Jain, who emphasized the importance of sustainability and environmental conservation. The event was held under the guidance of the ANO Lt. Dr. Pankaj Mehta, who played a key role in coordinating the initiative. Several officials were present to support the cause, including Prof. Asit Mantry, Head of the Department of Educational Studies, Estates Officer, Vikas Gupta, and many faculty and staff members of the department of educational studies also actively participated, reinforcing the commitment to a greener and cleaner campus. The plantation drive marks an important step toward the University's efforts in promoting environmental awareness and contributing positively to the local ecosystem. With this initiative, the Central University of Jammu aims to promote a sense of responsibility towards nature among its students and staff.

## Drug peddler apprehended with 14 grams of heroin

### STATE TIME NEWS

RAJOURI: Continuing its efforts to curb drug menace in the district, Rajouri Police has apprehended a drug peddler and recovered narcotic substances from his possession.

During a naka checking at Mohra near Takya, a police party from Police Station Kandil intercepted a person moving in a suspicious manner. The individual has been identified as Kabir Ahmed son of Ghulam Mohd, resident of Rather Mandi Draj, Kotranka, Rajouri.

During his personal search, 14 grams of a Heroine like Narcotic substance recovered from his possession. In this regard a case FIR No.13/2025 under Sections 8/21/22 of the NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Kandil, and further investigation is underway.