

## Dr. Tahir Choudhary backs PM Modi's stand on Pakistan, condemns cross-border terrorism

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP spokesperson Dr. Tahir Choudhary has strongly supported Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent remarks on Pakistan, lauding the PM's firm stance against terrorism and his commitment to peace.

Dr. Choudhary hailed PM Modi's statements during his interaction with US-based podcaster Lex Fridman, where the Prime Minister highlighted Pakistan's continued hostility despite India's repeated attempts to foster peace.

"Prime Minister Modi's invitation to then-Pakistani PM Nawaz Sharif in 2014 was a historic and noble gesture aimed at fostering peace. However, Pakistan responded with hostility and continued its proxy war against India," Dr. Choudhary said.

Dr. Choudhary strongly condemned Pakistan's long-standing role in promoting terrorism, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir.

He accused Pakistan of consistently fueling vio-



lence in the region, targeting innocent civilians, and destabilizing peace through cross-border infiltration and terror-related activities.

"For decades, Pakistan has remained the breeding ground for global terrorism, causing immense suffering not just in India but across the world," Dr. Choudhary asserted.

He further emphasized that Pakistan's harboring of notorious terrorists, exposed its deep involvement in terror networks.

Dr. Choudhary particularly highlighted the plight of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, stating that they have borne the brunt of

Pakistan-sponsored terrorism for years. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir have endured unimaginable pain due to Pakistan's malicious designs. Countless innocent lives have been lost, and families shattered because of their continued attempts to disrupt peace," he stated.

BJP spokesperson reaffirmed that under PM Modi's leadership, India has adopted a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and has taken decisive steps to counter these threats.

"Our security forces and citizens have made tremendous sacrifices, and their efforts will not go in vain. Pakistan must realize that India will not allow terrorism to thrive on its soil," Dr. Choudhary warned.

Dr. Choudhary urged the global community to take serious note of Pakistan's destructive role in fostering unrest and called for stronger international cooperation to dismantle terror networks operating from across the border.

## Ishar Dass Sangra appointed as Provincial Convenor of All J&K LPGEF



### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Provincial Committee of All J&K Low Paid Government Employees Federation (LPGEF), Jammu, held a meeting on Monday under the chairmanship of Amar Nath.

The key decision taken during the meeting was the appointment of Ishar Dass Sangra as the Provincial Convenor of the Federation following the withdrawal of Achal Dev Singh from the position due to domestic reasons. His decision was unanimously accepted by all members present.

To further streamline the operations of the Federation, the committee also decided to form a City

Committee for Jammu to oversee activities within the city. The newly formed committee includes Chairman R.K. Maini and Members-R.S. Awal, Jugal Sharma, Sandeep Sharma, Amrik Singh, and Gaur Fani.

The meeting witnessed active participation from prominent members of the Federation, including R.K. Maini, J.S. Awal, Amrik Singh, Jugal Sharma, Ishar Dass Sangra, Amar Nath, Surjeet Singh, Ram Paul Sharma, Kabla Singh, Salim, Ghulam Mohd, Om Parkash Choudhary, Hans Raj Sharma, Anil Verma, Harbushan Bharti, Babu Ram Sharma, Tasaraf Hussain Shah, Nazir Hussain, Gaur Fani, and Balwant Raj.

Expressing confidence in the newly appointed Provincial Convenor, members emphasized the need for strong leadership to address the issues of low-paid government employees and ensure their rights are safeguarded.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by Amar Nath, who presided over the session.

## MLA Akhnoor inaugurates road widening project to boost connectivity to Sumah Devsthan



MLA Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat inaugurating road widening work.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

AKHNOOR: In a major step towards enhancing infrastructure and promoting religious tourism, MLA Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat, on Monday inaugurated the balance work of widening, improvement, and upgradation project of the Akhnoor to Sumah Road in Block Akhnoor under RIDF XXV Phase-II (NABARD). This crucial road serves as a key route to Sumah Devsthan, a revered religious tourism destination, and its development is set to greatly improve accessibility for devotees and visitors alike.

The project, spanning a length of 4.50 km, has been sanctioned with an allotted cost worth Rs 89 Lakhs.

Speaking at the occasion, MLA Mohan Lal Bhagat highlighted the importance of the road in promoting religious tourism and improving local connectivity. He directed the engineers and contractor to ensure speedy completion with top-quality standards, ensuring the project's timely delivery for the benefit of pilgrims and locals. The MLA also addressed concerns regarding electric poles obstructing the road and assured that the matter has already been taken up with the concerned department, promising their relocation within days.

The inauguration ceremony saw the presence of several prominent personalities, including AEE Sunil Baogia,

JE Rakesh Radha, JE Deepak Gupta, Ex Sarpanch Manisha Devi, Ex Sarpanch Ashwani Sharma, Ex Sarpanch Kuldeep Singh, Madan Lal, Rajay Sharma, Panch Sarpanch Tilak Raj, Ex Panch Sanjeev, Ex Panch Satveer Kour, Naib Sarpanch Amit Sharma, Vishal Sapolia, Anil Sharma, Vishal Sharma, and KD Sharma.

Locals expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the MLA for addressing long-standing infrastructure needs and ensuring smoother access to Sumah Devsthan. This project is expected to provide a significant boost to the region's religious tourism potential and overall development, marking a new era of progress for Akhnoor.

## JPDCL completes 1500 mark on PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana



Officials of JPDCL during the meeting in Jammu.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a significant achievement, Jammu Power Distribution Company Ltd (JPDCL) has completed 1500 installations under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana.

This initiative aims to promote rooftop solar installations across India, providing free electricity and promoting sustainable energy practices.

The PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, targets to install solar panels in one crore households, supplying power

and allowing excess electricity output to be sold back to the grid. Eligible households can receive subsidies ranging from Rs. 36,000 to Rs. 94,800, depending on the solar plant capacity.

JPDCL's accomplishment is a testament to the growing adoption of renewable energy sources in Jammu.

The MD JPDCL efforts to facilitate smooth implementation, in collaboration with the District Level Committee, have been instrumental in achieving this milestone.

As part of this initiative, five villages in Jammu dis-

trict have been shortlisted for large-scale implementation under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. The village with the highest adoption rate will receive a grant of Rs 1 crore as Central Financial Assistance.

This achievement underscores JPDCL's commitment to promoting sustainable energy solutions and reducing reliance on non-renewable energy sources. Meanwhile, Sub-Division Gandhi Nagar leading in Jammu division with 120 installations followed by Sub-Division Shastri Nagar with 111 installations.

## Advocate Purnima raises concerns over insufficient healthcare infrastructure at GMC Jammu

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Advocate Purnima Sharma, Spokesperson J&K BJP and former Deputy Mayor, highlighted pressing concerns regarding the inadequate healthcare infrastructure at Government Medical College (GMC) Jammu. She emphasized that GMC Jammu is currently overburdened, catering to the medical needs of residents from ten districts, underscoring the urgent need for infrastructural enhancements.

Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge, J&K BJP and Arti Koul, Office Incharge, BJP Mahila Morcha were also present in the Press Conference held at party headquarter, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

Purnima Sharma pointed out that the existing infrastructure at GMC Jammu is insufficient to meet the growing healthcare demands of the region. She noted that the hospital presently operates with only one CT scan machine and lacks a dedicated trauma center. Consequently, patients requiring CT scans face waiting periods extending up to two months, leading to delayed



BJP Spokesperson, Advocate Purnima Sharma briefing media.

diagnoses and treatments.

Purnima Sharma also expressed grave concerns regarding the deplorable conditions of Shri Maharaja Gulab Singh (SMGS) Hospital in Jammu. She highlighted that the hospital's infrastructure is severely inadequate, leading to overcrowding where pregnant women, even infants, have been forced to share a single bed, even in critical areas like the emergency ward. This overcrowding not only compromises the quality of care but also poses significant health risks to women as well as vulnerable children. Purnima Sharma asked the Omar Govt to address these pressing issues to enhance the hospital's capacity

Jammu currently only offers OPD services, and surgeries are still being performed at GMC Jammu. While the government has initiated a cancer hospital, she requested for an associated dedicated cardiac research institute toward comprehensive healthcare development. She also questioned the NC leadership regarding the status of the State Health Policy, which was prominently featured in their election manifesto. She highlighted several unfulfilled promises made by the NC, including formulation of a comprehensive State Health Policy; creation of a Medical Trust providing free insurance coverage of Rs 5,00,000 per annum for terminal diseases such as cancer, heart ailments, and kidney transplants; establishment of a state-of-the-art cancer hospital; setting up Village and Mohalla Clinics to offer basic healthcare and emergency services; provision of dialysis facilities in all Sub-District Hospitals (SDHs) across Jammu and Kashmir; and offering diagnostic and imaging services in all District Hospitals. Expressing disap-

pointment over the lack of progress, Purnima remarked, "Despite the passage of five months, the NC Government has failed to take even a single step towards fulfilling these promises."

Reflecting on the achievements of the previous BJP-led administration, she noted the initiation of ward-wise health centers in Jammu. She recommended that the NC Government upgrade these centers into fully functional Mohalla Clinics equipped with basic healthcare services, thereby reducing the patient load on GMC Jammu for primary health needs.

The senior BJP leader asked the NC Government to prioritize the establishment of trauma centers at the district level to effectively manage emergencies and reduce preventable deaths resulting from delayed medical attention. Purnima called on the NC Government to focus on fulfilling its commitments. She asserted, "Healthcare is a basic necessity, and the NC Government must act swiftly to address the gaps in the system."

## SMVDU hosts workshop on IDP Under PM-USHA

### STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU), Katra, conducted a one-day workshop titled "Awareness Program on Institutional Developmental Plan (IDP) for Higher Education Institutes (HEI)" under the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA).

The event brought together distinguished academicians, deans, administrators, and faculty members from SMVDU and other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of Jammu to discuss the significance of IDP in enhancing governance, research, and academic policies.

The resource persons for



Faculty members along with participants during the workshop.

the workshop included Prof. I.K. Bhat, former Vice-Chancellor of Manav Rachna University, Faridabad, and Prof. K.S. Chandrasekar, Vice-Chancellor of Cluster University, Jammu. They delivered comprehensive sessions on institutional growth, governance, and digital transformation.

The event began with opening remarks by Prof. Balbir Singh, followed by an inaugural address from Prof. Pragati Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, SMVDU. He highlighted the critical role of IDP in ensuring the long-term sustainability of educational institutions and stressed the need for strategic institutional planning to

achieve academic excellence. He also emphasized the integration of critical thinking, clear institutional goals, transparent evaluation channels, and modern pedagogical techniques in today's evolving education landscape.

The workshop was coordinated by Prof. Balbir Singh (Dean of Academic

Affairs), Dr. Shafaq Rasool, and Dr. B.B. Jindal (Associate Deans, Academic Affairs).

First Session, "Why IDP - Essentials of IDP, Governance, Academic and Research Enablers" by Prof. I.K. Bhat, who covered academic frameworks, governance, and research enablers.

Second Session, "Human Resource Management and Digital Enablers" by Prof. Chandrasekar, who emphasized faculty training, performance evaluation, and leadership development to strengthen the academic ecosystem.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Shafaq Rasool.

## Pakistan's self-made pit has become its own grave: Pawan

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Today, we observe the stark reality of Pakistan's own creation. The very pit they dug for others has now become their own grave. Their policies, rooted in deceit and terrorism, have ultimately led to their downfall, as stated by Pawan Sharma, BJP Senior leader and former state secretary J&K.

For years, Pakistan has harbored and supported terrorist organizations, posing a significant threat to regional and global security. Their actions have resulted in countless innocent lives lost, families torn apart, and communities shattered.

Now, as Pakistan struggles to cope with its own internal turmoil, economic instability, and



social unrest, it's clear that their destructive policies have come full circle. The country is facing an unprecedented crisis, with rising poverty, inflation, and unemployment.

Pawan Sharma stated that we have directly observed the catastrophic consequences of Pakistan's actions on our country. We've lost brave soldiers, innocent civilians, and suffered immense economic losses due to their proxy war.

However, India remains steadfast in its commitment to peace, stability, and prosperity. We'll continue to support democracy, human rights, and the rule of law, while firmly countering any threats to our national security.

To the people of Pakistan, Pawan Sharma urged to recognize the destructive path your leaders have chosen. Demand accountability, seek peace, and work towards a brighter future for your nation.

Pakistan's downward spiral serves as a stark reminder of the consequences of promoting terrorism and hatred. India will always stand ready to support those seeking peace and stability, while firmly protecting our national interests," said Sharma.

## CII J&K felicitates newly elected president Dr. MA Alim



Members of CII J&K honouring newly elected President Dr. MA Alim.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The CII J&K UT Council hosted a felicitation ceremony to honour Dr. MA Alim, the newly elected Chairman, led by Sanjay Gupta and Rakesh Dogra.

CII J&K members, including Drone Gupta, Vinay Jamwal, Siddhant Choudhary, Sunil Gupta,

Minna Dubey, Shivang Mahajan, Sanjay Sachdeva, Abhishek Sachdeva, Atul Sharma, and other special guests, extended congratulations and pledged their support for collective progress under his leadership.

In his address, the Chairman emphasized his

commitment to driving transformative initiatives for the council.

Dr. Alim concluded the event by expressing gratitude to all attendees and assured a proactive approach to addressing member concerns, reaffirming the council's dedication to collaborative growth.

## All JKSGRS to hold General Body Meeting on Mar 23

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The All J&K Shree Guru Ravidass Sabha (JKSGRS) held a press conference to finalize preparations for the grand celebration of the 134th Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Baba Sahib Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on April 14, 2025.

Additionally, the Sabha announced that the General Body Meeting (GBM) of the Biradari will be convened on March 23, 2025, at Krishna Nagar, Jammu, to discuss crucial matters regarding the election of the President and General Secretary for the 2025-27 term.

The newly elected Adhoc Committee of the Sabha convened under the leadership of Er R.C. Bhasin at its headquarters in



Sabha members Er R.C. Bhasin briefing media.

Krishna Nagar, Jammu. During the meeting, it was unanimously decided that the 134th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar will be celebrated with great enthusiasm at the Sabha's headquarters. The event will be a state-level celebration, with invitations extended to all SC/ST/OBC organizations, Sabhas, and

Biradaris to participate.

In his address, Er. Bhasin emphasized that the 134th Birth Anniversary celebration will be a significant occasion, bringing together various community leaders at the Sabha's headquarters in Krishna Nagar, Jammu.

He also announced that the third GBM of the

Sabha will take place on March 23, 2025, where important issues related to the election of the President and General Secretary for the next term will be discussed. All prominent citizens, branch Sabha heads, and representatives from village and Mohalla committees are expected to participate.

The GBM follows the General Ijlas held on December 29, 2024, during which the former President and General Secretary were removed from their positions by the Biradari. Er. D.K. Kalsootra informed that the election process has already begun, and membership booklets have been distributed to various branch Sabhas, Mohalla Committees, and village

committees. He announced that the last date for submitting the counterfoils of these booklets has been fixed for March 20, 2025.

All branch heads and committee leaders have been urged to ensure timely submission of membership records at the office of the Chairman, Election Board, at the Sabha's headquarters in Krishna Nagar, Jammu.

Furthermore, Er. Kalsootra appealed to all Biradari members to participate in the election in large numbers and exercise their democratic right to elect a new President and General Secretary for the 2025-27 term. He assured that the election dates will be announced separately in due course.