

# Justice Sanjeev inaugurates National Lok Adalat 2025 at District Court Complex Jammu

## STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In Compliance to the directions of Jammu & Kashmir Legal Services Authority, 1st National Lok Adalat was held on Saturday under the Chairmanship of Y. P. Bourney (Pr. District & Sessions Judge, Jammu) and supervision of Smriti Sharma, Secretary District Legal Services Authority Jammu.

Today, Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Judge High Court of J&K and Ladakh and Administrative Judge for District Jammu inaugurated the National Lok Adalat 2025 at District Court Complex Janipur Jammu.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Sanjeev Kumar emphasized the importance of National Lok Adalat in amicable settlement of long pending disputes.

He added that alternative dispute resolution is a vital tool in the Justice delivery system which ensures speedy and one time settlement of disputes. The general masses can take the benefit of Lok Adalats as the award passed by the Lok Adalat Benches attains finality.



Justice Sanjeev Kumar inaugurating the Lok Adalat in Jammu on Saturday.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar also congratulated women on the occasion of International Women's Day which falls on 8th of March every year.

He emphasized the importance of urgency towards gender parity in all the spheres of life and stressed the Judicial system has always addressed gender issues in a very sensitive way. This Lok Adalat should also be looked as a step forward in ensuring Justice delivery to all including women.

On the occasion, Justice Sanjeev Kumar also distributed various MACT cheques among the claimants. In National Lok Adalat has taken different kind of cases in the Court Complex Jammu wherein 30 Benches were constituted.

Total 30 benches were constituted in different courts to deal with the mat-

ters of Civil nature, Bank Recovery, Criminal Compoundable, MACT, Matrimonial, NI Act u/s 138, Revenue Cases, BSNL Cases, Electricity Bills, Other Civil cases and Others Traffic Challans cases were taken up today in the District Court Complex, Janipur Jammu.

The total number of 86,091 cases pertaining to different nature was taken up, Out of which 84,101 cases were settled. The total Amount recovered is Rs. 18,88,06,978.

These benches were constituted wherein the cases related to three cases under Motor Accident Claim Tribunal, Jammu;

In Rsamita Bhan & Ors Vs Avilash Mandi & Ors (TATA AIG) case, an amount of Rs. 32,64,872 was awarded in favour of the claimant after settlement. In Darshana Devi & Ors Vs TATA AIG Ltd. & Ors case, an amount of Rs. 15,50,000 was awarded in favour of the claimant after settlement. In another Nishu Devi & Ors Vs OIC Ltd. & Ors case, an amount of Rs. 33,47,430 was awarded in favour of the amount after settlement. The amount of all cases was paid as compensation by respective respondents.



## Prestigious projects 'Aditya', 'Chandrayaan' led by women: Dr Jitendra

### STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Prestigious space missions like Aditya-L1 and Chandrayaan-3 have been led by women, paving the way for a culture of women-led leadership across various fields, said Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh during the International Women's Day 2025 celebrations at the CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL).

Dr. Singh highlighted that India's Aditya-L1 mission is headed by Nigar Shaji, Chandrayaan-3 had Kalpana Kalahasti in a leadership role, and Dr. N. Kalaiselvi is the first woman Director General of CSIR in its 80-year history. With six women leading CSIR laboratories, he emphasized that India's scientific landscape is witnessing a historic transformation.

During the event, Dr. Singh released a special video titled "CSIR Shakti: Celebrating Women in Science" and honored women entrepreneurs who commercialized CSIR technologies. These included Dr. Disha Ahuja (AGR Technology for converting market waste into cooking gas), Sudha Reddy (E-Tractor innovation), and Shikha Virmani (Lavender Products under the Purple Revolution initiative). He also launched the compendium "CSIR ASPIRE Women Scientist Awardees," recognizing women scientists' contributions to research and innovation. The Minister specially felicitated Kalpana



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh addressing the country's leading women scientists and innovators at the International Women's Day 2025 programme organised by CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL) at New Delhi on Saturday.

Kalahasti for her pivotal role in Chandrayaan-3, underscoring the increasing number of women leading key scientific missions. He noted that women have progressed from mere participation to spearheading national projects in space, atomic energy, and administration.

He also pointed out the increasing presence of women in civil services, STEM education, and defense institutions, reflecting India's socio-professional transformation. Referring to UPSC results where women have consistently secured top ranks, he remarked that fields once dominated by men are now witnessing an influx of talented women in leadership roles.

Dr. Singh also highlighted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's initiatives to promote gender inclusivity, such as increased women's participation in Republic Day parades, the opening of military academies to female

cadets, and the inclusion of women scientists in space and nuclear programs. He announced that India's upcoming Gaganyaan mission will feature 'Vyomitra,' a female robotic astronaut, symbolizing women's growing role in space exploration.

Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Director General of CSIR, echoed the Minister's sentiments, emphasizing that women are no longer just participants but leaders shaping India's scientific future. She urged young girls to pursue careers in STEM fields and break barriers in research and innovation.

As the event concluded, Dr. Jitendra Singh expressed confidence that gender parity in science will soon become a norm, with Indian women leading global innovation and research. The celebrations at CSIR-NPL sent a strong message-India's future in science is being shaped by its women leaders.

## CS chairs 15th UT Level Bankers' Committee meeting Improve lending under Priority sector: Dulloo to banks

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo on Saturday chaired the 15th Union Territory Level Bankers' Committee (UTLBC) meeting to review the performance of banks and financial institutions in dispensation of credit and other banking services for the first three quarters of the fiscal year 2024-25.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Santosh D. Vaidya; J&K Bank MD & CEO and Convener J&K UTLBC, Amitava Chatterjee; Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare Department Sanjeev Verma; Chief General Manager NABARD, Bhallamudi Sridhar; General Manager Reserve Bank of India Neeraj Kumar; J&K Bank's Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, along with other senior officials from RBI, NABARD, banks, government departments, insurance companies and Lead District Managers.

While presenting financial achievements of banks for the first three quarters of FY 2024-25, the house was informed by General



CS Atal Dulloo chairing 15th Union Territory Level Bankers' Committee meeting.

Manager UTLBC Syed Rais Maqbool that banks in the UT of J&K have disbursed Rs. 51,647 crore to 13.22 lakh beneficiaries, achieving 99.63% of the Annual Credit Plan in financial terms and 79% in physical terms.

Furthermore, loans amounting to Rs.1082 crore were sanctioned to 26,637 beneficiaries under major employment generation schemes.

While expressing concern over shortfall in achievement of targets under Priority Sector especially lending under employment generation schemes, Chief Secretary exhorted upon banks and sponsoring agencies to work in tandem to achieve the targets by the end of current financial year.

Chief Secretary directed banks to ensure setting up of banking touch points in all

identified Unbanked Rural Centers (URCs) by June 30 this year.

He stressed upon the banks to make accounts KYC compliant through linkage of Aadhaar Card, Pan Card and other requisite documents to mitigate the risks and also ensure benefits under Direct Benefit Transfer aren't impeded to the eligible people.

While urging banks to improve lending under KCC scheme, Chief Secretary emphasized upon popularizing the benefits of prompt repayment in Kisan Credit Card Accounts enabling beneficiaries to avail the benefit of interest subvention provided by the Government under this scheme.

He encouraged banks to tap the huge potential in education sector in J&K by granting education loan facility to

the students seeking admission in various colleges and universities within and outside the Country.

While advocating for encouraging people to lodge claims under social security schemes, Chief Secretary pressed for hassle-free claim lodging and settlement process in the time bound manner.

On the occasion, Chief Secretary launched J&K Bank Lal Ded Stree Shakti Loan Scheme-designed by the Bank in collaboration with Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission- for women folk of J&K with an aim to empower them by extending financial support that will enable them to realize their entrepreneurial dreams.

He lauded J&K Bank for the scheme and hoped the credit facility will go a long

way in helping women of J&K achieve financial empowerment.

The house was also informed that J&K Bank and J&K Grameen Bank together have provided a credit of Rs 100 Crore to women Self Help Groups (SHGs) formed under DAY-NRLM in a single day on March 07, 2025 to mark International Women's Day.

On the occasion a token cheque was handed over to Mission Director JKRLM to celebrate the accomplishment.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Convener UTLBC Amitava Chatterjee highlighted role of banks in driving economic transformation in the region and reiterated Banks' commitment in strengthening priority sector lending with a focus on agriculture, education, MSMEs & rural housing, catalyzing the effective implementation of Central and UT Government sponsored schemes and prioritizing financial inclusion by expanding banking infrastructure in rural areas.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks presented by the General Manager, J&K UTLBC.

## J&K Judicial Academy organises Refresher programme on 'Digitization'



Judicial officers inaugurating the programme.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: J&K Judicial Academy on Saturday organized a one day Refresher Programme on 'Digitization' for High Court Bench Secretaries, Digitization officials, Staff and Readers of Srinagar Bench.

The programme was organized under the patronage of Justice Tashi Rabstan, The Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Judicial Academy), guidance of Chairperson, Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy and members of Governing Committee for J&K Judicial Academy.

The refresher programme was designed to impart practical knowledge and give hands-on experience on crucial digital tools and systems integral to judicial functioning.

The first technical session was headed by Fayaz Ahmed Qureshi (CPC) who gave an overview of eCourts functioning and various future upgrades that are in offing to make the system more feature rich, robust and user

friendly.

He also said in his address that the biggest task right now is to unlearn how things were done in the past and how the new system can be implemented while minimizing the possible resistance from the stakeholders. He also emphasized on the importance of transitioning to a paperless court systems which would immensely help the environmental cause as well.

Qureshi put before the audience the vision and the phases which the current eCourt system is transitioning to and where we are heading in the next four years. He also briefly touched the topics of digital divide, capacity building, etc. while answering the queries from the audience.

Tajamul Hussain (Developer) gave a practical demonstration and explained the concept of CIS 1.0. He covered the various aspects of CIS 1.0, including Filing & Registration of Cases, Caveat/Document Filing, Case Proceeding, e-Court services. He also gave a hands-on demonstration of various concepts regarding issuing of certified copies.

Uzair Nazir (Senior System Officer) delved into the Document Management System, covering its advantages and operational framework. He elaborated that as DMS forms the backbone of digital documentation, understanding its workflow is pivotal to streamlining case file management and promoting paperless courts.

The third session was jointly conducted by Fayaz Ahmed Qureshi (CPC), Wasim Hyder Khan (Sr. Technical Officer), Uzair Nazir (Senior System Officer) and Tajamul Hussain (Developer). They focused on the practical application of video conferencing platform, Zoom. They also focused on the fact that these tools have become indispensable in the judiciary, ensuring continuity of proceedings even amid logistical constraints.

The session was interactive and addressed challenges including the best practices for optimal usage.

Farhana Ali, Joint Registrar J&K Judicial Academy conducted the proceedings for the daylong training programme and also presented the vote of thanks. All the sessions remained very interactive during which all the participants actively participated and shared their experiences, difficulties and also discussed various aspects of the subject topics. They also raised a number of queries which were answered satisfactorily by the resource persons.

## JKHCBA Jammu delegation calls on LG

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu led by its President Advocate K. Nirmal Kotwal on Saturday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

The delegation comprised of former Presidents and office-bearers of the J&K High Court Bar Association Jammu including Adv. AK Sawhney, Adv. MK Bhardwaj, Adv. DK Khajuria, Adv. Baldev Singh, Adv. Pardeep



JKHCBA delegation calling on LG Manoj Sinha in Jammu on Saturday.

Majotra, Adv. Anshu Mahajan and Adv. Rahul

Aggarwal, apprised the Lieutenant Governor on

various welfare issues of the legal fraternity.

## Action taken to curb illegal mineral extraction at Shaliganaga Nalla, Budgam: Dy CM

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Saturday said that in a decisive move against illegal mineral extraction, the District Mineral Officer (DMO) Budgam has taken strict action against M/s NKC Projects Private Limited for unauthorized mining at Shaliganaga Nalla in Lanilab Basant Woder, Budgam.

The issue was highlighted in the Legislative Assembly by MLA Khan Sahab, Safud-Din-Bhat, bringing it to the immediate attention of the House. The action follows the circulation of a video on social media on March 2, 2025, exposing the illegal activity.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that on receiving the report from the Directorate of Geology and Mining, the DMO Budgam swiftly deputed a team to the site to verify the claims. Upon investigation, it was confirmed that the company had engaged men and machinery for unauthorized extraction of approximately 300 MT of Nallah Mukh without obtaining the required permits. In response, a formal notice (No. DMO/Bud/DGM/F-106/4558-67, dated March 3, 2025) was issued to the Project Manager of M/s NKC Projects Private Limited, Basecamp Gudsathor, Budgam, directing an immediate cessation of all illegal mining activities and demanding relevant documentation, he added.



## Power shutdown

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCL Jammu has informed that the power supply to Barui, Nardiwal, Mandrian, Kha, Maira, Thatar Mundh, Payan and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 09 and 11 from 8 am to 2 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Kartholi and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 09 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Bishnah, RS Pura, Industrial area Bari Brahmana, Vijaypur, Nandpur, Rangarh and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 09 from 10 am to 1 pm.

The shutdown stands approved by JKSLDC & Railway Authorities.

Similarly, the power supply to Billawar, Mandi, Dewal, Pranalla, Tandi, Macheedi, Bhaddu, Kudethar and adjoining

areas will remain affected on March 10 and 12 from 9 am to 4 pm.

Likewise, the power supply to Bari Brahmana Industrial Area will remain affected on March 09 from 9 am to 1 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Nichla Ghagwal, Sherpur, Rajpura, Jatwal, Kootah, Mawa and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 10 and 12 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer, (Distribution) JPDCL O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Bari-Brahmana, Teli Basti, Kartholi and adjoining areas will remain affected on March 10 and 12 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Similarly, the power supply to Shiva Nagar, Chak, Changran, Manke Talab and its adjoining areas will remain affected on March 09 from 8 am to 12 noon.

## No inkling about free land grant to Sri Lankan cricketer: J&K minister

### STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir minister Javed Ahmad Dar on Saturday said the government has no information that a former Sri Lankan cricketer was provided a land "free of cost" in the Union Territory to set up an industrial unit and that he would look into it.

The Minister for Agriculture Production made the statement in the legislative assembly after CPI (M) legislator M Y Tarigami and Congress legislature party leader G A Mir raised their concerns on the issue during question hour.

"This is a matter related to the revenue department. We do not have any information, and we will look into it to know the facts," he said.

According to reports, former cricketer Muttiah Muralitharan's company, Ceylon Beverages, has been allotted 25.75 acres for Rs 1,600 crore bottle-filling and aluminium can-manufacturing unit in Kathua.

Tarigami questioned the allotment of land "free of cost" without naming anyone and sought a reply from the government.

Intervening, Congress leader Mir also described the matter as "serious" and said this needed to be looked into as to how a non-Indian cricketer was provided land without having to spend a penny.