

## DC Kishtwar reviews progress of works under UT Capex 2025-26

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**KISHTWAR:** Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma on Sunday chaired a comprehensive review meeting to assess the progress of various developmental works being executed under the UT Capex Plan 2025-26 across the district.

The Deputy Commissioner conducted a detailed review of ongoing infrastructure projects aimed at strengthening administrative functioning and improving public service delivery across the district.

The projects discussed included construction of Tehsil Office Machail, Tehsil Office Mughal Maidan, SDM Office Marwah, Tehsil Office Drabshalla and Naibat offices at Palmar, Dool, Dedpeth and Saroor, along with several other important developmental initiatives.

While reviewing the progress of these works, the Deputy Commissioner directed the concerned Sub-Divisional



DC Kishtwar Pankaj Kumar Sharma chairing meeting.

Magistrates and Tehsildars to expedite the pace of work and ensure that all projects shall be completed by March 31, 2026.

He further instructed all concerned departments to achieve maximum physical and financial targets under Capex works and to submit bills to the respective treasuries before March 28, in accordance with the circular issued by the Finance Department, UT of J&K. He emphasized the importance of timely execution, adherence to quality standards and optimal utilization of allocated funds. The DC also stressed that the

allocated funds must be utilized efficiently and should not lapse under any circumstances. He emphasized that all projects must be executed in a well-planned and efficient manner, with focus on transparency and accountability. The meeting was attended by ADC Kishtwar Pawan Kotwal, ACR Kishtwar Idrees Lone, SDM Marwah Dr. Mohd Ashraf, SDM Paddar Dr. Amit Kumar, SDM Chatroo Nayeemur-Rehman, Tehsildars, Accounts Officer, DC Office Kishtwar Satender Singh, Executive Engineers and other officers.

## Jasrota inaugurates road macadamization project

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATHUA:** In a continued push to strengthen grassroots infrastructure and improve civic amenities, Rajiv Jasrota on Sunday inaugurated the macadamization of the vital road stretch connecting the National Highway with Barwal Link Road. Executed under the Cities & Town scheme at a cost of Rs 33 lakh, the project is expected to significantly enhance connectivity and ease of transportation for the local population.

The upgraded road holds strategic importance as it serves as a key link for several adjoining habitations, facilitating smoother access to markets, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, and administrative centres. With the completion of macadamization, the stretch is now better equipped to handle traffic flow, particularly during adverse weather conditions when road damage often disrupts movement.

Speaking at the inaugura-



MLA Rajiv Jasrota inaugurating road project.

tion ceremony, MLA Jasrota underlined that improved road infrastructure is central to economic growth and social development. He noted that better connectivity directly impacts livelihoods by enabling faster transport of agricultural produce, reducing vehicle maintenance costs, and improving access to essential services. He added that the government is focused on bridging developmental gaps and ensuring that even remote and semi-urban areas receive due attention.

Among those present were Mandal Pardhan Surinder

Singh, Sarpanch Sukhdev Singh, Sarpanch Shiv Dev Singh, Sarpanch Master Malvinder, Sarpanch Bodh Raj, Ranjeet Pathania, Capt Sandeep, Rishu, Bikram, Lambardar Tarseem Lal, Ashwani, Happy, Pushpinder, Ajaib Singh, Pawan, and Kultaar Singh, besides other prominent citizens and local residents. The inauguration ceremony concluded on an optimistic note, with people expressing confidence that sustained focus on infrastructure will pave the way for accelerated growth and improved quality of life in the region.

## Sadguru Sahib emphasizes for compassion, self-discipline

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RANJRI:** Sadguru Sahib Ji of Sahib Bandgi addressed a large gathering at Ranjri, where he enlightened the congregation with his spiritual discourse focused on compassion, truthfulness, and self-discipline.

During his discourse, Sahib Ji emphasized that one should never harm or kill any living being, advocating a path of non-violence and kindness. He strongly advised against engaging in slander, describing it as a grave sin. However, he clarified that speaking the truth plainly does not amount to slander, yet individuals should avoid discussing others altogether and instead focus on self-improvement.

Highlighting the nature of human life, Sahib Ji stated that life is inherently filled with both joy and suffering, as it operates under the law of Karma. He encouraged people to remain steady and not be disturbed by hard-

## Army organises Marathon ahead of Rajouri Day Celebrations

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**RAJOURI:** In a vibrant display of unity, fitness and community spirit, the Indian Army's Ace of Spades Division organised the Rajouri Marathon 2026 on Sunday as part of the Pre-Rajouri Day celebrations. Held under the theme "Hum Qadam Rajouri" (Walking Together with Rajouri), the event aimed to promote a healthy lifestyle while strengthening the bond between the Armed Forces and the local community.

The marathon featured competitive runs of 3 km, 5 km, and 10 km, along with a special run for specially-abled participants, reflecting the inclusive spirit of the event.

The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, youth, veterans and professional runners, with large

numbers of citizens lining the streets in support, transforming Rajouri into a vibrant hub of energy, determination and sporting enthusiasm.

The event concluded with a felicitation ceremony, where the GOC, Ace of Spades Division, commended participants for their resilience, discipline and sportsmanship. Winners across various categories were awarded cash prizes and medals, while all participants received Finisher Medals in recognition of their spirited participation. Beyond the competition, the Rajouri Marathon served as a meaningful platform to inspire youth towards fitness and teamwork, while reinforcing the enduring bond of trust, cooperation and shared pride between the Indian Army and the people of Rajouri.

## Janipur Police nabs drug peddler, recovers 5.50 grams heroin

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** In a continued drive against drug trafficking, Police Station Janipur achieved a significant success by apprehending a drug peddler during routine checking near Loha Park.



A police team led by SHO Police Station Janipur, Inspector Vikram Sharma, was conducting naka checking in the area when a suspicious individual driving an auto bearing registration number JK02DM-3166 was intercepted.

During checking, the accused was identified as Parshotam Kumar (28), S/o Baldev Raj, resident of Khajuria Mohallah. On search, approximately 5.50 grams of heroin was recovered from his possession.

The accused was immediately taken into custody and the recovered contraband was seized on the spot as per legal procedures.

A case under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Janipur and further investigation is underway to ascertain the source and intended distribution network of the narcotics.

## Theft case solved: 3 accused arrested, stolen property recovered

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** A case FIR No. 10/2026 U/S 331(4)/305(a) BNS was registered on 18.03.2026 at Police Station Kud on the written complaint of Sukhdev Sharma Government Contractor, PDD Department, stating that aluminium electricity wire (conductor) was stolen from the Receiving Station near Panna Chowk, Kud during the intervening night of 17-18.03.2026.



During the course of investigation, a police team of PS Kud rounded up several suspects for questioning. Based on technical and human intelligence, three accused persons namely Sourab Sharma S/O Sanjay Kumar R/O Dharmthal Narsoo Tehsil & District Udhampur, Sanjay Kumar S/O Suram Chand R/O Sukater Kud Tehsil Chenani District Udhampur and Vijay Kumar S/O Hem Raj R/O Barneem Tehsil Ramnagar A/P Housing Colony Udhampur were arrested.

During sustained questioning, all the accused persons confessed their involvement in the commission of the crime.

On their disclosure, approximately 400 kg of stolen aluminium electricity wire (conductor) worth about ₹1,20,000 was recovered from Sukater Kud.

Further investigation in the case is underway.

## Notorious drug peddler arrested, heroin worth crores, cash recovered

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** In a decisive strike against drug trafficking, Police Station Miran Sahib successfully intercepted a drug peddler and recovered significant consignment of narcotics worth 1.5 Crores on 21 March 2026.

A police naka team, led by PSI Rajan Choudhary (In-charge Naka) and comprising HC Arjun Kumar, SPO Lucky Choudhary, SPO Suresh Kumar, and SPO Gharu Singh, was deployed at Tutray Chowk Ring Road under the supervision of SHO Miran Sahib, Inspector Jatinder Singh. At approximately 7:40 PM, the team spotted a suspicious individual moving towards Ring Road. Attempting to evade the officers, the person was immediately apprehended.

The accused, identified as Harpal Singh, S/o Puran Singh, R/o Ward No. 14, Kathua District, was found in possession of approximately 262 grams of heroin-like substance, along with a mobile phone, ₹1.5 lakh in cash, and a weighing machine. Notices under Section 50 of the NDPS Act were served in the presence of SDPO RS Pura.

A case has been registered under FIR No. 44/2026 Sections 8/21/22/27-A of the NDPS Act at Police Station Miran Sahib.

The accused person has been arrested, contraband Seized and further investigation is going on to unearth the nexus and work out forward/backward linkages in the case.

## Missing Jammu woman traced from Jaipur, reunited with family

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** A missing report was lodged at Police Station City, Jammu on 14.03.2026 by one person of Mohalla Paharian, Jammu regarding the disappearance of his wife (name withheld), who had gone missing from her residence on 13.03.2026.

Acting promptly on the complaint, a case was entered in the Daily Diary and a dedicated police team comprising PSI Samriti Sharma under the supervision of SHO City Inspector Shakti Devi, SDPO City North and SP City North was constituted to trace the missing woman. Wireless messages were circulated across districts and sustained efforts were initiated. Through continuous and hectic efforts, including technical surveillance and field inquiries, the police team successfully traced the missing woman at Jaipur, Rajasthan. The woman has been safely recovered and necessary legal formalities are being completed. Further investigation in the matter is underway.

## Hardcore criminal arrested; sharp-edged weapon recovered

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**JAMMU:** Continuing firm actions against criminal elements, Police Station R.S. Pura apprehended a hardcore criminal and recovered a sharp-edged weapon (toka) from his possession.

On 22.03.2026, during routine patrolling in R S Pura area, a police team led by SHO R S Pura, Inspector Tribhawan Khajuria spotted a suspicious person. On noticing the police presence, the individual attempted to flee but was swiftly overpowered.

During questioning, he identified as Vinay Kumar S/o Swaran Lal R/o Gagian, R.S. Pura & during search a sharp-edged weapon (Toka) was recovered from his possession. Accordingly, a case FIR No. 61/2026 under Section 4/25 of the Arms Act has been registered at Police Station R.S. Pura and investigation is underway.

## Army organises ESM Drone Mela at Jhangar to empower veterans, youth



Army official educating youths.

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**NOWSHERA:** The Indian Army organized an ESM Drone Mela at Jhangar in Nowshera, aimed at empowering Ex-Servicemen (ESM), Village Defence Guards (VDG), and Agniveer aspirants by enhancing their awareness of drone technology and its growing role in modern warfare and national security.

The event, conducted by the Jhangar Battalion, focused on educating participants about various types of drones used by the Indian Army as well as by adversaries. Attendees were provided with detailed briefings along with live demonstrations on basic drone operations, offering them practical exposure to the rapidly evolving field of unmanned aerial systems. A key highlight of the mela was the awareness session on identifying suspicious or hostile drones. Participants were trained in precautionary measures and proper reporting protocols to ensure timely response and contribute effectively to national security.

The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from ex-servicemen and local youth, who actively engaged in interactive sessions with Army personnel. Experts shared valuable insights into emerging drone threats and emphasized the increasing importance of technological preparedness, especially at the grassroots level.

The Indian Army underscored the critical role of com-

munity awareness and vigilance in countering evolving security challenges. The initiative also aimed to motivate Agniveer aspirants to develop technical skills and align themselves with the future requirements of the Armed Forces.

The event concluded with a strong message on the importance of collective responsibility in safeguarding the nation and embracing modern technology as a tool for national defense.

## Experiential Learning Tour organised for BBA students of SMVDU

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**KATRA:** An educational and experiential learning tour was organized for BBA students of the School of Business at Surinsar Lake, aimed at providing hands-on learning experiences beyond the classroom and fostering personal development, teamwork, and leadership skills.

The tour was conducted under the expert guidance of Kamal Singh Oberh, Group Captain (Retd.), founder of Tavi Adventures.

A distinguished adventurer, he is the first Indian to have skydived over Antarctica and a recipient of the prestigious Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award.

He also holds a national record for skydiving with the largest flag in India at the National Defence Academy and has the rare distinction of skydiving over both extremes of the Earth.

The experiential tour featured a variety of group activities designed to promote teamwork, cooperation, resilience, and leadership among students. Additionally, individual activities were organized to enhance agility, decision-making, and risk-taking abilities-key qualities for aspiring managers and entrepreneurs.

## SSLSS Trust organises Kanya Pujan, distributes cheques under Sukanya Yojana

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**UDHAMPUR:** Shiv Shakti Lok Sewa Sangathan (SSLSS) Trust organized a religious and social programme Kanya Pujan, highlighting the importance of respecting and empowering the girl child. On this auspicious occasion, cheques under the Sukanya Yojana were distributed among orphan girls to support their education and future security.

Programme started with lighting of lamp and kanya puja by CHEIF guest and others.

Virender Singh Bhau Retd Principal District & Session Judge presided the event as the Chief Guest. In his address, he appreciated the efforts of the organization and emphasized the need to come forward for the welfare of underprivileged children, especially girls. He along with other members distributed cheques among orphan girls on the occasion. Other present on occasion



Trust members distributing cheques among girl children.

were state president Dr Pardeep mahajan, Ashwani gupta sanjeev Anthal, Kuldeep Raj organiser, Adv Balwan singh Spokesman and legal advisor, Vivek Anand, Suriender Kumar, Ranjit Kumar and parkash Anthal.

Beside chairman Captain Tushar memorial Trust Dev Raj gupta and it's

senior member Ranjit parihaar, A large number of advocates

and local residents were present during the programme and expressed their support for such noble initiatives. The event concluded with blessings for the girls and a message of social responsibility.



SMVDU officials along with students the tour.

The event proved to be highly engaging, combining learning with adventure, and left a lasting impact on the participants. Students actively participated in all activities, gaining valuable practical insights and real-world exposure.

The programme was coor-

minated by Dr Ketan Bhatt, with active support from Dr Divya, Dr Sarabjot, and Dr Ritu, who accompanied the students throughout the tour. The initiative was organized under the guidance of Ashutosh Vashishtha, Dean, Faculty of Management, and Arti

Maimi. Students and faculty members expressed their gratitude to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University for facilitating such experiential learning opportunities, reflecting the institution's commitment to holistic student development.

## Baba Chamliyal Shrine, NDA launch cleanliness drive under Swachhata Abhiyaan

### STATE TIMES NEWS

**SAMBA:** A well-organized cleanliness drive under the banner "MY Bharat My Responsibility" Swachhata Abhiyaan was conducted today at the Baba Chamliyal Shrine, located on the India-Pakistan International Border (Zero Line) in the Samba district. The shrine holds immense spiritual significance and attracts devotees from across the region.

The initiative was undertaken by My Bharat Jammu in collaboration with the Nations Development Association (NDA), registered with NITI Aayog, under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

The primary objective of the campaign was to promote cleanliness, environmental awareness, and a sense of civic responsibility among citizens, particularly at religious and public places. Volunteers participated enthusiastically in the

drive, carrying out cleaning activities and encouraging the local community to maintain hygiene and sustainable surroundings.

Sushil Singh Charak, Chief Functionary of Nations Development Association (NDA), led the initiative and emphasized the vital role of youth in nation-building. He highlighted that such campaigns not only improve public spaces but also instill discipline and responsibility among individuals.

The event was graced by the presence of Harvinder Singh, Amit Padha, Honey Padha, Pankaj Kumar, Akshay Kumar, and Ravi Kumar, who actively contributed to the success of the campaign. The programme concluded with a collective pledge by participants to uphold cleanliness and inspire others to adopt responsible practices, reinforcing the vision of a cleaner, greener, and more responsible India.

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