

## Javed Rana inaugurates Eco-Vista at Raika Park Jammu

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, on Saturday inaugurated Eco-Vista at Raika Park Jammu, a state-of-the-art museum that showcases forest treasures of Jammu and Kashmir.

Javed Rana, who was the chief guest on the occasion, said that Eco-Vista is a significant step forward in restoring and preserving the natural heritage of our beautiful region. He said that it redefines sustainability from a reactive measure to a proactive, regenerative strategy. EcoVista has been developed as a state-of-the-art museum dedicated to showcasing the rich, diverse and invaluable forest treasures of Jammu & Kashmir. It displays rich collection of forest products, geological rock samples, antlers, seeds, cross sections of wood, arts and crafts among other products.

While praising the Department of Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing for the concept, the Minister said that Eco-Vista is not just another museum, it is a living tribute to the unparalleled beauty and ecological significance of our forests.

"Through its innovative exhibits, photographs, sam-



Cabinet Minister Javed Ahmed Rana inaugurating Eco-Vista at Raika Park Jammu.

ples, and models, this museum brings to life the extraordinary bounty of our forests," he said.

Rana said that Eco-Vista provides with the opportunity to connect with the forest not just through textbooks, but through direct, tactile experience. It will help foster a deep sense of appreciation and responsibility toward our natural environment, he said. Javed Rana further said that Eco-Vista will play an essential role in building awareness and appreciation for the treasures of our forests. "This museum is an asset for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and a proud legacy for our future generations," he added. He said that Eco-Vista has the potential to become a major tourist destination for the people of Jammu and

Kashmir and for visitors from across the country and beyond. Its unique exhibits, interactive displays and connection to the natural world will undoubtedly make it an important point of interest for the travellers and nature enthusiasts alike, he added.

Rana also stressed on the need to increase footfall and make the general public more conscious, nature-loving and mindful of their surroundings. He added that it is essential to create engaging, accessible and educational experiences that connect people with the environment. Elaborating on the environmental conservation, he said that in the current context of global warming, the importance of the environment has become more critical than ever. He called for more eco-friendly meas-

ures to preserve the precious gene pool of flora and fauna of the area. "The future of our planet depends on the urgent action to restore and safeguard the environment against the accelerating effects of global warming," he said.

Javed Rana said that protection of environment means actively fighting climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting renewable energy and preserving biodiversity.

"The future survival of the planet depend on urgent action to restore and safeguard the environment against the accelerating effects of global warming. Protecting and preserving our environment is not only about maintaining nature's beauty, but also about securing the foundation of human

health, well-being, and economic stability," asserted the Minister. One of the most remarkable features of Eco-Vista is its live sample displays, which will serve as a dynamic, hands-on learning resource for the younger generation.

He praised the efforts of the Department of Ecology, Environment and Remote sensing and said that this initiative will serve as a shining example of how we can blend education, conservation and tourism to benefit both our community and the world at large.

Commissioner Secretary, Forests, Ecology & Environment, Sheetal Nanda, said that Eco-Vista has given a sense of completion to the Raika Park. She said that nature interpretation centers like Eco-Vista helps to get more in touch with nature and we all should take responsibility in environmental protection and preservation.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Suresh Kumar Gupta, while speaking on the occasion said that we need to replicate Eco-Vistas to other locations. He further called upon the concerned to spread a concerted awareness campaign in schools, colleges so that students will learn about the treasures of our forest.

## JYBT celebrates Shree Hanuman Jayanti with devotion

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust Jammu/Haridwar celebrated the auspicious occasion of Shree Hanuman Jayanti Parav with great fervour and spiritual devotion at the Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir, B.C. Road, Jammu. The celebration was a matter of immense pride and joy for the Trust, drawing devotees from all walks of life.

The event was marked by special prayers, soulful bhajans, and enlightening discourses on the life and teachings of Lord Hanuman. Speaking on the occasion, Sh. Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust, emphasized that Lord Hanuman is revered as the 11th Rudra Avatar of Lord Shiva and one of the eight Chiranjivi (immortals), known for his unwavering devotion to Lord Rama. He highlighted Hanuman Ji's divine qualities of strength, courage, wisdom, and loyalty, tracing his origin to Anjana and Kesari, with Vayu Dev playing a significant role in his birth. As a child, Hanuman's playful nature and devotion to knowledge were evident, with Surya Dev himself becoming his



JYBT members paying obeisance at Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir, B.C. Road, Jammu.

Guru. Goswami Tulsidas Ji's Hanuman Chalisa, a revered 40-verse hymn, was also discussed. Shastri Ji described Lord Hanuman as "Sankat Mochan"-the remover of difficulties-who protects devotees from negative energies, evil forces, and ailments.

He elaborated on the Panchmukhi form of Hanuman, which includes five faces-Hanuman, Narasimha, Garuda, Varaha, and Hayagriva-each representing a unique divine power. This form is especially worshipped for protection and spiritual upliftment.

The Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir stands as a beacon of devotion, service, and unity, drawing 600-700 devotees daily. The Trust conducts daily Puja Archana and Langar Seva,

fostering a sense of community and shared spiritual growth.

The celebration concluded with a spirit of peace and rejuvenation, leaving a deep impact on all attendees. Devotees received blessed offerings believed to bring prosperity and well-being.

Among the dignitaries who graced the occasion were Sunaina Sharma, Principal of Revenue Training Institute; Devyani Rana, Vice President of BJYM; Ajay Sharma, SP South Jammu; Raj Kumar Gupta, Trustee JYBT; Lilla Kiran Sharma, Senior Advocate/Trustee; B.R. Sharma, Administrator, JYBT; Rajesh Rakwal, Private Secretary to President JYBT; Balbir Singh, Field Officer JYBT; and Rashpal Sharma, Engineer, JYBT.

## Dy CM pays surprise visit to Govt Ayurvedic Medical College Akhnoor



Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary during visit to Government Ayurvedic Medical College Akhnoor.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar Choudhary on Saturday paid a surprise visit to Government Ayurvedic Medical College and Nursing College at Akhnoor to inspect the progress of development works being executed there.

The concerned official apprised the Dy CM regarding

approved works including boys hostel and girls hostel at Ayurvedic Medical College and a new block at Nursing College.

It was informed that Boys hostel has been sanctioned with an estimated cost of Rs 6.39 crore while girls hostel has been approved with an estimated cost of Rs 6.50 crore and an additional new block in

Nursing College has to be completed with an estimated cost of Rs 2.64 crore. It wa also informed that all the works will be completed within 10 to 12 months duration.

During the visit, the Deputy Chief Minister inspected the quality of construction works and directed the executing agencies to expedite the pace of progress while maintaining high standards in work execution. He emphasised the significance of timely completion of development works besides maintaining the quality of material to enhance the public amenities.

The Deputy Chief Minister reiterated government's commitment towards accelerating developmental projects for welfare of the people. He asked the officials to address any bottlenecks and ensure the projects are completed within the stipulated timelines.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan, the National General Secretary of the Guru Ravidas Vishwa Mahapeeth, General Secretary of the Indian branch of the British Ravidasia Heritage Foundation, and a member of the Begumpura Vishwa Mahasabha, presented a portrait of Guru Ravidas to Sanjay Nirmal, National General Secretary of the BJP SC Morecha, during his visit to Jammu.

This gesture was not only a tribute to the great 15th-century saint but also carried a profound message of cultural pride, spiritual unity, and reverence for the teachings that continue to inspire millions.

While presenting the portrait, Balbir Ram Rattan, emphasized the timeless relevance of Guru Ravidas' teachings. He stated that



the saint's philosophy of equality, unity, and devotion deeply resonates with today's society, especially among Dalit communities.

He said, "Guru Ravidas' message of unity, compassion, and social justice is immensely significant in today's world. Honouring

## Balbir presents portrait of Guru Ravidas to BJP national leader

the current socio-political climate, where the values of brotherhood and equality are crucial, it is important to bring Guru Ravidas' teachings into mainstream discourse.

Accepting the portrait with reverence, Sanjay Nirmal appreciated this heartfelt gesture and acknowledged the lasting impact of Guru Ravidas on Indian society. He said that the teachings of Guru Ravidass have been especially influential in promoting the values of equality and human dignity. His philosophy aligns perfectly with our vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas,' which ensures inclusive development and unity.

Sanjay Nirmal also men-

tioned that the government and the BJP SC Morecha are consistently working for the upliftment of the marginalized sections of society. He reaffirmed his commitment to inclusivity, equal opportunity, and honouring the contributions of historical reformers.

Both Sanjay Nirmal and Balbir agreed on the need to continue efforts to spread awareness about the life and teachings of saints like Guru Ravidas. They emphasized the importance of more such meaningful initiatives that act as bridges between communities and inspire collective progress rooted in spiritual and cultural heritage.

## "Modi begins new era of development for youth" Massive progress, peace in J&K signalling end of separatism: Raman

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) executive member Raman Suri on Saturday hailed the unprecedented progress and peace dawning in Jammu and Kashmir, attributing the transformation to the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a powerful statement, Suri emphasized that the changing perception among the people of Jammu and Kashmir, including the separatist factions, reflects a growing realization that the region's development and prosperity lie in embracing mainstream opportunities and shunning divisive ideologies.

"The concentrated efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi have brought about a paradigm shift in Jammu and Kashmir. His policies have focused on empowering the youth, providing them with



ample opportunities to shape their own futures, and fostering an environment of peace and progress," Suri said.

"The result is clear that separatism in Kashmir is breathing its last, and the shops of separatists are on the verge of shutting down permanently."

Suri highlighted the diminishing influence of the Hurriyat Conference, once considered a prominent voice of separatism in the region.

"The way separatist leaders are breaking ties with the Hurriyat Conference every day

is a testament to its growing irrelevance. The Conference, which once claimed to represent the aspirations of Kashmiris, has now become completely ineffective. Not only the common people but even separatist leaders are now ready to walk the path of development," he noted.

The BJP leader pointed out that the Central Government's resolute policies have systematically dismantled the ecosystem of separatism and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

While acknowledging recent terrorist incidents in the Jammu division, Suri stressed that these are desperate attempts by anti-national elements to assert their presence. "It is an undeniable truth that terrorism and separatism are being crushed relentlessly due to the strict measures taken by the Central Government," he

asserted.

In a significant development, Suri cited the recent decision by the president of the Jammu-Kashmir Mass Movement to sever all ties with both factions of the Hurriyat Conference and publicly renounce connections with any anti-national organizations, both within India and abroad.

"This move has scattered the separatist camp and sent a clear message that the era of divisive politics is over," he said.

Suri also referenced ongoing actions against separatist elements, including raids conducted last Thursday on the residences of two prominent leaders.

"These operations underscore the Central Government's unwavering commitment to rooting out separatism. It is only a matter of time before the shops of separatists in

Kashmir are completely shut down," he added.

The BJP leader expressed optimism about the future, stating that the transformative policies of the Modi government have laid a strong foundation for lasting peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The youth of Kashmir are now looking toward a brighter future, one filled with opportunities for growth and progress. The Central Government's efforts to end separatism and terrorism are bearing fruit, and the results are there for all to see," Suri concluded.

The Bharatiya Janata Party reaffirms its commitment to supporting the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their journey toward peace, development, and integration with the mainstream of India's growth story.

## NSS Wing of FVSc&AH, SKUAST-J celebrates Ambedkar Jayanti

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The NSS Wing of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry (FVSc&AH), SKUAST-Jammu, celebrated the 134th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar at its R.S. Pura campus with great enthusiasm and reverence. The event was organized under the able guidance of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of SKUAST-Jammu, and the leadership of Dr. Sudhakar Dwivedi, Dean of Student Welfare.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, fondly remembered as the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, was honored for

his monumental contributions as a jurist, social reformer, and advocate of human rights. The event brought together NSS instructors Dr. Aditi Lal Koul, Dr. Dibyendu Chakraborty, Dr. Kawarddeep Kour, and Dr. J.S. Sasan, along with enthusiastic NSS volunteers.

Dr. Aditi Lal Koul spoke on Dr. Ambedkar's unwavering commitment to social justice, education, and empowerment, urging students to uphold the values of equity, service, and compassion in their professional journeys.

The program featured a quiz competition on Dr. Ambedkar's life and ideology,

conducted by Dr. Kawarddeep Kour, with vibrant participation from undergraduate NSS volunteers. Mr. Mehran Ajmal, a third-year BVSc&AH student, delivered an inspiring speech highlighting Dr. Ambedkar's life and contributions to Indian society.

Dr. Dibyendu Chakraborty expressed gratitude to all participants and encouraged volunteers to embrace inclusive practices and community service.

The program concluded with a solemn pledge to promote unity, dignity, and justice for all, echoing the timeless ideals of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

## DBPS to celebrate Bhagwan Shri Parshuram Jayanti by organizing series of events from April 20

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Dogra Brahman Pratinidhi Sabha (DBPS) is going to celebrate Bhagwan Shri Parshuram Jayanti by organizing a series of functions and events on April 20, 24, 27, 29 and 30 at Sabha Bhawan with fervor and enthusiasm.

While interacting with media persons here on Saturday, President of the DBPS, Ved Parkash Sharma gave details of the celebrations in connection with Bhagwan Shri Parshuram Jayanti falling on April 29, 2025. Sharma disclosed that the series of events will begin with a free medical camp by Dr. Sushil Sharma, HoD Cardiology Super Specialty Jammu on April 20, 2025 in the premises of the Sabha at 11 AM. Dr. Rakesh Sharma



President DBPS, Ved Parkash Sharma briefing media.

Orthopaedician of Niramya Hospital Udhewala Jammu is also scheduled & conduct Medical checkup of the patients related bones and joints diseases. Whosoever is desirous for medical check-up, he/she is advised to register his/her name at Brahman Sabha Parade Jammu, he added.

On 24th of April 2025 a debate competition based on teachings of Bhagwan Parsuram will also be organized

in which students of various school will participated it.

"On April 27th Shobha Yatra would be take out at 10:30 AM. The shobha yatra will start from Brahman Sabha Parade Jammu enroute Moti Bazar, Paca Danga, Chowk Chabutra, Jain Bazar, Link Road, Purani Mandi, City Chowk, Kanak Mandi, Rajinder Bazar, Raghunath Bazar & Shalamar etc and culminate at Chanakya Chowk

group of hundreds of followers of Dera leave from Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh Darbar of Mishri Wala, Jammu for the main Darbar situated in Una district of Himachal.

It is believed that one gets freedom from evil spirits and mental disorders in the court of Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh.

The famous Baba Badbhaag Singh religious place of North India is 42 km away from Maidi Una

district of Himachal.

This Holy place is the place of penance of Sodhi Saint Baba Vadbhag Singh (1716-1762). 300 years ago, Saint Baba Vadbhag Singh, son of Baba Ram Singh, had immersed himself in penance here.

It is believed that one gets freedom from all evil spirits here. On this occasion Shiv Sharma, Balwant Singh, Baba Lakhdaip Singh, Gopal Singh, Bhola Nath were present.

## Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh Yatra flagged off



Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni flagging off Yatra.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: With the wish of peace, prosperity and mutual brotherhood, today a group of followers of Baba Badbhaag Singh Dera left for the main religious place situated in Una district of Himachal which was flagged off by Shiv Sena (UBT) Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Manish Sahni by showing saffron flag.

Every year on the occasion of Baisakhi festival, a huge

group of hundreds of followers of Dera leave from Dera Baba Badbhaag Singh Darbar of Mishri Wala, Jammu for the main Darbar situated in Una district of Himachal.

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and get the blessing of Shri Bhagwan Parshuram Ji," said the DBPS president.

Pt V.M. Magotra, N C Sharma, M L Sharma, Advocate Chander Mohan Sharma, Satyanand Sharma, Subash Shastri Spokeperson (DBPS), Sojanaya Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, M L Padha, Shiv Ram Sharma, Ritiz Khajuria, Jagan Nath Sharma, K L Sharma, B S Jamwal, Davinder Sharma (Baboo), S S Baru, Barita Ram Sharma, Gurdass Sharma, Sat Paul Sharma, Raman Sharma, Rajesh Bargotra, Prem Balotra, Ramesh Sharma, Tarun Sharma, Bubesh Thappa, Sunil Sharma and others were also present in the press conference.