

CM chairs review meeting ahead of Mission YUVA launch

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Wednesday chaired a meeting to review the pre-launch preparations of Mission YUVA (Yuva Udyami Vikas Abhiyan)-a transformative initiative aimed at empowering youth through entrepreneurship, skill development and inclusive economic participation.



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chairing a meeting to review the pre-launch preparations of Mission YUVA.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, Ministers Sakeena Itoo, Javed Ahmed Rana, Javed Ahmad Dar, and Satish Sharma. Also present were Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary Education Department Shantmanu, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary Finance, AGM NABARD, Vice Chancellors of various universities of J&K, Secretary

Labour & Employment Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, and all Deputy Commissioners and other concerned attended the meeting both in person and via virtual mode. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah lauded the "path-breaking" work undertaken by the Labour & Employment Department during the baseline household survey conducted across Jammu and Kashmir. He noted with satisfaction

that much of the data aligns with existing government records. He suggested that this data be shared across departments to ensure easy access and usability for formulating new schemes or refining those already in place. Secretary Labour & Employment, Kumar Rajeev Ranjan, presented a detailed overview of the survey findings, highlighting its focus on four foundational pillars-Culture, Capital, Capacity, and Connectivity. He explained that the survey is designed to foster an entrepreneurial culture and build a supportive ecosystem aimed at enabling individuals aged 18-49 to establish at least 1.37 lakh new enterprises, thereby generating around 4.25 lakh job opportunities over the next five years. The presentation also pro-

vided insights into the programme's design, key innovations, implementation strategy, and budget as outlined in the Detailed Project Report (DPR).

Secretary Ranjan emphasized that the core objective of Mission YUVA is to identify youth inclined toward self-employment and entrepreneurship, and to provide them with robust support through structured mentorship, training, and access to capital.

Mission YUVA envisions transforming Jammu & Kashmir into a vibrant entrepreneurial hub by unlocking the potential of its youth.

With a focus on strategic interventions and comprehensive support systems, the mission seeks to spur economic growth, reduce unemployment and cultivate a spirit of self-reliance across J&K.



Spiritual leaders must lead fight against drug abuse: Zorawar

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chairman Team Jammu and BJP leader, Zorawar Singh Janwal, on Wednesday addressed a spiritually enriching function organized by Romesh Bawa, emphasizing the pivotal role of Sanatan Dharma in guiding society and combating the growing menace of drug addiction among youth.



Chairman Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Janwal addressing at spiritual function.

Speaking on the occasion, Zorawar underlined the urgent need for spiritual leaders and religious institutions to take the lead in shaping the moral and cultural foundation of the younger generation. He noted that the values ingrained in Sanatan Dharma offer a powerful shield against societal evils such as drug abuse. "A child whose foundation is rooted in Sanatan Dharma cannot be swayed by the lure of drugs. When one's roots are deeply connected with religion, culture, and tradition, they develop inner strength and clarity of purpose," Zorawar Singh said. He called upon gurus, saints, and spiritual organizations to go beyond rituals and become active agents of social

transformation. By reaching out to the youth and spreading awareness through religious discourses and community outreach, spiritual leaders can play a vital role in the nation's fight against narcotics. Zorawar Singh Janwal, who has been at the forefront of various anti-drug campaigns across the Jammu region, reiterated that only a collective spiritual and social awakening can effectively counter the increasing threat of drug addiction that is plaguing society. He further appreciated the efforts of Romesh Bawa and other spiritual luminaries who are continuously working to revive and promote Sanatan values in everyday life.

The function was attended by a large gathering of devotees, community elders, youth activists, and social workers who echoed similar sentiments and pledged their commitment to supporting a drug-free and culturally aware society. The event concluded with a spiritual discourse and prayers for the well-being of society, particularly the younger generation, urging them to reconnect with their roots and contribute positively to the nation. Among others who spoke on the occasion included Romesh Baba, Satish Sai from Jalandhar; Punjab, Swami Vinay Muni Maharaj and Swami Satishanand Maharaj.

IIPA holds Training Program on Cybercrime AI driven cyber attacks pose serious multifaceted threat

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: At a one-day Training Program on "Recent Trends in Cyber Crimes: Challenges, Impact and Prevention, & New Laws in J&K" conducted by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch, J&K civil servants were educated about the fast-emerging digital trends, new techniques & 'innovations' being adopted by the Cyber



SSP CICE, J&K Mohd Yaseen Kichloo and B R Sharma, State Election Commissioner being felicitated.

Stemsters. It was explained that cybercrime poses a serious and multifaceted threat with far-reaching consequences, impacting individuals, businesses, and national security. The impact of the fast-growing cybercrime ranges from financial losses to reputational damage and even physical harm like "Digital Arrest" and the consequent financial losses run into trillions of rupees. First of its kind, the Program was attended by thirty middle rung officers of the Administration besides a large number of central govt pensioners, members of the civil society and IIPA.

The program was presided over by B R Sharma, State Election Commissioner & Chairman, IIPA, J&K RB and attended among others by Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron IIPA, J&K RB. A well-known Cyber Expert and SSP CICE, J&K Mohd Yaseen Kichloo delivered a very illuminating lecture on new trends of Cyber Threats and Cyber Security with special reference to AI enabled crime like deep fake Digital arrest/pig butchering/cyber slavery, Post quantum

encryption. Kichloo emphasised the need for awareness of the dangers confronting users of mobile and other technology driven gadgets and said that they must follow safety measures while using mobile, online and social media. He listed many preventive tips to save users from cyber frauds and hacking. He said that first of all, password should neither be shared with anyone nor saved in the gadgets as its storage is not secured. He advised the users to keep changing password periodically and make it strong. He said that do not open attachments received on e-mail unless you are expecting it from someone known to you. To prevent hacking of your social media account, it is advisable to go in for the option of two-factor authentication (password & OTP) to login into your accounts in social media sites and emails. In case your social media is hacked or compromised, it is desirable to alert all your contacts immediately and get your account temporarily blocked by the service provider. He also advised against purchasing anything through a spam mes-

sage, and also giving your smartphone, computer, or laptop to others. He also advised against sharing with anyone your bank account details, Aadhaar card details, OTP, CVV of ATM or Credit Cards. We should inform the Police without replying to phone calls, SMS, WhatsApp messages of winning the Lottery. He cautioned against using wifi at public places and using your picture in D.P. or Profile as your reputation can be compromised by morphing photo. It would be suicidal to chat on video calls from unknown attractive callers as the scamsters would easily blackmail you by using new technology. He recommended use of Antivirus or Firewall etc. Kichloo said that these days social media accounts are getting cloned and the best way is to keep your profiles locked and use private accounts. He said that it would be easy for the cyber criminals to hack your social media account if a link on WhatsApp for a free Netflix package offer is clicked. Explaining in the context of the Phishing attack, he said that once the link with the free package offer is clicked, it gets redirected to

Facebook login page and once you login, your account would be hacked. He said that while using social media accounts like Facebook and Instagram, one should always keep into account security, privacy, safety & well-being. He advised people to file complaints immediately on MHA portal and, on its official website www.cyber.gov.in. Such complaints can be filed anonymously, he clarified. Interesting part of the lecture was the practical session for checking whether mobiles of the participants are hacked. Advised to dial *#21#. If it is disabled then it is okay but if it is not, then the * (star) call forwarding is enabled. If call forwarding is to be disabled then Dial ##21# to remove call forwarding. When the audience posted https://www.haveibeenpwned.com, on their email, most of their email accounts were found to be compromised. This warranted a fresh and strong password. Later, Joint Director Prosecution, Crime Headquarters, Laeeq Ahmad Dar talked about new Laws enacted recently by the Parliament. These are Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita & Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam. These laws have modernised the criminal justice system in India, incorporating technological advancements. He mentioned many changes affected in the new laws that benefited the criminal justice system. Some of the features of the laws included e-complaints, zero FIR (allowing FIRs to be filed at any police

station regardless of jurisdiction), mandatory videography of crime scenes, and electronic service of summonses.

B R Sharma in his presidential address, referred to concern on fast increasing cybercrime in India and said that Artificial Intelligence driven cyber-attacks were growing every day that warranted mass awareness among all users of the mobile and social media. He said that there had been increase of 113 % incidents of cyber-attacks in 2021-22 and 61 % in 2023 in India and more than 80% of these frauds were financial. He said that India suffered a financial loss of Rs 1740 cr in first three months of 2025 and there is ascertained estimate that world over cyber-attacks would lead to loss of 10.50 trillion dollars by the end of 2025. Sharma said that the criminals are using new techniques and new technology like advanced Phishing attack, spam emails, Deep Fake Technology & exploitation of AI by using voice and Photo Deep fake to target people. Ninety-seven cyber-attacks are taking place per hour. He said that the senior citizens are more prone to cyber-attacks and they need to be sensitized about cybercrime. Such awareness lectures should be organised for pensioners. Dr. Ashok Bhan & B R Sharma honoured both the Speakers with Certificates of Appreciation. Earlier, the Honorary Secretary Prof Alka Sharma welcomed the participants and other guests and Director Seminar Er. Madan Gupta presented the formal vote of thanks.

Amit stresses on PACS Computerization completion in Mizoram SLMIC Meeting

STATE TIMES NEWS
AIZAWL: Amit Sharma, Secretary, ICT & Cooperation, Mizoram stressed upon the completion of Primary Agriculture Credit Cooperative Societies (PACS) in a time-bound manner while chairing an important Meeting of State Level Monitoring & Implementation Committee (SLMIC) held here on Wednesday in Secretariat, wherein amongst others, Registrar Cooperative Societies, Joint Secretary Department of Finance, Dy General Manager NABARD, CEO, Mizoram Apex Cooperative Bank, Joint Registrar Cooperative Societies participated. While addressing various Agenda Points of the SLMIC Meeting, Secretary Cooperation Mizoram, Amit Sharma emphasized that a detailed survey must be conducted through RCS office regarding assessment of current status of PACS Computerisation, which should be the primary endeavour of the Government of Mizoram, as per Ministry of Cooperation set targets in this ongoing UN-declared International Year of Cooperatives, 2025. Secretary Cooperation, Mizoram, Amit Sharma further gave directions towards finding out the possibility of covering maximum amongst remaining PACS in the 2nd phase for Computerization so that Cooperative Sector could get boosted in Mizoram state. During this Meeting, Secretary Cooperation Amit Sharma also suggested NABARD team to



ensure smooth conduct of ongoing trainings for finishing this PACS computerisation task, with the RCS Office supporting customization of ERP Software so as to include varied loan products like Agri Loan - Short Term / Long Term, KCC, etc and he further directed his team to minute all these decisions and apprise him about progress made in same in the next SLMIC Meeting. Before conclusion of the Meeting, it was also approved by the Chair, Secretary Cooperation Amit Sharma to include Zoltag MPACS under PACS Computerization in place of Kolasib Village Farming Cooperative Society Ltd as it had gone defunct, as per the report submitted by Joint Registrar Cooperatives in this behalf, after conducting a visit there.

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AIIMS Jammu concludes Swachhhta Pakhwada 2025, setting new benchmarks in healthcare cleanliness and sustainability

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Vijaypur, Jammu, has victoriously concluded the 'Swachhhta Pakhwada 2025'-a dynamic fortnight-long cleanliness and hygiene awareness campaign that was conducted from April 1 to 15, 2025.

The culmination ceremony held on Wednesday served as a momentous occasion that celebrated the collective resolve of the Institute in fostering a clean, safe, and sustainable healthcare environment. The campaign conducted under the visionary leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu. His mentorship ensured the campaign's success through a rich blend of thematic activities, community participation, and institutional dedication. Dr. Shruti Sharma, Additional Professor, Department of Anaesthesia, and Chairperson of the



Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu along with other dignitaries.

Swachhhta Pakhwada Committee, steered the initiative with the support of Dr. Harsimran Jeet Singh, Assistant Professor, Anatomy, Dr. Swati Rajput, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry, and Dr. Rimple Sharma, Principal, College of Nursing, along with committed faculty, Nursing staff, and student volunteers. Each day of the campaign was thematically driven to promote various aspects of hygiene, environmental sustainability, and safety within the campus. It began with the Swachhhta Commencement Day on April 1, featuring the Swachhhta Shapath Ceremony, where faculty, residents, Nursing Officers, sanitation staff and administrators took a collective pledge for cleanliness. A NukkadNatak (street play) by Nursing Officers set an inspiring tone for the fortnight. The subsequent days followed with Pest Control Day, Sanitation and Hygiene Day, Infection Control Day

and a green initiative through the Plantation Drive Day. Swachhhta activities encouraged creative engagement through slogan writing and poster-making competitions. The campaign further highlighted Biomedical Waste Management Day, Plastic Waste Management Awareness Day, and Fire Safety Awareness Day, integrating essential training and sensitization sessions for hospital staff and support teams. The concluding days focused on intensive cleanli-

ness drives, including the Trikruta Chhaatraavaas Swachhhta Abhiyaan, Awasiya Parisar Swachhhta Abhiyaan, and the Pravesh Dvaar Swachhhta Abhiyaan. Dr. Amit Lathwal and his team from AIIMS Delhi's Department of Hospital Administration visited the Institute, conducted a detailed lecture on biomedical waste management, and assessed AIIMS Jammu's practices, providing valuable recommendations. Senior Nursing Officers and supervisors from AIIMS

Delhi carried out field assessments in key clinical areas such as the Operation Theatres, Emergency Department and ICUs actively engaging with the local Nursing teams to share best practices and strengthen infection control standards. Additionally, the Department of Microbiology under Dr. Manish Ranjan, in collaboration with the Infection Control Team, conducted daily training sessions on needlestick injury prevention, spill management, hand hygiene, and bio-

medical waste handling, tailored for Nursing Officers, attendants, and housekeeping staff. Widespread cleanliness drives were undertaken across the Institute, including OPD, IPD, AYUSH Block, Residential Complex, Mortuary Block, and Main Entrance, with active 'Shram-Daan' by faculty, staff, and students. Fire safety drills, plantation drives, digital awareness campaigns, and community outreach programs by the Departments of Community

Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynaecology amplified the campaign's outreach and effectiveness. Dr. Saroj Kumar, Director from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, visited AIIMS Jammu as an official observer from April 15 to 16, 2025. During his visit, he was warmly welcomed and extensively briefed by the Executive Director & CEO, Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta. Dr. Kumar expressed his deep appreciation for the remarkable leadership of Prof. Gupta in developing AIIMS Jammu into a clean, green, and patient-friendly institute. He was impressed by the high standards of sanitation and hygiene maintained across the campus and commended the institute for its exemplary swachhhta initiatives and robust infection control measures. Dr. Saroj Kumar's visit reflected his overall satisfaction and admiration for the dedicated efforts being made to uphold quality healthcare

patient centric activities and a safe environment for all at AIIMS Jammu. The culmination ceremony was graced by the presence of Prof. (Dr.) S.S. Kale, Professor & Head, Department of Neurosurgery, AIIMS New Delhi, and renowned Neuro-Spinal Surgeon, who attended as the Chief Guest. In his address, Prof. (Dr.) Kale lauded Prof Shakti's exceptional commitment to hygiene, infection control, and sustainable practices. He emphasized that such dedicated institutional efforts are critical not only for ensuring quality healthcare but also for nurturing a culture of civic responsibility and environmental stewardship. He concluded his address by quoting 'Cleanliness is Godliness'. As part of the closing ceremony, Swachhhta Awards and Certificates of Appreciation were presented to departments and individuals who demonstrated outstanding participation and leadership throughout the campaign.