

# Dr Jitendra interacts with Jammu civil society, emphasises collective effort for positive narrative

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh held a wide-ranging interaction with members of the civil society in Jammu on Saturday, engaging with a cross-section of eminent citizens to discuss the evolving socio-political climate and the way forward for the region.

The meeting was attended by professionals from diverse fields, including leading doctors, engineers, chartered accountants, representatives of the judiciary, industrial chambers, and members of the media, including radio and electronic platforms.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh interacting with members of the Civil Society at Jammu on Sunday.

The initiative was aimed at reaching out to influential citizens who are not always part of conventional political dialogues, but whose voices and opinions hold sway across different segments of society.

Dr. Jitendra noted that while political parties routinely interact with various groups, this outreach was

conceived as a step towards engaging with those whose views sometimes remain underrepresented but have the potential to shape broader public opinion.

During the interaction, participants collectively lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Indian security forces for the country's recent assertive

and confident global posture. Several media professionals present stressed the importance of strengthening responsible information dissemination, particularly in an age where misinformation can quickly skew public perception. They emphasised the media's responsibility in curating accurate and timely narratives that reflect ground realities.

In turn, the Minister emphasised collective effort for building a positive narrative.

Members of the business community raised concerns about the perceptual impact following recent incidents like the one in Pahalgam, which they said had triggered apprehensions outside the region. They underscored the need for a collaborative effort to rebuild confidence in the region's economic and tourism

prospects, advocating for a united front to reassure investors and visitors alike.

Dr. Jitendra appreciated the candid feedback and assured the gathering that such engagements would continue to ensure that voices beyond traditional political frameworks are heard and factored into policymaking. He reiterated that the Union Government remains committed to inclusive development in Jammu & Kashmir and stressed that confidence-building among all stakeholders is key to sustained growth.

The interaction underscored the importance of civic participation in shaping the region's narrative and marked a shift towards a more holistic engagement model-one that includes professionals, thought leaders, and influencers in the national dialogue.

# Sant Nirankari Mission organises voluntarily blood donation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BILLAWAR: With the divine blessing of her holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha, Sant Nirankari Mission organizing a voluntarily blood donation camp at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan Mandli-Billawar. Devotees from Branch Basohli and Bani also participated in this camp and a total of 81 units of blood donated.

Neeru Bali, DDC Mandli, inaugurated a blood donation camp organized by the Sant Nirankari Mission at Mandli, Billawar in District Kathua.

She congratulated the Mission and its donors for their noble service and emphasised that such humanitarian efforts are inspired by Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha, whose divine guidance continues to motivate devotees to serve society with love and compassion. He thanked all the donors and reaffirmed the Mission's unwavering commitment to this noble cause. Shanker Singh Mukhi



Volunteer donating blood during SNM's blood donation camp.

He shared that thousands of volunteers are regularly inspired to donate blood, guided by the teachings of humanity and selfless service. He emphasized that these efforts are deeply inspired by Her Holiness Satguru Mata Sudiksha, whose divine guidance continues to motivate devotees to serve society with love and compassion. He thanked all the donors and reaffirmed the Mission's unwavering commitment to this noble cause. Shanker Singh Mukhi

Mandli welcomed the Chief Guest and donors presented on the occasion.

Other dignitaries presented on the occasion were Dr. Deepshikha from Blood Bank GMC Jammu, Khem Raj Mukhi Basohli and Satpal Nirankari Khetriya Sanchalak Kathua.

The camp was held in collaboration with blood & transfusion dept. of Govt. Medical College Jammu, Sub District Hospital Bilawar and JKSAACS.

# Randhawa participates in 'Mann Ki Baat' at Malik Market, conducts tour to address public grievances



MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa during visit to Malik Market.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: MLA from Bahu Constituency, Ch. Vikram Randhawa, on Sunday joined local residents at Malik Market to listen to the latest episode of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's monthly radio address, Mann Ki Baat. The event served as a platform to connect with the citizens and reinforce the government's

commitment to community engagement.

Following the programme, MLA Randhawa undertook an extensive tour of Malik Market Panchayat to interact directly with residents and assess ground realities. During the visit, he patiently listened to a wide range of public grievances related to civic amenities,

infrastructure, and development issues. He assured the people that their concerns would be addressed in a time-bound manner, and necessary steps would be taken at the earliest to resolve them.

The MLA was accompanied by several prominent local leaders and party workers, including Surjeet Singh Sonu (Mandal President), Ex-Sarpanch Fazal Din, Mohd Hussain, Ajay Sharma, Sanjay Sharma, Pintu, Karuna Chhetri, Mohinder Sharma, Sushil Tagotra, Raman Sharma, Kuldeep Kumar, Farman Khatana, Rohit Sharma, Vikram Singh, among others.

The presence of the local leadership and their active participation reflected a unified effort to strengthen community ties and address developmental challenges. Residents appreciated the initiative and welcomed the MLA's outreach and commitment to their welfare.

# LEAD launches second edition of its Annual Smarika

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: LJK Economic Growth & Development Dialogue (LEAD) launched the second edition of its Annual Smarika--at an event held at Amar Singh Club, Jammu.

This annual edition documents LEAD's ongoing work with communities, institutions, and individuals across Ladakh, Jammu, and Kashmir. From entrepreneurship and rural development to policy advocacy and cooperative action, the Smarika captures the spirit and scale of LEAD's commitment to inclusive economic transformation.

The event was graced by Dr. Devansh Yadav, CEO, Jammu Smart City Ltd. and Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation, who served as the Chief Guest.

Dr. Yadav appreciated LEAD's impact-driven initiatives and shared his personal experience of witnessing the Machail Mata Prasad Project-a key effort under the LJK Multipurpose Cooperative, an important vertical of LEAD.



CEO Jammu Smart City Ltd, Dr. Devansh Yadav and others dignitaries releasing second edition of LEAD's Annual Smarika.

He also expressed interest in collaborating with LEAD to promote cultural initiatives like the Aarti tradition from Jammu to Lakhampur and explore larger developmental collaborations.

Rajesh Gupta, Senior Board Member of LEAD, opened the event by welcoming the guests and introducing the LEAD family. He extended heartfelt thanks to all members for their continued support and involvement.

Before the official launch, Harinder Gupta, Convenor and Senior Board Member of LEAD, addressed the gathering and shared insights on

LEAD's structure and broader mission. He highlighted major initiatives that are shaping the economic and social landscape of the region.

Col. Ajatshatru Jamwal, In-charge of the Cooperative Sector at LEAD, elaborated on the organization's cooperative efforts including the LJK Store and the Machail Prasad Project, which stand as models of community participation and service.

Sanjeev Sharma, Board Member and In-charge of the Smarika, gave a brief overview of this year's publication. He thanked the contributors and team members

whose efforts made the publication possible. He informed the audience that 5,000 copies have been printed and will be distributed to key stakeholders, organizations, and individuals.

Manish Ahluwalia, Director at LEAD, acknowledged the active participation of members and stressed the importance of preparing for emerging technological, environmental, and social challenges. He encouraged LEAD's sector teams to work on innovative and sustainable solutions.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by CA Rajeev Gupta, who appreciated the

support and dedication of LEAD members and encouraged everyone to stay committed to LEAD's mission of inclusive growth and development.

The launch was also attended by LEAD Core Members- Vikram Gujral, Surinder Mohan Gupta, Alankrit Mahajan, Kamal Kishore Sharma, Sector Coordinators- Suneel Mahajan (Handloom & Handicraft), Ramesh Kumar Chibber (Cooperative & Financial Services), Ashish Gupta (IT Sector), Vishal Abrol (Real Estate & Housing Sector), Gaurav Abrol (Education Sector), Gaurav Gupta (Healthcare & AYUSH Sector), Raman Suri (Traders Sectors), Rajesh Jain (Manufacturing Sector), Rahat Gupta (Power Sector) and Sector Co-ordinators and members and well-wishers who continue to stand with the organization in its mission to transform Ladakh, Jammu, and Kashmir into a vibrant economic region driven by its people.

# Madhuparamhans Maharaj enlightens devotees on nature of 'Mind and Soul'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RANJRI: Sadguru of Sahib Bandagi, Shri Madhuparamhans Ji Maharaj, delivered a profound spiritual discourse today, addressing a large congregation with his enlightening words. Speaking at Ranjdi, he emphasized the mystery of the human mind and soul, highlighting how most individuals fail to truly understand themselves.



the human body is engaged in both gross and subtle actions, many of which are driven by thoughts and intentions not expressed in words but through subtle gestures, such as the eyes. Yet, no one fully comprehends the waves of the mind or how it functions. Even great beings like Gandharvas, Rishis, and Munis have been influenced by the mind's dance, which constantly manipulates thoughts and decisions.

He elaborated that people often describe an inner conflict, as if multiple minds

are at play, but in reality, there is only one mind, which very few can truly understand. Just like a juggler commands a monkey, the mind manipulates the body, making humans perform actions-many of which are destructive and harmful.

Drawing from ancient scriptures, Maharaj Ji mentioned that Vashishtha Ji had also explained the fierce nature of the mind to Lord Ram. He broke down the components of inner functioning: When it resolves, it is called 'mind' (manas); When it decides, it is called 'intellect' (buddhi); When it remembers, it is called 'memory' (chitta); and When it identifies and acts, it is called 'ego' (ahankaar).

These four aspects are responsible for all actions within the human body. Maharaj Ji emphasized that the mind is the doer, and it can become a per-

son's greatest enemy. It compels actions and then causes the person to regret them later, only to make them forget and repeat those mistakes.

He stressed the importance of meditation and concentration to gain control over the mind. Through Surat Yoga, the practitioner can begin to observe the mind's workings. Just like a child goes to school to study, one must meditate with the intention to focus. However, the mind resists concentration, pulling attention outward rather than inward. Just like invisible mobile waves, the mind operates subtly and powerfully, disrupting spiritual progress. Maharaj Ji reiterated that no one truly knows the mind, yet it influences every action. Just as people remain cautious of someone who deceives them, he urged everyone to be vigilant of

their own mind's deceptions, which lead them away from truth and self-realization.

He warned not to delay spiritual practice until old age, as old age brings physical limitations-the body may not allow sitting, walking, or even eating properly. At that stage, it becomes harder to engage in deep spiritual practice.

Concluding his discourse, Sadguru Ji said that within this body, only the mind and soul reside. Yet, man understands neither. All bodily functions follow the mind's instructions, and it is because of this that even the soul becomes entangled in sinful actions. He called upon everyone to start spiritual practice in the present, rather than postponing it for later stages of life.

His words left a deep impact on the congregation, stirring introspection and spiritual resolve among the listeners.

# Natrang stages Hindi comedy play 'Prem Visheshagya'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In its regular weekly theatre series, Sunday Theatre, Natrang staged a Hindi Comedy Play, 'Prem Visheshagya' written by Hari Shanker Parsai & directed by Balwant Thakur at its Studio Theatre. The play comments on the young generation, who are engrossed in the idea of love, so much so that they are ready to die for the one they love. This humorous comedy tickled the audience, for whom it was difficult to resist their laughter at every instant.

The story of the play 'Prem Visheshagya' revolves around a love guru who has opened a clinic to cater to the growing demand of relationship conflicts. Claiming himself to be the last destination of all broken hearts, he confronts with such complicated cases that he himself trapped into similar complications. The dramatic turn comes in the play when a



A scene from play 'Prem Visheshagya' directed by Neeraj Kant, presenting in Natrang's Sunday Theatre.

young girl comes to his clinic to get rid of the modern 'Majnu' who has sacrificed everything for her. In the process of treating the girl, the love Guru falls in her love, thus creating yet another comic situation. Who will treat if the doctor himself becomes the patient?

Other than making us laugh, the play conveys very strong message to the society also, particularly to the youth, who is required to concentrate

more on career rather than flying high on imaginative, unreal and dreamy clouds of what we term as infatuation. Natrang actors who performed in the play included Aryan Sharma, Adaksh Bagal, Prerna Sharma, Kartik Kumar and Amit Rana. The lights of the play were executed by Neeraj Kant. The play was coordinated by Mohd. Yaseen and the presentations were done by Simran Bhagat.

# 'Sugar Boards' will make students health-conscious: Balbir

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir BJP spokesperson and former Vice Chairperson, Balbir Ram Rattan, said that the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)'s significant health initiative 'Sugar Boards' is a commendable step aimed at making students aware of the amount of sugar in their diet.



obesity and diabetes. This is a timely initiative in light of growing concerns over the increasing cases of diabetes and obesity among school-going children.

Through this initiative, children will now become cautious in making food choices and more health-conscious.

Balbir stated that such arrangements should be made in all schools across the country so that children start becoming aware of their

health from a young age. He also suggested that this awareness should not be limited to schools alone, but should be extended to offices, canteens, and other institutions to develop a strong culture of health consciousness in society.

This step will not only inspire children toward a healthy future but will also promote awareness about nutrition and health across the society. This will serve as a powerful example for future generations of the country.

Balbir Ram Rattan mentioned that Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted this initiative in detail during this month's episode of his radio programme Mann Ki Baat and shared the significance of 'Sugar Boards'.

# Today's youth should connect with historical icons: Priya Sethi

Chairs meeting in honour of great Maratha queen, Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: J&K BJP held a meeting at the party Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu to deliberate upon a series of programmes to be organized in honour of the great Maratha queen, Punyashlok Ahilyabai Holkar.

The legendary ruler is remembered for her inclusive leadership, spiritual wisdom, social reform initiatives, and tireless commitment to public welfare.

The meeting was chaired by former minister Priya Sethi and attended by programme co-convenors BJP Mahila Morcha President Smt. Sanjita Dogra, Amar Singh, Adv. Neha Mahajan, and Reema Padha, District Presidents Adv. Rajesh Gupta, and Naresh Singh Jasrotia, as well as Mandal Presidents and other senior



Former minister Priya Sethi chairing BJP workers meeting.

party functionaries.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held regarding the structure, content, and outreach of the proposed programmes. These events are scheduled to be organized across various levels, with active involvement of the civil society, women, youth, and cultural organizations.

While addressing the meet-

ing, Priya Sethi described Ahilyabai Holkar as a timeless symbol of good governance, compassion, and justice. "Her reign is remembered for its administrative excellence, peaceful coexistence, and significant contributions to infrastructure, including the renovation and construction of temples, dharamshalas, and water bodies across India," Priya

Sethi said.

She added that Ahilyabai's leadership was rooted in Indian cultural values, and her ideals of justice, inclusivity, and development continue to serve as guiding principles for modern governance.

"The upcoming programmes aim to educate party workers and the general public about these enduring values, which also res-

onate with the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has consistently emphasized Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas."

Priya Sethi further emphasized the importance of connecting today's youth with such historical icons whose work laid the foundation for an equitable and harmonious society.

"It is crucial that we draw inspiration from such towering personalities and integrate their legacy into our current socio-political framework," she concluded. The BJP leadership reaffirmed its commitment to organizing meaningful and inclusive programmes that pay tribute to the legacy of Ahilyabai Holkar while instilling a spirit of service, pride, and cultural awareness among the masses.