

# NCC always served society with commitment, dedication: LG Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Saturday said that National Cadet Corps (NCC) has always served the society with commitment, efficiency and complete dedication in accordance with its motto "Unity and Discipline".  
"The NCC has made immense contribution in nation-building", the Lieutenant Governor said while addressing senior wing Cadets of National Cadet Corps at Special National Integration Camp, at JAKLI Regimental Centre, Rangreth.  
He appreciated the NCC Directorate, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh for providing opportunity to young cadets to forge life-long friendships, understand and value the rich heritage of cultures that forge unity despite the diverse languages and traditions.  
He said the Special National Integration Camp promotes the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' and has brought together cadets from 17 directorates of the country to foster common values of patriotism, integrity and selfless service.  
The activities at the camp truly symbolize the spirit of



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha along with senior wing Cadets of National Cadet Corps at Special National Integration Camp at JAKLI Regimental Centre, Rangreth.

unity in diversity. It instils in cadets the values of discipline, integrity and camaraderie, he added.  
The Lt Governor lauded the major role of National Cadet Corps in promoting the fundamental values and propagating principles of human dignity and equality in the society transcending the boundary of race, religion and gender. These core values bind us to a shared vision for a brighter future, he added.  
He observed that the Special National Integration Camp will enable NCC cadets to appreciate and share the common aspirations of the youth of Kashmir Valley vis a vis the

rest of the country. Addressing the cadets, the Lt Governor reiterated the commitment of the UT Administration towards the empowerment of youth of Jammu Kashmir.  
The Lt Governor called upon the youth to join the NCC in large number and selflessly serve the society and the nation.  
NCC Directorate of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh is establishing three new NCC units. It has already established state-of-the-art training academies in Nagrota and Leh and also started programmes to connect the youth with innovation and start-ups.  
As part of 'Ek Bharat

Shreshtha Bharat'

Programme, over 250 cadets from 17 directorates of the country participated in the camp organised by NCC Directorate, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh.  
On the occasion, the cadets showcased the rich and diverse cultures of India through their performances.  
Major General RK Sachdeva, Additional Director General, NCC Directorate, Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh, Brig. Deepak Sajjanhar, Group Commander NCC Group Srinagar and other senior officers were also present.



## Dr Jitendra presents 'Times Now' Doctor's Awards, emphasises preventive healthcare for young



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, flanked by a group of nationally distinguished medical specialists, who received "Times Now" Doctor's Award from him at a ceremony at Hotel Taj, New Delhi on Saturday.

Healthcare for all," said Union Minister Dr. Singh.  
Dr. Jitendra said "It's a rare occasion to have some of the best brains in medicine coming together under one roof."  
Dr. Singh, who is himself a professor of medicine & endocrinology, expressed gratitude on meeting his teacher B.C. Roy award winner Prof Dr V. Seshiah, founder-head of India's first-ever Department of Diabetology that was started at Madras Medical College, Chennai, who was felicitated at the event.  
He also appreciated the

organisers for bringing three generations of doctors together under the same room. The Union minister also felicitated the doctors in 'Legends of Medicine' Category.  
The Science and Technology Minister said "India acknowledges the sacrifices made by doctors, especially during challenging times such as the COVID-19 pandemic" and Doctors' Day is a special occasion to honour the tireless dedication and invaluable contributions of our doctors and medical professionals, he added. He also highlighted the critical

role that doctors play in ensuring the health and well-being of our society.  
Highlighting India's progress in the last decade in the health sector, Dr. Jitendra Singh said "India became a global leader not just in curative healthcare but also in preventive healthcare."  
Emphasizing the cooperation and collaboration of both the Government and Private sector to provide best services to citizens and promote ease of healthy living. He also highlighted the government's initiatives and policies aimed at sup-

porting and improving the healthcare system.  
Speaking on development of medical infrastructure the minister recalled the number of AIIMS before 2014 compared to the number in 2024, he shared that health care should not limit itself to allopathic medicine but it should be seen holistically with integration of AYUSH and other systems. He also mentioned that the government is committed to providing better working conditions, continuous education and research opportunities for medical professionals.

## Dr Darakhshan addresses Seerat Conference at Srinagar Prophet of Islam gave message of peace and harmony to humanity: Andrabi



Chairperson JKWB, Dr Syed Darakhshan Andrabi addressing Seerat Conference.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
SRINAGAR: Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board (MoS), Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi on Saturday attended the Seerat Conference as the Chief Guest at New Bonvivant English School at Aali Masjid Hawal in Srinagar.  
A large number of invited delegates, staff and the students of the School participated in the Conference.

Dr Andrabi in her address emphasised on the need to disseminate the message of brotherhood and moral excellence of the Prophet Mohammed (SAW) among the new generation so that they are led to a blissful and impactful life ahead.  
"The prophet of Islam gave the message of peace and harmony to whole of the humanity and this mes-

sage remains relevant in all ages for whole of the world. In order to gift a life full of peace, compassion and tolerance to our new generation, we need to teach them the messages from Prophet Mohammed (SAW)", said Dr Andrabi.  
She said that the great prophet's teachings are a boon for humanity which leads to a blissful and inclusive life.  
"We can simply come out of the myopic fragmented thought processes by following the teachings of the Prophet of Peace. Such interactive programmes involving the young minds are of great importance for a just and peaceful and progressive society where morality and spirituality are in the driving seat", said Waqf Board Chairperson.

## Shri Gou Gopal Paryavaran Sammelan Ecological balance remained priority for humanity since Vedic times: Rana



Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana addressing a gathering.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
BHAIWAL: Senior BJP leader Devender Singh Rana on Saturday underscored the need for harmonious relationship between humans and nature, saying the civilized world might have awakened to the crucial significance of ecological balance since the past few decades but Sanatan Dharma has been focusing on it from Vedic times.  
"The earth, rivers, mountains, and forests are revered and worshipped since the inception of Sanatan civilization as Goddess 'Prakrati', Devender Rana said while addressing Shri Gou Gopal Paryavaran Sammelan at Seeri Paanditan here.  
Rana extended warm birthday wishes to His Holiness Shri Gangadhar Shastri Ji Maharaj, expressing hope that his enlightening discourses will keep guiding the society and inspire people to participate in his noble mission for the greater good of humanity.  
He said maintaining an ecosystem is imperative for the overall good of humani-

ty, as a congenial and clean environment is indispensable for a healthy life. Abuse of the ecosystem like extinction of greenery particularly trees and damage to biodiversity can prove disastrous for the very existence of the human race. He, however, expressed satisfaction over growing awareness about the importance of the environment across continents and dialogue between global communities is promoting ecological balance.  
Rana also lauded the mass campaign initiated by the Shri Gou Gopal Paryavaran Samiti and hoped that the reach out programme will be intensified in a big way for generating awareness about maintaining ecological balance. The need for such an initiative is all the more imperative because of the depleting green gold and growing population.  
He said the relentless efforts of spreading environmental awareness through religious awakening discourses is bound to have a lasting impact on the people and motivating them to be part of this noble mission for

the greater good of humanity. The youth in particular should be a focal point in such discourses to make them understand the crucial importance of a healthy and fit body for having a calm mind. Taking care of health is imperative before it is too late and to make it achievable, the awakening campaigns are of immense importance, he added.  
He said the Samiti has made a niche for itself in the wake of its selfless services to mankind through Samelans, which will certainly help in generating mass awareness about the evils encountered by the society, especially on account of depleting forest resources and the other sources of environment degradation.  
ana urged the people, especially the youth, to adopt a healthy lifestyle, saying health is the first and foremost prerequisite for a healthy society. He sought carving out of an enabling environment so that people lead a healthy and stressless life in a healthy environment that is the need of the time.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS  
JAMMU: The Zonal Police Headquarters (ZPHQ) Jammu organized a one-day training programme on New Criminal Laws namely the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA), aimed at educating Police officers and officials of Jammu Zone, was held in the Conference Hall of PHQ, J&K, Jammu today.  
This initiative is a part of ZPHQ's continuous efforts to keep the police force updated on legal advancements and ensuring effective law enforcement.  
The training programme was attended by all Range Deputy Inspectors General (DIGs), Senior Superintendents of Police (SSPs) from districts of Jammu province, senior Police officers based in Jammu, and Commandants of IRP and Armed Battalions based in Jammu Zone.  
The programme was conducted under the guidance of Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Jammu Zone, Anand Jain.  
The primary objective of the session was to sensitise and educate police officers about the three new criminal laws scheduled to be implemented from July 01, 2024, and ensuring that they are well-versed with the new legal framework.



ADGP Jammu Zone, Anand Jain speaking at training programme.

"The event witnessed active participation from police officers of Jammu province, who interacted and engaged during the sessions, sought clarifications, and raised their queries. This interactive approach facilitated a thorough understanding of the new laws.  
"At the outset, DIG Training PHQ Sarah Rizvi, welcomed all participants and encouraged them to actively engage in the programme. She emphasized the importance of the training mission and urged the officers to disseminate the knowledge gained to their respective districts and units amongst their personnel for effective implementation of the new criminal laws while integrating them with the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS).  
"During his address, ADGP Jammu Zone, Anand Jain, underscored the necessity of staying updat-

ed with the latest legal reforms to ensure that justice and law enforcement are in alignment with current legal standards. He highlighted the role of the police force in implementing these changes effectively.  
"Senior Prosecuting Officer Hemanshu Mahajan, provided an in-depth explanation of the new laws, offering clarity on their implementation and highlighting the significance of adhering to legal statutes for maintaining law and order. Emphasis was placed on understanding and implementing the reforms introduced vide the new criminal laws.  
"Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Mubassir Latifi, CO of IRP 10th Battalion, spoke on the BNS, shedding light on its provisions and the changes it introduces. Chief Prosecuting Officer (CPO) Rajeshwar Basotra, from District Police Office (DPO) Udhampur and Senior Prosecuting Officer (Sr. PO)

Gurpreet Kour, JKPS, from DPO Samba, elaborated on the BNSS, providing insights into its implications for citizen safety and security. Sr. PO Rohit Tidy, DPO Jammu provided an in-depth analysis of the BSA, elaborating on its significance and implications for law enforcement agencies.  
"A notable feature of the programme was the demonstration on the collection of digital evidence. This session was conducted by PSI Arjun Singh, In-Charge Police Post Kullian, PSI Anurek Singh, In-Charge Police Post Sainik Colony, and PSI Sandeep Kumar Raju.  
Their practical demonstrations provided valuable insights into the methods and techniques for effectively gathering digital evidence, which is crucial in modern criminal investigation.  
"The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Vishal Manhas, SO to ADGP Jammu Zone. He expressed gratitude to all the participants, speakers, and organizers for their contributions to making the training programme a success.  
This training programme marks a significant step towards equipping the police force with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement the new criminal laws effectively, ensuring a more robust and compliant law enforcement mechanism in Jammu Zone.

## Vehicle growth in Kashmir outpaces road expansion



900,000 registered vehicles, with approximately 75,000 new vehicles added to the roads each year.  
This influx, which includes both public and private vehicles as well as two-wheelers, is putting immense pressure on the existing road network.  
A senior Public Works Department official highlighted the challenges in addressing

the issue.  
"Road length in Kashmir is over 25,000 Kms, but more than road length, it's the widening of roads where the bottlenecks are," the official stated.  
He pointed out that while many buildings and shops earmarked for demolition to facilitate road widening were identified a decade ago, the cost of

compensation has skyrocketed. "If a house which comes under road widening was estimated at Rs 10 lakh ten years back, now the government has to pay a compensation of minimum Rs 1 crore," he explained.  
The situation in Srinagar is particularly dire. Three crucial road widening projects - the Khanyar-Zadibal-Pandach road, Syed Meerak Shah Road, and the semi-ring road - remain pending, adding to traffic woes in the city.  
Adding to the complexity, recent Smart City initiatives have expanded footpaths in some areas, inadvertently reducing available road space for vehicles.  
The impact of this crisis extends beyond mere inconvenience. It affects business efficiency, public transportation reliability, emergency service response times, and the tourism industry.  
The rapid urbanization and

growth in vehicle ownership have overwhelmed the existing urban transport system. Vehicle registrations in Srinagar have risen from 17,000 per year in 2011 to 24,000 in 2018.  
The city now sees a total of 4.056 million daily trips, with a per capita trip rate of 1.80 (including walking) and 1.5 (excluding walking).  
According to experts, addressing Kashmir's traffic crisis will require a comprehensive approach.  
Potential solutions include accelerating pending road widening projects, implementing intelligent traffic management systems, and encouraging alternative transportation modes.  
However, with the average monthly household income in Srinagar at about Rs 26,384, the affordability of private vehicles remains high, further complicating the issue.