

Gaurav calls on LG Sinha, submits memo, seeks equitable development for Jammu Region



BJP J&K Spokesperson, Gaurav Gupta calling on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP Jammu & Kashmir, Gaurav Gupta, on Tuesday called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, Jammu, and submitted a detailed memorandum highlighting critical issues that demand immediate administrative intervention for the balanced development of the Jammu region.

While appreciating the transformative development under the leadership of LG Sinha in sectors like infrastructure, healthcare, and connectivity, Gaurav Gupta pointed out certain pressing concerns that continue to impact the residents of Jammu.

Foremost among the issues raised was the neglect of Jammu in tourism revitalization efforts. He expressed concern over the exclusive focus on

reviving Kashmir's tourism sector post the Pithलगam incident and Kashmir Rail Connectivity with the rest of the country, while Jammu has been left out of the promotional initiatives. He urged the administration to expedite all pending Jammu-based tourism projects, develop structured tourism circuits, and actively engage leading travel operators to project Jammu as a prime religious, cultural, and heritage destination.

Another significant issue brought to the fore was the delay in resolution of 'Gair Mumkin Khad' land disputes. While acknowledging the progress made in Kathua and Samba districts, Gaurav highlighted that a large number of such cases across Jammu are still pending, causing undue

hardship to affected families. He requested the LG to direct concerned departments to fast-track pending cases and issue clear, uniform guidelines to resolve classification ambiguities.

The BJP Spokesperson also flagged the persistent problem of denial of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) in Gandhi Nagar Colony. He stated that despite the colony's establishment in the early 1960s and its prominence as a residential area, the J&K Housing Board continues to withhold NOCs for plot approvals and property transfers, thereby hindering legal transactions and urban development. He appealed to the LG to intervene and streamline the NOC issuance process to facilitate lawful development and citizen convenience.

Gaurav Gupta expressed hope that the Lieutenant Governor would give due consideration to the issues raised in the memorandum. He stated that timely redressal of these matters will not only strengthen public faith in the administration but also ensure inclusive and equitable development across the Union Territory.

The Lieutenant Governor gave a patient hearing to the issues put forth by Gaurav Gupta and assured that all the concerns highlighted in the memorandum would be duly examined by the concerned departments. He reiterated the administration's commitment to equitable development across all regions of the Union Territory and assured that necessary steps will be taken to address the genuine grievances of the people of Jammu.

and recreational activities," asserted Anuradha Gupta, Director General Youth Services and Sports J&K.

The advisory said, students may include sports, aerobics, stretching, dancing or any fitness activity in their daily routine, adding they are also encouraged to keep themselves hydrated by taking adequate water, besides taking balanced diet and seasonal fruits apart from preserving seeds for sowing during moonsoon.

"Students may keep record of their activities in a diary or spare pages of any notebook. The Physical Education Lecturers, Masters and Teachers are advised to coordinate and support students in inculcation of healthy lifestyles. Both Joint Directors and all DYSS Officers shall supervise," the advisory added.

DG Sports issues advisory for students in Summer-Break



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In keeping with a vision of focussing on holistic personality development of youth, especially school children, the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports issued an advisory aimed at promoting physical and mental well-being of students during this period of academic recess.

"While it is hoped that the students will enjoy the holiday period to relax and unwind, they are also advised to engage themselves in creative

Com JMC chairs meeting to ensure implementation of J&K HC directions on encroachments

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a proactive step towards the effective implementation of the directions issued by the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in PIL No. 27/2017, the Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Dr. Devansh Yadav on Tuesday chaired a joint meeting of officers of line departments at the Town Hall, Jammu.

The meeting was convened to ensure coordinated enforcement of the Court's orders regarding removal of illegal encroachments, unauthorized street vending and misuse of public pathways/roads in Jammu City.

During the meeting, Dr. Devansh Yadav directed the concerned officers to immediately identify and focus on hotspot areas in the city suffering from frequent encroachments and obstruction of public and vehicular movement. He further instructed them to hold meetings with stakeholders and sensitise them against placing goods and items outside their commercial establishments, which causes inconvenience to pedestrians and disrupts traffic flow.

The Commissioner emphasized that the strict enforcement is essential not only for compliance with court directions but also to uphold public convenience, ensure pedestrian safety and maintain urban discipline in the city. Jammu Municipal Corporation in coordination with police and other line departments shall continue

its dedicated efforts to restore order on the city's streets, he maintained.

Among others, Joint Commissioner (R&E) JMC Subah Mehta, Additional Deputy Commissioner Jammu Ansuya Jamwal, Deputy Commissioner (South) JMC Lal Chand, DLR Roopali Puri, Deputy Superintendent Police (Traffic-South), Faisal, SDPO North Vikram Bahu and senior officers from JMC and allied departments attended the meeting.

Restoration of statehood not favour but right of people of J&K: Bukhari

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari on Tuesday strongly advocated for restoration of statehood to J&K, saying it is not a favour to people but their right which was snatched from them in August 2019.

He also expressed confidence that the pilgrimage to the 3,880-metre high holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas will take place peacefully as people of J&K are eagerly waiting for the arrival of guests from across the country.

"We could not win any seat in the assembly elections held last year because of the anti-Delhi sentiment of the people even as the time has proved our stand right that J&K can move forward only by joining hands with the Centre," Bukhari, a former minister, said.

He said J&K is surrounded by Pakistan, China and

JKAP president Altaf Bukhari with newly joined members.

Afghanistan and always needs the support of the central government.

However, the Centre from time to time has given the region "wounds" like the August 5, 2019 when the erstwhile state was bifurcated into two Union territories and its special status revoked, he said.

"The August 2019 development was nothing short of a catastrophe for us and they need to return what has been taken away from us. The restoration of statehood is

IGP Jammu stresses need for continued offensive posture against terror elements

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: To assess counter-terrorism efforts, capacity building, and strategic direction for the zone, the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti, on Tuesday chaired a security review meeting at the Zonal Police Headquarters (ZPHQ), Jammu.

Senior police officers, including all Range DIsG, District SSsP, SO to IGP Jammu, SSP Special Ops & Trg, all SSsP (Operations), DySSsP (Operations) of Jammu Zone, and PS/PA to IGP Jammu, attended the meeting in person and via virtual mode.

A comprehensive district-wise security assessment was conducted, during which the IGP reviewed the law and order situation and operational performance of



IGP Jammu Zone, Bhim Sen Tuti chairing security review meeting on Tuesday.

each district.

The officers were directed to maintain high levels of alertness and responsiveness to evolving security dynamics within their respective jurisdictions.

The meeting also featured a detailed review of counter-terrorism efforts undertaken across Jammu Zone. Key highlights included recent encounters, seizures,

and actionable intelligence-based operations.

The IGP stressed the need for continued offensive posture against terror elements and enhanced synergy with the Army and central armed forces.

The IGP emphasised aspects like training and skill enhancement of personnel, placing importance on regular field training

and survival skills. Officers were urged to institutionalise lessons learned and incorporate best practices into ongoing training modules, especially for SOG units and

operational teams.

In a performance-focused move, quarterly operational targets were assigned to all DySPs (Operations). These targets are aimed at fostering accountability, mission focus, and outcome-driven execution at the operational level. The officers were advised to maintain close monitoring and ensure timely progress reviews.

The meeting concluded with a shared roadmap to refine leadership roles, strengthen operational readiness, and enhance the effectiveness of intelligence-led and community-oriented policing across the Jammu Zone.

IGNOU launches online MA Programme in Journalism & Mass Communication

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has officially launched its Master of Arts in Journalism & Mass Communication (MAJMC) in online mode, expanding accessibility for aspiring media professionals across the country. The programme was previously available only through Open and Distance Learning (ODL).

The two-year postgraduate programme is open to candidates holding a Bachelor's degree in any discipline from a recognized university. It has no age restrictions and is offered in

English, Hindi, and Tamil languages. The MAJMC curriculum is tailored to meet the rising demand for skilled media professionals, offering a comprehensive mix of theory and practical training. Key focus areas include print, radio, television, and digital journalism, photography, advertising, public relations, audio-visual production, media research, and communication academics.

According to Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director, IGNOU Regional Centre Jammu, the programme provides flexibility, accessibility, and affordability for both fresh

graduates and working professionals seeking to enhance or transition their careers in media.

Graduates of the programme can explore diverse career avenues in print and digital journalism, content creation, advertising and PR, media research, and academic teaching in media studies.

Interested applicants can apply via the University's official website www.ignou.ac.in or directly through the admission portal at <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in>. The last date to apply for admission is July 15, 2025.

J&K Bank introduces API based Open Banking Services for corporates

Begins with Khyber Group of Companies in Kashmir



J&K Bank and Khyber Group of Companies officials during a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Strengthening its digital capabilities to enable ease of banking for businesses, J&K Bank has revealed its Open Banking initiative for corporate clients across the country, with Khyber Group of Companies becoming its first client under this cutting-edge platform.

Executive Director (ED) Sudhir Gupta today unveiled the initiative formally in presence of the Bank's General Manager (Cross Selling) Narjay Gupta, General Manager (Govt. Business) Syed Rais Maqbool and General Manager (Strategy & IT) Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat, DGMs and other senior officers, during a function held at the Bank's corporate headquarters.

Senior functionaries from Khyber Group including President Manzoor Ahmad Mir, Head (IT) Mohammad Ashraf Bhat, and CA Haroon Bashir from Khyber Cements

along with Chief Finance & Commercials Kaiser Ahmad and Executive (IT) Shabir Ahmad from Khyber Aquaculture were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, ED Sudhir Gupta said, "The introduction of Open Banking Services for our corporate partners is another significant milestone in the Bank's digital journey. This also marks the beginning of a new era where banking services are no longer confined within branch walls, but are now embedded seamlessly within the business processes of our partners."

"This milestone reflects our commitment to digital transformation, financial automation, and building a truly partner-centric ecosystem. We are delighted to begin this journey with the Khyber Group, and look forward to enabling many more of our partners to benefit from this technology-based financial solution", he added.

On the occasion, he also con-

gratulated the Bank's IT team along with that of the Khyber Group for making the successful integration of systems possible.

He further said, "Let this be the first of many such successful collaborations."

In his remarks on the occasion, GM Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat said, "This initiative not only strengthens our commitment to innovation and customer-centric solutions but also empowers businesses to achieve greater efficiency and transparency in their financial operations."

"By rolling out API-driven solutions, the Bank is positioning itself at the forefront of Open Banking Services, enabling business-to-business integration that aligns with the evolving needs of enterprise ecosystem", he added.

While highlighting their long-term close relationship with the Bank, the senior functionaries from Khyber Group commended the Bank for its services and

thanked the IT team for cordial and patient support during the integration of systems.

Acknowledging the efficacy of the platform, Head IT (Khyber Cements) Mohammad Ashraf said, "As part of Khyber Group's digital transformation journey, we are integrating directly with JK Bank's API to automate and streamline vendor payments. This initiative enhances transparency, reduces manual errors, and ensures real-time processing-strengthening our financial operations with speed, security, and scalability."

DGM (IT) Khavarr Mehraj Handoo gave an overview of the API based Open Banking in detail, wherein he said that the objective of initiative was to automate and simplify payment initiation directly from partner ERP systems while enabling real-time transaction tracking and reconciliation.

Built on robust API-based architecture, the platform, he said, allows secure, real-time interaction between the client's ERP platforms and banking services.

While enabling scalable integration with a wide range of ERP, CRM, and custom platforms; it enhances accuracy besides ensuring data integrity, security, and regulatory compliance in all interactions.

Jammu to Srinagar	
IndiGo	10:05 AM - 10:45 AM
SpiceJet	11:10 AM - 12:00 PM
Air India Express	12:50 PM - 1:40 PM
Air India Express	1:35 PM - 2:45 PM
IndiGo	1:55 PM - 2:35 PM
IndiGo	6:40 PM - 7:20 PM
Srinagar to Jammu	
IndiGo	11:45 AM - 12:35 PM
Air India Express	12:10 PM - 1:05 PM
SpiceJet	12:35 PM - 1:30 PM
Air India Express	2:20 PM - 3:35 PM
IndiGo	3:15 PM - 4:05 PM
IndiGo	5:20 PM - 6:10 PM

FIND TRAIN SCHEDULE	
11078 Jhelum Express	
Departure	: 23:35 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 11:15 at New Delhi
12426 Jammu Tawi - New Delhi Rajdhani Express	
Departure	: 21:25 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 05:55 at New Delhi
12446 Uttar Sampark Kranti Express	
Departure	: 21:50 from Jammu Tawi
Arrival	: 06:55 at New Delhi
Train 26401 - Katra to Srinagar (Morning Service)	
Departure	: 8:10 AM from Katra
Arrival	: 11:08 AM at Srinagar
Intermediate Stop	: Banihal at 9:58 AM
Fare:	
Chair Car (CC): 715	
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,320	
Booking: Available on IRCTC	
Train 26403 - Katra to Srinagar (Afternoon Service)	
Departure	: 2:55 PM from Katra
Arrival	: 5:53 PM at Srinagar
Fare:	
Chair Car (CC): 660	
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,270	
Booking: Available on IRCTC	

HELPLINE	
TELEPHONES	
Directory Enquiry	197
Fault Repair	198
Local Assistance	199
Trunk Booking	180
Trunk Assistance	181
International Trunk Booking	2447952, 2577951, 2573638
Ambulance Rajouri	2543896, 2548415
Billing Complaints Computerize	1955
Change No. Announcement	1951
Gandhi Nagar Exchange	2451953, 2430953
HOSPITALS	
Government Medical College	2584290, 2484291
Psychiatry and Disease Hospital	2577444
Blood Bank/Eye Bank - SMGS Hospital	2571147, 257084, 257357
Emergency	2547639, 2547637
Blood Bank	2549669
Chest Disease Hospital	2547637, 2547638
Dental Hospital	2577064, 2548012
Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar	2434670
Emergency	2431740
Child Hospital	2577023
Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital	262270
AMBULANCES	
Indian Red Cross Society	2549413
Jammu University	2453165, 2543525, 2435248
FIRE STATIONS	
Gandhi Nagar	101, 2435283, 2457705
City	2544263
Canal	2554064
Roop Nagar	2597522
Gangyal	2480026
Bari Brahmana	220020
Akhnoor	252481
Kathua	234313
Samba	243280
Katra	234551
Udhampur	270897
Police Control Room	100, 2542001, 2545481, 92
Police Exchange	2547621-22, 2547624
Civil Defence Control Room	2549100, 2548645, 2544920
Civil Defence	2548645, 2549100, 2544920
Hot Line	383
TOURISM	
Tourist Officer, Airport	2431917
Tourist Officer, Railway Station	2430078
Tourist Reception Centre	2579554
BUS SERVICES	
JKSRTC General Manager	2435262
JKSRTC Bus Stand	2577475
JKSRTC, Jammu Srinagar, Service	2576562
Punjab Roadways	2542782
WATER SUPPLY	
Company Bagh	2542582
Parade	2544979
Bakshi Nagar	2543557
Panjthirni	2547501
Narwal	2430031
ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPLAINTS	
Canal	2554147, 2554199
Parade	2542289, 2543398
Nanak Nagar	2430776
Gandhi Nagar	2430180
Shastri Nagar	2430781
Janipur	2543828, 2579258
Satwari	2452816
FIRE SERVICE : (Control Room)	
CIVIC SERVICES	
Municipality	2547846, 2542192
Health Officer	2547440
Garbage / Carcass Removal	2547440

FIND CINEMA	
SITAARE ZAMEEN PAR HINDI	
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU:	
10:00AM / 10:30AM / 12:25PM / 1:10 PM / 4 :20PM / 7:30PM / 10:05PM / 10:40 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU:	
9:35AM / 1:00PM / 03:55PM / 04:25 PM / 07:50PM / 9:55PM / 11:15PM	
How To Train Your Dragon	
Wave Cinemas - Wave Mall, Channi Rama: 3:35 PM	
Dakaan Da Munda 3	
Wave Cinemas - Wave Mall, 7:15 PM	
Housefull 5	
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 1:40PM / 10:45PM	
PVR - KC 9:30AM	
Saunkan Saunkanay 2	
PVR - KC 07:00 PM	
Wave Cinemas - Wave Mall, Channi Rama 08:00PM	