

# Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib celebrated with religious fervour

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** The Parkash Purab of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib was celebrated with great religious fervour.  
 The main function was held at Gurudwara Chathi Patshahi Tahlhi Sahib, where devotees paid obeisance throughout the day.  
 Organized by the District Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee (DGPC) Jammu, the event saw participation from devotees across Jammu. The program featured prominent local Ragi Jathas from DGPC Jammu, including Bhai Angrez Singh, Head Granthi of Guru Sis Ganj Sahib, Bhai Sarup Singh, Hazuri Ragi from Sri Darbar Sahib, performed Shabad Kirtans, which captivated the Sikh Sangat of Jammu. Another



Sikh devotees visiting Gurudwara Chathi Patshahi Tahlhi Sahib on Friday.

notable participant was Bhai Angrez Singh, Head Granthi of Guru Sis Ganj Sahib, Delhi. Dhadi Balbir Singh Bhathal Sarhali Walian Bibiyan da Dhadi Jatha also performed, singing heroic ballads that inspired the Sikh community.  
 In line with their commitment to honor Sikh students who excel in various fields, DGPC Jammu honored Harnit Singh IAS, son of Gurvinder Kour and Malvinder Singh of Nanak Nagar, Jammu, for his outstanding achievement in qualifying the UPSC 2023. DGPC announced plans to

organize an annual event to honor Sikh students excelling in different fields.  
 Addressing the congregation, Ranvir Singh, Joint Secretary of DGPC Jammu, and Harjit Singh, Member of DGPC Jammu, highlighted the life of Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib and discussed current issues affecting the community.  
 Balvinder Singh, Vice President, expressed concern over repeated incidents where Sikh students were denied entry into NEET exam centers while wearing a Kada and Kirpan, despite clear directions on the NTA website allowing these religious items. An FIR (No. 142 dated 21.06.2024) was registered at Police Station Satwari, and an investigation is ongoing.  
 Ranjit Singh Tohra, President of DGPC Jammu,

# Bukhari reviews preparedness of Party ahead of Assembly Elections in J&K Asks Party leaders to gear up election campaign

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** Apni Party President, Altaf Bukhari on Friday reviewed the preparedness of the Party in Jammu region ahead of the proposed Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir.  
 Bukhari chaired an important provincial level meeting here at the office of the Apni Party at Gandhi Nagar in Jammu District.  
 The meeting was attended by State General Secretary, Vijay Bakaya and other senior leadership from across the region, all district presidents, and frontal heads.  
 The Party leaders shared assembly wise details to the Party President and informed him about their working and public contact program in Jammu region.  
 Bukhari directed the Party leaders to speed-up the public



Apni Party President, Altaf Bukhari speaking in a meeting.

outreach programme and educate people about the equitable developmental policy, and welfare programs of the Party that would be implemented, if the Party forms Govt in Jammu and Kashmir. In this regard, he reviewed the Party's preparedness ahead of the proposed Assembly Elections in Jammu and Kashmir.  
 He directed the Party leaders to hold continuous meetings with the people in every nook and corner of the region.  
 Similarly, the Party leaders were asked to hold regular review meetings and gear up the election campaign.  
 He directed the leaders to put up a fight in favour of all the sections of society, particularly the economically weaker section.

# IIM Jammu concludes Fifth Batch of CBP on Small Business Development Units



Director IIM Jammu, Prof. B.S. Sahay posing with students and faculty.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu under the leadership of Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu, under the aegis of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, in collaboration with the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce (DICC), concluded the valedictory ceremony for the fifth batch of the Capacity Building Program (CBP) on Small Business Development Units (SBDUs). The ceremony took place at the Bharat Classroom, IIM Jammu Jagti Campus, on 1st July 2024, marking a new

chapter in entrepreneurial empowerment. The fifth batch which comprised of 39 participants from various parts of the country, including individuals from the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.  
 During the ceremony, participants shared their experiences, highlighting the transformative impact of the program on their entrepreneurial journeys.  
 Dr. Sarbjit Singh, Program Director, SBDU, IIM Jammu, expressed that the program has been a wonderful journey filled with new learnings and constructive discussions. He highlighted that this marks the beginning of a new journey and

contributing to strengthening the Indian economy and nation-building. Among the notable attendees were Dr. Vivek Sharma, Chief Innovation Officer (CIO), Centre for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Skill Development, IIM Jammu; and Naren Karunakaran, Consultant, Centre for Diversity and Inclusion, IIM Jammu, including officers and staff of IIM Jammu.  
 The ceremony included the distribution of certificates, followed by the rendition of the national anthem, symbolizing unity and collective aspirations. The event was coordinated by the Small Business Development Unit Team, IIM Jammu.  
 The Capacity Building Program on Small Business Development Units by IIM Jammu sets the stage for transformative growth, empowering aspiring and existing entrepreneurs to realize their dreams and contribute meaningfully to the socio-economic development of the nation.

# Randhawa plants saplings of fruit trees, advocates 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' as top priority

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** Former Legislator and senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Vikram Randhawa planted the saplings of fruit trees and also advocated 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' as top priority.  
 He planted the saplings in his industrial unit at Panchayat Khandwal in RS Pura Jammu South Assembly segment.  
 Residents and many others people were present on the occasion.  
 Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam, flagged during the Environment Day celebrations, urges people of the country and across the world to plant trees in the name of their mothers to celebrate both motherhood and the environment. The campaign also calls on mothers to post photographs of sowing the saplings along with their children on social media to spread awareness.  
 Prime Minister's Modi's



Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa planting a sapling.

latest 'Mann ki Baat' address where he spoke about the Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam. "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam campaign flagged off by the Prime Minister recently will definitely be the main focus of my daily schedule," Randhawa said.  
 He lauded the PM for launching this meaningful campaign, which seeks to involve every citizen in environmental conservation efforts.  
 Randhawa said he would focus on taking forward the Prime Minister's initiative.  
 He emphasized that tree planting not only contributes to environmental preservation but also supports afforestation efforts.  
 Randhawa urged all residents of the state to join the 'Vriksharopan Mahabhiyan' and plant a tree in their mother's name.

"I appeal to everyone to join this campaign. Take a selfie with your family, including your mother. If your mother is not there, you can plant a sapling and take a selfie with her picture. Pictures can also be uploaded on the website designated under the campaign. This will inspire other people", Randhawa added.  
 He outlined the extensive campaign, which will involve planting various types of saplings across village panchayats, municipal bodies, parks, alongside roads, and in vacant spaces.  
 "This extensive campaign will involve carrying out plantations in village panchayats, municipal bodies, parks, alongside road. He also emphasized the importance of protecting the Trees after planting.  
 He assured that the government is fully committed to the campaign, which will proceed as planned.

# Yudhvir visits Kabir Basti to assess rain damage; urges UEED for immediate action

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** In a prompt response to the recent heavy rains that caused significant damage in Kabir Basti due to overflowing drains, Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President, visited the affected area to assess the situation firsthand. Accompanied with Dr Akshay Sharma, ex Councillor, Yudhvir Sethi interacted with the local residents to understand their grievances and assured them of swift remedial measures. He expressed deep concern over the hardships faced by the residents due to the accumulation of drain water, which had severely impacted homes and streets in Kabir Basti. He took immediate cognizance of the situation and emphasized the need for urgent intervention to prevent any further damage.  
 Sethi said, "The recent rains have exposed the vulnerability of our drainage system in Kabir Basti. It is imperative that we address this issue on a war footing to ensure the safety and well-being of the residents."  
 He took the matter with the officials of Urban



Yudhvir Sethi, J&K BJP Vice President, visiting rain affected area to assess the situation firsthand.

Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) and urged them to take immediate steps to resolve this problem. He highlighted the necessity of a comprehensive plan to upgrade the drainage infrastructure in the area. He called for the deployment of adequate resources and personnel to expedite the repair and maintenance work. He also stressed the importance of regular monitoring and timely desilting of drains to avoid such incidents in the future.  
 "The people of Kabir Basti deserve better infrastructure and living conditions. The BJP is committed to working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all residents. We will not rest until this issue is resolved," he said and underscores the BJP's commitment to addressing the issues faced by the common man and working towards sustainable solutions.

# PGCIL hands over Truck Mounted Water Tanker to DC Kargil under CSR

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**KARGIL:** Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) handed over a 'Truck Mounted Water Tanker' with 9 kL capacity to DC Kargil for Government Degree College, Kargil under CSR on Friday.  
 Under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative of PGCIL, the tanker was handed over by Rajesh Kumar, Executive Director (Northern Region-II) on behalf of PGCIL to Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, District Development Commissioner, Kargil in the presence of Chief Executive Councillor LAHDC, Kargil, Mohd. Jaffer Akhmoon, Arshad Iqbal Shah,



Executive Director (Northern Region-II) PGCIL Rajesh Kumar handing over symbolic key to Shrikant Balasaheb Suse, DDC Kargil.

Sr:GM(Ladakh), Vinod Prakash Baxla, General Manager(HR) and several senior officers from PGCIL and Kargil District administration along with staff and students of GDC Kargil were present on the occasion.  
 The cost of the handed over tanker is approximately Rs 29.59 lakh.  
 Permanent water supply for daily use was a primary concern for the college and to resolve the issue, college authorities had raised the matter with the District Magistrate, Kargil who in turn requested PGCIL to provide a water tanker to ensure an ample supply of

portable drinking water for the college students and staff.  
 Subsequently the MoU for providing this tanker was signed and today this tanker was formally handed over to DC, Kargil for the use of GDC Kargil.  
 PGCIL has been continuously extending support for development of various infrastructure activities in the UT of Ladakh through its CSR initiatives. So far CSR Projects worth Rs 3 crores have already been executed by PGCIL in UT Ladakh.  
 CEC Kargil, DC Kargil and Principal GDC Kargil thanked PGCIL for taking up this CSR initiative for providing this particular infrastructure in the Kargil district which will benefit the students and college staff of the district.

# Steel Secretary visits NMDC's New State-of-the-art R&D Centre

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**HYDERABAD:** Nagendra Nath Sinha, Secretary, Ministry of Steel, visited NMDC's new state-of-the-art Research and Development (R&D) facility in Patancheru, Hyderabad on Friday.  
 The Steel Secretary reviewed the innovations, sustainable mineral processing technology, and future roadmap of the Research and Development wing. He was accompanied by Amitava Mukherjee, CMD (Additional Charge); Vinay Kumar, Director (Technical); V Suresh, Director (Commercial); B Vishwanath, CVO and senior officers from NMDC. Speaking to the officers, Nagendra Nath Sinha said, "NMDC's R&D Centre will mark a new chapter in the field of mineral exploration and development, creating opportunities for sustainable and innovative technology to thrive. This leading-edge facility should



Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Nagendra Nath Sinha chairing a meeting.

serve as a gateway for international and domestic collaborations while bringing a futuristic approach to the Indian mining industry." Contributing to the field of mineral processing since 1970, NMDC R&D has been recognized as a Centre of Excellence by both UNIDO and DSIR for its knowledge and technology transfer to the domestic and global industry. "NMDC strives to stay ahead of the curve by embracing innovation and building an ecosystem that empowers Responsible Mining. Our new R&D facility

# Bharat Vikas Parishad organizes plantation drive at Chhani Himmat

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
**JAMMU:** To commemorate the 103rd Birth Anniversary of Dr. Suraj Prakash Gupta, the founder of Bharat Vikas Parishad, the Shivalik Branch organized a plantation drive in Green Belt Park, Chhani Himmat. This event was part of a series of programs arranged by Bharat Vikas Parishad across India.  
 Dr. Gautam Mehngi, a social activist and State Sanchalak of RSS, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Vikram Randhawa, former MLC, presided over the function. Neena Gupta, Ex-Corporator of JMC, was also a special invitee.  
 The plantation drive aimed to address various environmental issues such as desertification, soil erosion, desertification in semi-arid areas, and global warming.  
 Trees play a crucial role in enhancing the beauty and environmental balance by absorbing harmful gases and increasing oxygen supply.  
 Ashok Khajuria, Secretary of the Shivalik Branch, conducted the proceedings of the



Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Convener (Yoga) of Bharat Vikas Parishad watering a sapling.

programme. H.C. Vaid, Branch President, welcomed the guests and participants, emphasizing the importance of plantation for all living organisms.  
 A total of 80 shady and herbal plants were planted during the drive, with support from Ashwini Kumar Mittal, DFO, and his team.  
 Dr. Shreyansh Kumar Jain, State Convener (Yoga) of Bharat Vikas Parishad and State Yoga Commissioner, recited a song highlighting the purpose of tree plantation to protect the environment and enrich human life.  
 Anju Bansal, Project Incharge and Branch Bal Vikas and Mahila Pramukh,

also contributed with a song on tree plantation. The event was graced by prominent citizens of Chhani Himmat. State President BB Sharma, General Secretary Shivram Sharma, and National Executive Members Arun Sharma and Ashok Gupta participated actively.  
 Jagdish Singh Ishwar, State Coordinator Environment, shared insights on the importance of tree plantation, while blessings were given by Dr. Gautam Mehngi and BB Sharma. The event concluded with Ashok Gupta delivering a vote of thanks, highlighting the collective effort to promote environmental stewardship through such initiatives.  
 Saroori, Vice Chairman DPAP meeting with several deputations.  
 Saroori will be able to benefit from several government-launched schemes." Saroori's call for action is rooted in the belief that updated demographic data will ensure that government resources and benefits reach those in need.  
 Saroori urged the government to take concrete steps to address the issues faced by the people, particularly the youth. He highlighted the importance of a proactive approach in resolving these matters to ensure equitable access to government schemes and resources for all eligible citizens.

