

## J&K SIDCO hosts plantation drive at Industrial Estate Ghatti

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KATHUA: Jammu & Kashmir State Industrial Development Corporation (J&K SIDCO) is proud to announce the successful organization of a plantation drive at Industrial Estate Ghati in Kathua on Friday.

The green initiative was spearheaded by Pardeep Singh Manhas, Managing Director of J&K SIDCO, and actively coordinated by Pranav Mahajan, Manager Estate, SIDCO Ghatti, Kathua.

This drive is part of SIDCO's ongoing commitment to promoting sustainable development and enhancing environmental



MD J&K SIDCO, Pardeep Singh Manhas Pranav Mahajan, Manager Estate, SIDCO Ghatti, Kathua planting a sapling.

consciousness across its region. A diverse range of

saplings-including native species known for their ecological and medicinal value-were planted by participants that included SIDCO staff, local stakeholders, and representatives from various industrial units.

Speaking on the occasion, Pardeep Singh Manhas expressed his appreciation for the enthusiastic participation and emphasized the importance of collective responsibility toward preserving the environment.

He stated, "SIDCO is dedicated to fostering eco-friendly industrial infrastructure. These green efforts will ensure a

healthier environment for future generations."

The Managing Director also commended the efforts of Manager Estate and his team for executing the plantation drive efficiently and with great care.

The initiative aligns with the UT Government's broader mission of sustainable development and afforestation to mitigate climate change impact.

J&K SIDCO looks forward to organizing more such eco-conscious endeavours and urges all industrial stakeholders to actively participate in creating a greener, cleaner Jammu & Kashmir.

## DIPR artists present Nukkad Natak to raise awareness among Amarnath Ji Yatris



DIPR artists presenting Nukkad Natak at Jammu on Friday.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A Nukkad Natak (street play) was presented on Friday by the Cultural Unit, Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) Jammu to raise swatchtha awareness among the pilgrims of the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, highlighting the importance of maintaining cleanliness and following safety protocols for a safe and smooth pilgrimage. The street play

effectively communicated the message of maintaining cleanliness along the Yatra route, using biodegradable materials, proper waste disposal and following safety guidelines issued by the administration

The programme was conducted under the directions of Joint Director Information Jammu, Deepak Dubey and under the supervision of Cultural Officer Jammu, Mukesh Kumar Sharma.

## Megh Sabha & SC/ST/OBC Confederation Doda demands SC representation in J&K High Court



Megh Sabha Doda members during a meeting.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DODA: A joint meeting of Megh Sabha Doda and the SC/ST/OBC Confederation Doda was convened under the leadership of Fulail Singh, Vice President of Megh Sabha Doda, and Amarnath Bhagat, President of SC/ST/OBC Confederation Doda, to address the pressing issue of Scheduled Caste (SC) representation in the Jammu & Kashmir High

Court.

The leaders highlighted the alarming fact that since the establishment of the J&K High Court in 1928, not a single SC judge has been appointed, despite the availability of eligible and qualified candidates over the years. Terming this as "a step-motherly and biased approach towards the SC community," they demanded immediate corrective

measures.

They also appreciated the directions issued last year by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Law and Justice to the Chief Justice of J&K High Court regarding this issue, but expressed disappointment that no concrete action has been taken even after one year.

The leaders urged the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justice of J&K High Court to ensure fair representation of SC candidates in the higher judiciary, particularly those meeting all eligibility and seniority norms.

Prominent attendees included Ram Lal Bhagat, Amarjeet Bhagat, Girdhari Lal Bhagat, Rakesh Bhagat, Ramesh Babu, Surjeet Bhagat, Mohan Lal Bhagat, Baldev Singh, and many others.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the occasion of Sanskrit Month, a grand tree plantation program was organized today at the premises of M.A.M. College, Jammu under the joint aegis of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Jammu, and the Social Forestry Department, Jammu. The event aimed to promote environmental protection, greenery, and highlight the significance of nature in Indian culture.

The Chief Guest of the program was Kameshwar Puri, Superintendent of Police (Operations), Jammu, and the Special Guest was Sourabh Sharma, JKAS, General Manager, Trade Promotion Organization. On this occasion, many distinguished citizens, students, and college staff participated enthusiastically.



SP (Operations) Jammu, Kameshwar Puri planting a sapling.

In his address, Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of the Trust, said that Sanskrit is not only a carrier of knowledge and culture but also embodies the message of environmental conservation. The importance of environmental protection is clearly mentioned in the Vedas and Upanishads. Trees and

plants are the basis of our life; therefore, everyone should plant trees to maintain harmony with nature. Our goal is not just to plant trees but to spread the message of greenery to society.

Chief Guest Kameshwar Puri said that the Police Department has always been at the forefront of social serv-

ice. Such efforts to protect the environment and increase greenery should be appreciated. Every citizen should plant at least one tree in their lifetime and ensure its protection. He said, "Every plant is a safeguard for our future." He also praised Mahant Rohit Shastri's efforts to connect Sanskrit with modern technology.

Special Guest Sourabh Sharma said that forests are of great importance in Jammu and Kashmir. The Social Forestry Department has been continuously motivating people to plant more trees. Tree plantation is not just a one-day task but a continuous responsibility. Joining this campaign is beneficial for both the environment and humanity. He said, "It is commendable that the Trust is promoting Devavani

Sanskrit along with environmental conservation." Under the Sanskrit Month organized by Mahant Rohit Shastri, tree plantation, Sanskrit promotion campaigns, and various cultural events have provided a strong platform for Sanskrit lovers.

Finally, various types of medicinal, shady, and eco-friendly plants were planted in the college campus. The program witnessed active participation from Acting Principal of the college, Ruth K. Masehi, Range officer social forestry department Jammu Dinesh Joshi, Dr. Purushottam Das, Professor Neeraj Sharma, Uttam Chand Sharma, Honey Singh, Amit Jamwal, Sunil Singh Raipuria, office bearers of the Trust, professors of the college, officials of the Social Forestry Department, and students.

## Govt intends to make J&K 365- days destination beyond seasons: Dy CM

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary, on Friday chaired the maiden meeting of Confederation of Indian Industry Northern Regional Committee on tourism and hospitality held in Srinagar to discuss the strategic interventions on revival of tourism and position J&K as global tourism hub.

Advisor to CM Nasir Aslam Aslam Wani and MLA Gulmarg Farooq Ahmed Shah were present in the meeting.

While addressing the meeting, the Dy CM highlighted several key points on boosting tourism growth through collaboration and value-added verticals in Jammu and Kashmir: He maintained that the government intended to position J&K as a premier 365-Day destination beyond seasons. He urged the CII to support the government in shifting focus from summer/winter peaks to year-round tourism through curat-

ed experiences.

"Tourism and Kashmir are inter-related in such a way that one can't be described in absence of other. It is not like that tourism in Kashmir is for a particular season but round the year. Every season has its own significance" he added.

The Dy CM said that the CII has been working closely with government on policy issues, enhancing efficiency, competitiveness and expanding business opportunities for the industry through a range of specialised services and global linkages. He urged the CII to come forward with a special focus on tourism, handloom and handicrafts, adventure sports and skill development to explore more possibilities of campaigning and awareness about high scope in J&K.

The Dy CM stated that our partnership with CII will unlock sustainable growth, generate employment and showcase our cultural heritage



Dy CM Surinder Choudhary chairing a meeting.

to the world. He reiterated that the government is taking all steps to boost tourism in J&K with special focus on enhancing the infrastructure, diversifying tourism offerings, promoting safety and security besides engaging the local communities.

While speaking on the occasion, the Advisor to CM said that CII with its National and International connects should help government in targeting niche markets for sustainable growth and higher tourist spending. He invited the CII members and industry at large to promote J&K on MICE Tourism map and suggest ways to further strengthen

the tourism infrastructure in J&K.

Highlighting the importance of handlooms and handicrafts, the Dy CM suggested showcasing them through live demonstrations, craft village tours, and immersive shopping experiences to captivate audiences.

He asserted that J&K is famous for its rich culture and heritage and one of our endeavours should be reviving folk festivals, sufi music circuits, heritage walks in Srinagar/Jammu. MLA Gulmarg, Farooq Ahmed Shah, emphasized that adventure sports can be a key driver for tourism promotion, sug-

gesting that Gulmarg and Pahalgam be leveraged to host national and international adventure sports competitions. He also suggested to explore possibility of joint marketing campaigns with airlines, hotel chains and travel aggregators and empower the local cooperatives for homestay, guided tours and artisans markets. Earlier, Chairman CII Northern Regional Committee on Tourism & Hospitality, K.B Kachru, highlighted the agenda of the meeting.

He said that CII took a conscious decision to hold its first regional committee on tourism meeting in Srinagar to send a message to larger industry that we must promote J&K at this juncture.

He reiterated that CII and its members would like to contribute in overall tourism development of this region. "Our priority is to drive policy reforms, sustainable practices, and public-private synergies" he added.

Lastly, Chairman CII J&K, Dr. M.A. Alim, while presenting the vote of thanks, said that J&K government and CII will soon roll out certain initiatives to further boost growth in this sector.

## ZPHQ Jammu organises farewell Ceremony for DySP Rajesh Sharma on his transfer to ACB

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Zonal Police Headquarters (ZPHQ) Jammu on Friday organized a farewell ceremony in honour of DySP Rajesh Sharma, who has been transferred to the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), J&K, after rendering several years of dedicated service at ZPHQ Jammu in key staff roles.

DySP Rajesh Sharma, who has been looking after Crime and Motor Transport (MT) sections at ZPHQ Jammu, has earned widespread appreciation for his diligence, discipline, and deep institutional knowledge.



Police officers according farewell to DySP Rajesh Sharma.

His tenure has been marked by quick efficiency, meticulous record-keeping, and a dependable handling of both routine and sensitive assignments.

Officers and staff members of ZPHQ Jammu gathered to bid him an affectionate farewell and extend their best wishes for his future assignment.

Speaking on the occasion, the IGP lauded DySP Rajesh Sharma's consistent professionalism and integrity throughout his policing

career. His calm demeanour and sharp administrative skills were especially noted in the management of crime records and motor transport logistics at the zonal level, where accuracy and timeliness remain critical.

With nearly three decades of distinguished service behind him, DySP Rajesh Sharma has served in some of the most important and challenging districts of Jammu & Kashmir, including Poonch, Rajouri, Jammu, Kathua, and Kishtwar, and has held vital postings in units such as Vigilance Organisation,

Security Wing, Traffic City Jammu, and now the Anti-Corruption Bureau.

His long-standing association with ZPHQ Jammu, across multiple tenures, has left a lasting impression on his colleagues and subordinates alike.

On behalf of the entire ZPHQ fraternity, a memento was presented to DySP Rajesh Sharma as a token of appreciation.

The gathering conveyed their collective gratitude for his service and wished him continued success and good health in his new role.

## CUJ organizes "Thursday Mind Meet" on 'Relevance of Pilgrimage Centres of J&K'



Expert speaker, Prof. Lalit Gupta from JU being honoured by CUJ faculty.

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Sanjeev Jain, the Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations (CCRC) at the Central University of Jammu (CUJ) organized its weekly "Thursday Mind Meet" on the thought-provoking theme: "The Relevance of Pilgrimage Centres of Jammu and Kashmir."

The session was graced by academican Prof. Lalit Gupta from the University of Jammu as the expert speaker. He was welcomed by Prof. Vandana Sharma, Dean of Languages; Prof. A. K. Nanda, Dean of Social Sciences; and Prof. Niranjana Bhandari, Director, CCRC.

In her introductory remarks, Prof. Vandana Sharma introduced the concept of the Thursday Mind Meet to the audience and the guest speak-

er, highlighting it as a vibrant weekly platform curated by students of various departments of the University to engage in intellectual exchange and contemporary discourse.

Delivering his keynote address, Prof. Lalit Gupta provided an in-depth overview of the pilgrimage sites in Jammu and Kashmir: He shed light on their historical origins, cultural significance, preservation efforts, and their evolving role in the future landscape of tourism and spiritual heritage in the region.

The panel discussion, moderated by Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, featured insightful presentations by MA student Aman, and Ph.D. scholars Deewanshu and Narrottam.

They collectively emphasized the vital role of religious tourism in the socio-economic development of the region.

The speakers asserted that pilgrimage tourism not only strengthens the economy of Jammu and Kashmir but also generates extensive employment opportunities for local communities.

Dr. G. V. Snigdha Raj, Assistant Professor, CCRC, efficiently convened the programme. The event witnessed the participation of several faculty members, including Dr. Arvind Rituraj, Dr. Vikas Singh, Dr. Amita Gupta, Dr. Ashwani Kumar (CCRC), and Dr. Anooj Bhadu and Dr. Vishal from the Department of Economics.

Students and research scholars including Rohit, Naresh, Sunil, Prognati, Manish Bharti, Dr. Narendar, and Prabhakar, along with a large number of attendees from different departments, participated in the academic meet, making it a grand success.

## Address issues of agitating PDD, daily wagers and others: Congress

### ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) has urged the government to address the genuine issues of PDD daily wagers, besides other casual workers, need based, consolidated and other temporary employees in different departments on priority, besides enhancing the honorarium of Anganwadi workers and helpers.

In a statement, JKPCC Chief Spokesperson Ravinder Sharma has asked the Govt. to address the genuine demands of regular wages and regularization of daily wagers, casual workers, need based workers in various departments and also address the issues of different categories of temporary employees including contractual, adhoc and consolidated employees.

Ravinder Sharma, Ex-MLC has extended support to the genuine cause of these categories of employees/workers engaged for years and sought regularization policy for all categories of such people.

Sharma also sought enhancement of honorarium of Anganwadi workers and helpers, ASHA workers and such other categories which is overdue.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SURINSAR-

MANSAR DEV. AUTHORITY, MANSAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-NIT NO060F 2025-26DATED: 11-07-2025

Chief Executive Officer, Surinsar- Mansar Development Authority, Mansar on behalf of Lt. Governorof J&K Union Territory, invites tenders through e-tendering mode from approved and eligiblefirms/companies/individuals/ bidders etc. upto 1800Hrs on31-07-2025 for outsourcing of following assets of Surinsar- Mansar Development Authority on 'As is where is' principle.

S. No	Particular	Minimum Outsourcing fee per annum	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Period of Contract
1	Outsourcing of collection of Parking fees at three designated sites i.e a. Main parking opp. Police station, Mansar b. VIP Parking near JKTDC DakBangalow Mansar. c. Near Havelli at Mansar. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Call	Rs. 6.60 lacs Per annum with 10% increase every year	1000/-	1.32 lacs	One (1) year extendable to another one year subject to good conduct

1. The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, Financial Proposal, set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website <http://jktenders.gov.in>, Tourism > SMDA

1.	Date of Issue of tender Notice	11-07-2025
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	12-07-2025from1200 Hrs to31-07-2025 upto1800 Hrs
3	Bid submission Start Date	12-07-2025from 1200 Hrs
4	Bid Submission End date	31-07-2025upto1800 Hrs
5.	Date & Time of opening of technical Bids (Online)	01-08-2025, 1200 Hrs in the office of the Director Tourism, Jammu

No: - SMDA/CEO/2025-26/728-34  
Dated. 11-07-2025

DIP/J-1274-P/25  
Dated:- 18/07/2025

Sd/-  
Chief Executive Officer  
Surinsar Mansar Dev.  
Authority  
Mansar