

# Gair Mumkin Khads are no longer an issue: Vikram Randhawa

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Vikram Randhawa, former MLC and senior BJP leader, requested the LG administration to streamline the procedure for benefiting from the recent pro-people decision regarding Gair Mumkin Khads.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here on Thursday, Randhawa praised the Modi government and the LG administration for their series of people-centric initiatives, particularly addressing the issue of Gair Mumkin Khads, which had previously categorized private lands as non-usable.

Randhawa detailed that the issue arose from the



Former MLC and senior BJP leader, Vikram Randhawa addressing a press conference at Jammu on Thursday.

previous administration's decision, which left many landowners in Jammu, Samba, and Kathua in a precarious situation.

The new decision stipulates that no land can be labeled as Gair Mumkin Khad without justification from three-tier teams including the Divisional Commissioner and

District Commissioner.

This measure aims to ensure that only lands truly qualifying as Khads-areas prone to water accumulation-are designated as such, he said.

He highlighted that this decision has brought significant relief to local residents, who had suffered under the old system.

However, Randhawa urged the LG administration to simplify the process for benefiting from this decision, noting that many people, particularly those with limited financial resources and administrative access, may find it challenging to navigate the current procedures.

Randhawa also commended the LG administration for other progressive decisions, including granting proprietary rights to West Pakistani Refugees and addressing issues related to Custodian properties.

He mentioned the anticipated order on Section 254-C, which will allow people to leverage land

allotted to them for essential needs like securing loans.

Randhawa praised the Modi government for its focus on public welfare, noting that recent decisions have rectified injustices suffered by various communities, including Valmikis, Gorkhas, PoJK refugees, and women.

He reiterated his call for the LG administration to expedite the process related to Gair Mumkin Khads and address longstanding issues related to Custodian properties.

BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra and Library Incharge Prof. Kulbhushan Mohtra were also present at the press conference.

# 90 Bn CRPF provides medicines to needy patients of Bijbehara under CAP



90 Bn CRPF and civil doctors examining patients at a camp.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
ANANTNAG: A free medical camp was organized by 90 Battalion CRPF at Govt Boys Middle School Hassanpora Tawela of Bijbehara in Anantnag district on Thursday.

The medical camp was inaugurated by Kamendra Pratap Singh, Commandant 90 Bn CRPF. Dr Suraj Kumar Singh

(CMO 90 Bn), Rohit Ranjan (Assistant Commandant 90 Bn) and Owais Rasheed, SDPO Bijbehara, Dr. Intiyaz Ahmad and Dr. Jahan Ara of SDH Qaimoh and local eminent personalities were present during the camp. During the camp besides free medical checkup, consultation by CRPF and civil doctors and medicines to nearly 311 local

people were distributed. Commandant K.P. Singh assured the local public that CRPF has always been helping and putting all out efforts for peace, prosperity and development of the society.

He added that they will continue to conduct such types of civic action programmes for the benefit of the local public in future.

# Billawaria releases devotional album 'Maiya Di Deewani'



Former Dy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria and others launching devotional album titled 'Maiya Di Deewani'.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Former Deputy Mayor of Jammu and senior BJP leader Baldev Singh Billawaria launched a devotional album titled 'Maiya Di Deewani' on Thursday in Jammu.

The album, organized by

BJP State Co-Convenor of the Sanskriti Art Culture Cell, Sahil Mahajan, was released under the Parul Kashyap YouTube channel.

The song features vocals by Parul Kashyap, with lyrics and direction by Lucky Verma, music by

Rhythm Bar, and video direction by Prikshit Dogra.

Billawaria emphasized that the song's aim is to inspire devotion to Goddess Chandi Mata.

He urged young singers to promote traditional values and heritage through their music and encouraged local support for budding artists.

Billawaria also stressed the importance of youth involvement in religious activities to foster a positive future and avoid negative influences like drugs.

He wished success to Parul Kashyap and other young artists, promising support for promoting J&K's emerging talent.

# Save organises Humane Education workshop for School children

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Save Animals Value Environment (SAVE) working for animal welfare and environment conservation, organised Humane Education workshop for students of Heritage School Jammu.

Resource person Inder Sandhu, Director PEEDU People Chandigarh conducted the workshop. It aimed to teach students about kindness, empathy, and respect for all living beings, including animals and the environment.

Program covered topics such as animal welfare, environmental conservation, and social justice. Chairperson SAVE Devinder Kaur Madaan said Humane Education



SAVE members with Haritage School faculty and students at a workshop.

for students develop a sense of responsibility and ethical behavior among students by integrating these lessons into the broader curriculum.

Humane Education include fostering compassion, reducing bullying, and encouraging students to make informed and ethical decisions.

750 students and teachers attended this 1 day workshop in Heritage School. Principal Heritage

School and all the staff and children who attended this program enjoyed every minute of it.

They promised to involve

the students in more such compassionate activities as moral values and kindness is the best culture a school can inculcate in its stu-

# Jammu Division registers highest ever power load of 1605 MW on July 31, 17 pc higher than last year: MD JKPCCL



MD JKPCCL, Vikas Kundal conducting a surprise inspection of the SLDC Control Room.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Managing Director (MD) of Jammu and Kashmir Power Corporation Limited (JKPCCL), Vikas Kundal, on Thursday conducted a surprise inspection of the SLDC Control Room to assess the 24x7 operations of the Load Centre.

During the visit, the Chief Engineer, Trading briefed him on power scheduling and the hourly load positions

across the UT of J&K.

JKPCCL, the principal entity derived from the Power Development Department (PDD), oversees power scheduling and intake from Inter State Generating Stations (ISGS) and local generation to meet the continuous power needs of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Kundal directed that power scheduling should be optimized to prevent any supply

shortages.

In response, a dedicated team was established, led by the Superintending Engineer, O&M Circle Jammu, and monitored by the Executive Engineer, ED-II Gandhi Nagar Jammu, to ensure effective load management.

Notably, Jammu Region achieved an all-time high peak load of 1605 MW on July 31, 2024, a significant 17 per cent increase from the previous year's peak load of 1369 MW for the same month.

Kundal commended the SLDC, JKPCCL, and JPDCL teams for their relentless 24x7 efforts to maintain smooth power operations in the UT.

# CISF seizes Rs 33.5 lakh worth of medicines at IGI Airport, one arrested

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) on Thursday detected a huge quantity of different medicines worth Rs 33.5 lakh from a Kabul-bound passenger at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport.

The passenger, identified as Yaseen Dulat Khan, could not produce the supporting documents for carrying such a large amount of medicines. He was later handed over to Customs for further action in the matter.

"Based on behaviour detection, CISF surveillance and intelligence staff noticed suspicious activities of a passenger at the Check-in area, Terminal-3 of IGI Airport. The passenger was later identified as Yaseen Daulat Khan (Indian) bound for Kabul via Dubai by Fly Dubai flight No. FZ-442 (STD-0410 hrs). On checking his baggage through the X-BIS machine, some doubtful images were noticed," CISF stated in a press release.

Thereafter, the passenger was allowed to complete the check-in formalities and was kept under close watch through physical and electronic measures. After clearing the check-in process and immigration formalities, the passenger was intercepted by CISF surveillance and intelligence staff and was brought to the departure Customs office.

On thorough checking of his check-in baggage and hand baggage, in the presence of Customs Officials, a huge quantity of medicines of approximate value Rs 33.5 Lakh were detected.

On inquiry, the passenger could not produce supporting documents for carrying such a huge quantity of medicines. Later, the said passenger along with detected medicines was handed over to Customs for further action in the matter.

# New Gair Mumkin Khads Policy to boost land utilization, economic growth: Gaurav

Lauds Administrative Council's decision on Gair Mumkin Khads

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, former General Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, has commended the Administrative Council of Jammu & Kashmir for its progressive decision, which has been approved by Lieutenant Governor Sh. Manoj Sinha ji, to revise the policy for delineating lands recorded as Gair Mumkin Khads in revenue records.

In a statement released here today, Gaurav Gupta expressed his satisfaction with the long-awaited decision, emphasizing that it will bring significant relief to the people of Jammu & Kashmir. "This decision is a landmark step towards resolving the issues faced by landowners and farmers whose lands were classified as Gair

Mumkin Khads. The revised policy will not only provide clarity but also facilitate the proper utilization of these lands, contributing to the region's economic growth," said Gupta.

He appreciated the efforts of Advisor RR Bhatnagar, Principal Secretary to LG Mandeep Bhandari, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Divisional Commissioner Ramesh Kumar, Secretary Revenue Rajeev Ranjan, and other concerned authorities for addressing this critical issue with dedication and promptness. "Their proactive approach and commitment to resolving this matter deserve immense appreciation. The collaborative efforts of these officials have led to a policy that balances development needs with the concerns of the local population," he



added.

Gaurav mentioned that under the new scheme of things, the procedure has been decentralized, empowering the Deputy Commissioner to carry out delineation based on the District Level Committee's recommendation, regardless of the size of the land involved for State Land. For private lands, the Deputy Commissioner can delineate up to 200 kanals per

Khasra on the recommendation of the District Level Committee, while the Divisional Level Committee and Divisional Commissioner can delineate 200-500 kanals per Khasra. All other proposals will be approved by the UT Level Committee. This decision is expected to lead to substantial industrial expansion and attract new investments. Additionally, it serves as a crucial step towards planned urban development in the segregated areas, he added.

Notably, Gaurav Gupta had raised this significant matter with senior functionaries of Jammu & Kashmir, including Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo and former Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Mehta. His persistent advocacy and discussions with the authorities

played a pivotal role in bringing attention to the challenges posed by the outdated Gair Mumkin Khads policy. "I am grateful to have had the opportunity to engage with the senior officials on this issue. Their responsiveness and willingness to listen to the concerns of the people have resulted in this positive outcome," he stated.

The former General Secretary asserted that the revised policy on Gair Mumkin Khads is expected to streamline land-related processes and provide much-needed relief to landowners, fostering a conducive environment for agricultural and developmental activities. He believed this decision will pave the way for more such progressive policies aimed at the holistic development of Jammu & Kashmir.

# Goldsmiths Association Jammu City announces new executive team

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a press meet held at Press Club Jammu, the newly appointed President of Goldsmiths Association Jammu City, Ajay Verma officially announced the new executive team. This team will work hard for the betterment of the Sangh under the leadership and guidance of Ajay Verma.

Ankush Nishchal has been appointed as General Secretary, Kunal Kapoor as Senior Vice President, Sajjan Babbar as Additional General Secretary. Pawan Anand as Treasurer, Rajkumar Nishchal as the Chief

Organizer. Many other prominent personalities of the Swarnkar Sangh have been appointed to various positions in the new executive team.

During the press meet, all the team members unitedly expressed their commitment to work hard for the progress and prosperity of the Sangh and remained dedicated to the betterment of the Sangh under the visionary leadership of Ajay Verma.

The new executive team is ready to bring new energy and innovation to the organization, creating a brighter future for all members.

# Without establishing appointments 'illegal'; salary cannot be stopped: DB

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A Division Bench of the Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court, comprising Justice Sanjeev Kumar and Justice M.A. Chowdhary, has ruled on a significant case involving the payment of salaries to employees whose appointments are in dispute.

This judgment concerns an appeal filed by the UT of J&K challenging an order from the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), which had directed that salaries be paid to certain employees for their past and future work.

The employees in question were appointed by Chief Medical Officers to various

Class-IV posts, such as Nursing Orderlies and Sweepers, around 2008.

Despite performing their duties and receiving salaries regularly, a special audit conducted by the Directorate of Audit and Inspections in 2012-2013 flagged these appointments as potentially illegal. The audit report identified 2,274 employees who were suspected to have been appointed improperly.

The Director of Health Services subsequently formed committees to investigate these appointments, which found that 133 employees, including the respondents in this case, might have been appointed

illegally.

Following these findings, the Administrative Department directed the release of salaries to all employees except the 133 identified as illegal appointees. The respondents challenged this directive in court, seeking the release of their withheld salaries.

The Division Bench upheld the Tribunal's order to release the salaries, emphasizing that the salary of employees cannot be withheld unless their appointments are definitively proven to be forged, fraudulent, or illegal by competent authorities.

The Bench observed that employees cannot be denied

their salary for work performed until their appointments are formally declared illegal.

Citing the case of Ashiq Hussain Dar and others, the Bench reinforced that withholding salary without a conclusive determination of appointment irregularities amounts to an unconstitutional denial of due wages.

The case of the respondents was not barred by delay or laches, as their petitions were timely and addressed ongoing issues related to salary non-payment.

The Bench stipulated that the salary payments are subject to the respondents providing an undertaking to

refund the salaries with interest if it is later determined that their appointments were illegal.

The Division Bench's decision emphasizes that employees must receive their due salaries unless their appointments are definitively proven to be illegal. The ruling underscores the importance of due process and fair treatment for employees facing allegations of irregular appointments.

The court's order ensures that while salaries must be paid, there remains a provision for recovery if future inquiries substantiate the allegations against these appointments.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: With a view to honour financially disciplined farmers and support the agricultural sector in Jammu & Kashmir, J&K Bank on Thursday launched a unique program titled as "Kisan Ka Samman".

The program, which will run until September 30, 2024, aims to empower the farmers of Jammu & Kashmir who have shown exceptional financial discipline and promptness in their dealings with the Bank.

MD & CEO Baldev Prakash launched the campaign today in the presence

of the Bank's Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Manager (Credit) Ashutosh Sareen, DGMS Rakesh Magotra and Nishikant Sharma and other senior officers here at the corporate headquarters. Divisional Heads of Jammu and Kashmir, along with Zonal and Cluster Heads, also participated in the event via video conferencing.

Baldev Prakash said, "The program is our tribute to the hard-working and financially disciplined farmers of J&K. It is about recognizing the invaluable contribution of our farmers and provid-



MD & CEO Baldev Prakash launching 'Kisan Ka Samman' campaign.

ing them with the necessary support to further enhance their productivity and livelihoods. By strengthening our agricultural lending, we aim to contribute to the overall economic development of the region."

While emphasizing the Bank's commitment to sup-

porting the agricultural sector, he added, that the Bank invites all stakeholders to join hands in this noble endeavor to honor our farmers and boost the agricultural economy of Jammu & Kashmir.

"The 'Kisan Ka Samman' program will involve the

identification of farmers who have consistently renewed their Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) and demonstrated financial discipline", he said.

Under the program, the farmers will be honoured with a 'Certificate of Appreciation' at various

branches, clusters and zonal levels. Furthermore, they will be offered additional loan products under the bank's unique "Kisan Dost" scheme to help them upgrade their agricultural infrastructure.

General Manager Agriculture Ashutosh Sareen said "This program will also spread awareness about Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI) under KCC, which entails interest subvention of 3% to such eligible farmers and encourage others to avail of the benefits of the subvention provided by the government".

DGM Rakesh Magotra

gave detailed presentation on the concept, objectives and the impact of the program.

Notably, as part of the program, the Bank will target eligible accounts with offer of sanction letters for agriculture term loans at upgrading agricultural infrastructure under the Bank's "Kisan Dost Scheme" and other Agri Term Loan schemes like TL KCC. During the course of 'Kisan Ka Samman' program, the Bank branches will also focus on enhancing the limits of KCC accounts and issuing Digital KCC cards to the farmers.