

Randhawa conducts tour of flood affected areas, gets first-hand information about losses

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Former Legislator and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Vikram Randhawa conducted an extensive tour of flood affected areas to get first-hand information about the losses caused to life and property due to the incessant rains in the region.

Randhawa visited the flood affected areas of Jeevan Nagar and adjoining areas of RS Pura Jammu South Assembly Segment.

He was accompanied by the officials of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) and Public Works Department (PWD).

Paramjeet Singh Ex-Councillor, Vijay Sharma, Narinder Gupta, Vijay



Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa conducting tour of flood affected area in Jeevan Nagar.

Choudhary, Ashu Gupta and many others were also present on the occasion.

During his visit, Randhawa accessed the damages to the houses and other structures of local residents due to incessant

rains. Due to incessant rainfall, the flood water had entered into the houses of the people and damaged electric gadgets and other household items.

The people demanded dismantling of the bridge constructed in the area as they have one more alternate road to reach their houses.

While speaking, Randhawa directed the officials of the PWD to dismantle this old bridge and reconstruct it on new pattern.

Former Legislator directed the officers of the concerned department to assess the situation and come out with solutions for immediately restoring the affected areas and preventing further damages.

He directed for keeping a close vigil on the situation and taking appropriate measures to deal with any exigency.

Randhawa directed for taking short and long term steps to prevent floods so as

to prevent any loss to life and property.

He directed the engineers to identify the areas prone to floods and prepare the DPRs for plugging the gaps.

He also directed the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) and other departments to remove encroachments as this is the main hindrance due to which rain water enters residential houses and creates problems for the people.

While speaking further, Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa said that a list of the rainfall affected people will be made and same will be submitted to the concerned departments for redressal.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Former Mayor of Jammu Municipal Corporation and BJP Vice President Chander Mohan Gupta met with Vikas Kundal, Managing Director of Jammu Kashmir Power Development Corporation Limited, to address ongoing issues with irregular power supply.

Accompanied by former JMC councillors Surinder Choudhary, Rekha Manhas, Narinder Singh, Ajay Gupta, and Mohinder Bhagat, Gupta presented a memorandum highlighting the persistent power cuts despite recent upgrades, including smart meters and new transformers.

The memorandum underscored that these installations, intended to stabilize power



Former Mayor Chander Mohan Gupta led delegation meeting with Vikas Kundal, MD JKPDC.

supply, have failed to prevent frequent and unscheduled outages during both day and night.

This issue is particularly severe given the current hot and humid weather, which exacerbates discomfort and health problems for vulnerable populations, including the elderly, sick, and children.

The memorandum criticized the government's and the elec-

tricity department's failure to meet their assurances of uninterrupted power supply and stable voltage.

Gupta urged immediate action to resolve these issues, seeking relief for affected residents and improved reliability in power supply. Alongside this memorandum, former councillors also addressed power-related concerns specific to their wards.

People of old city holds candle march, raise issues of street lights



Residents taking out candle march in Jammu on Friday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A candle march taken out in Jammu's old city of Panjthirhi highlighted growing frustration with the administration. Residents are protesting the lack of functional street

lights for the past eight months.

Deepak Sharma, a senior local, criticized the government for neglecting Panjthirhi despite installing lights under the Smart City project. For seven months, these lights have been

non-operational, plunging the area into darkness after 8:00 pm, which raises safety concerns. Local resident Nand Kishore pointed out the ineffective response to complaints, noting that despite repeated

messages, no action has been taken. Former Mayor Narinder Singh echoed this sentiment, lamenting that the area has regressed to conditions reminiscent of the 1970s.

Elders, particularly those over 70, now avoid evening walks due to dangerous conditions exacerbated by neglected street maintenance.

They question the value of a "smart city" that fails to address basic needs despite substantial investment.

The situation is further marred by the practice of temporarily cleaning the area before administrative visits, only for it to revert to its previous state shortly after.

Giani Ice Cream expands to Jawahar Nagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Giani Ice Cream, one of India's most beloved ice cream brands, opened its newest outlet in Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar.

This expansion marks an exciting chapter in Giani mission to bring its delightful and diverse range of ice creams closer to enthusiasts across the country.

Situated in Silver Square, Jawahar Nagar, the new Giani Ice Cream outlet is set to become a favorite destination for ice cream lovers. With a wide array of offerings-from classic favorites like Vanilla, Chocolate, and Butterscotch to Gelato,

Sorbet, shakes, sodas, and Delhi's famous Rabri Faluda-Giani Ice Cream aims to cater to every palate. The outlet also features ice cream cakes and offers 100% vegetarian options in a comfortable and inviting ambiance, making it the perfect spot for families, friends, and aficionados to gather and enjoy their favorite treats.

Established in 1956, Giani Ice Cream has grown from a single store in Fatehpuri, Delhi, to a nationally recognized brand with a strong presence across India. Known for its commitment to quality and innovation, Giani Ice Cream uses the finest

ingredients and traditional recipes to create its signature flavors. As a legacy brand from New Delhi, Giani expansion into Srinagar is a testament to its dedication to spreading joy and sweetness to every corner of the country.

"We are incredibly excited to open our new outlet in Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar. This city holds a special place in our hearts, and we are eager to bring our beloved ice creams to its residents.

We look forward to creating sweet memories with the people of Srinagar and becoming a part of their lives," said Taranjit Singh, Director, Giani Ice Cream.

Power shutdown

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has informed that the power supply to Chandak, Mandlin, Sawjian, Loran, Lasana, Mehrote and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 03 from 7 am to 12 noon.

Similarly, the power supply to Barui, Nardiwal, Mandrian, Kha, Maira, Thatar Mundh, Payan and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 03 and 05 from 6:30 am to 12 noon.

Likewise, the power supply to Upper Barnai, Lower Muthi, Paloura, JK Colony, Chandan Vihar, PHE Roop Mahar, MES Rajouri Lines, Patoli, BSF Paloura and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 03 and 06 from 6 am to 11 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Bari Brahmna, EPIP Kartholi, Industrial area, Industrial area Bari Brahmna and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 04 from 7 am to 11 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Shahzadpur, Marh, Gajansoo, Ghomanhasa and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 04 from 7 am to 10 am.

Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed that the power supply to Bainglad, Basantar, Raipur and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 04 from 6 am to 10 am.

Similarly, the power supply to Kangwala and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 03 from 6 am to 10 am.

Likewise, the power supply to Old Mawa, Rajpura, BSF-1 and adjoining areas will remain affected on August 04 and 06 from 6 am to 10 am.

JK Kissan Council expresses gratitude to LG Sinha

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The JK Kissan Council held a special meeting in Jammu to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Manoj Sinha, the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Atal Dulloo, IAS (Chief Secretary, JKUT), and Sheldner Kumar, (Principal Secretary, APD&FW) for granting a one-year extension to Arvinder Singh Reen, the Director of Agriculture, Jammu, JKUT.

In a resolution passed during the meeting, the JK Kissan Council expressed its high appreciation for the current state of agriculture and allied sectors under the leadership of Arvinder Singh Reen.

The council emphasized that his leadership should continue through the current kharif season and beyond.

In his short tenure as Director of Agriculture, Jammu, Reen has significantly accelerated agricultural growth and the implementation of HADP and other schemes. His previous roles as Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Jammu and Director (Inputs) were also highly commended by the farming community of the Jammu region. His respectful and effective treatment of the farming community, combined

with his extensive experience and skills, are expected to greatly benefit the entire Jammu division in the future.

The governing council of the JK Kissan Council also appreciated the current saturation drive conducted by the agriculture department and expressed its gratitude to the farming community.

This government initiative aims to empower Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with facilities such as pesticides, fertilizers, seeds, and other agricultural inputs delivered directly to their doorsteps. Additionally, it will provide a level playing field for emerging agricultural entrepreneurs.

Members present at the meeting included Tajinder Singh Wazir (President), Sumil Choudhary (President, BKS), Sushma Devi (Director, KJM-PCL), Swati Basotra (Sakti Maa, Millets Cooperative), Baldev Raj (Vijaypur FPO), Vikram Singh, Sidharth Verma, Mohd. Farooq, Mohd. Irfan, Menakshi Devi and others.

The meeting concluded with a unanimous expression of support for the continued leadership and initiatives of Arvinder Singh Reen, whose efforts are seen as pivotal in advancing the agricultural sector in Jammu.

Dr Hina chairs 106th Board of Directors Meeting of KVIB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Chairperson J&K KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat, on Friday chaired 106th Board of Directors (BOD) meeting of J&K KVIB at Civil Secretariat here.

The meeting was attended by Vikranjit Singh, Commissioner Secretary Industries & Commerce; Registrar Cooperatives J&K; Director General Codes; Director I&C Jammu; Mission Director National Livelihood Mission; Director I&C Kashmir and Secretary/CEO KVIB. Senior officers of the Board were also present in the meeting.

During the meeting, the performance of J&K KVIB was reviewed and it was informed that the Board has consistently ranked amongst the top-performing agencies under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), earning accolades at the National level.

It was informed that during the financial year 2023-24, Margin Money of Rs. 166.62



Chairperson J&K KVIB, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat chairing 106th BOD meeting of J&K KVIB.

crores has been released by KVIB for establishment of 8401 units thereby creating employment opportunities for 65376 persons under PMEGP and JKREGP. Notably, the Board has exceeded its physical and financial targets by 654% and 385%, which was noted with appreciation by the first Directors on Board.

The Board was informed that under the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), 8 clusters with financial assistance of Rs. 19.66 crores have been approved by Ministry of

MSME (GOI) out of which two clusters under handicrafts activity at Anantnag and Budgam were inaugurated by Lt. Governor UT of J&K.

It was further informed that rest of the clusters under Beekeeping and Handicrafts activities are at various stages of implementation.

Applauding the efforts and role of J&K KVIB in the successful implementation of employment generation programs, Dr. Hina Shafi Bhat urged all concerned to intensify their efforts to ensure the benefits of the schemes reach

aspiring entrepreneurs and the target groups. She emphasized the need for field-level officers to collaborate closely with district administration, financial institutions, and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to provide comprehensive support to beneficiaries.

Dr. Hina Shafi also underscored the importance of spreading awareness about the schemes and programs implemented by J&K KVIB. She advised the Secretary/CEO KVIB to develop a detailed calendar of events to be undertaken by the Board in the current

financial year.

Commissioner Secretary I&C commended J&K KVIB for the exceptional performance in implementing employment generation schemes like PMEGP and PMEGP. However, he emphasized the need for concerned officers to minimize instances of bank rejection, ensuring that cases are only rejected for genuine reasons. He further urged the Board to make certain that the benefits of the scheme effectively reach the target group.

The Commissioner Secretary of Industries & Commerce emphasized the urgent need to develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem for educated unemployed youth and added that government has taken many steps in this direction.

Earlier, the BOD approved the restructured staff strength proposal of J&K KVIB for submission to the Administrative Department. It was informed that restructuring has been based on actual requirements and the nature and quantum of work.

DGP J&K sanctions meritorious scholarship amounting over Rs 11.76 lakh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: Recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of wards of police personnel who have excelled in the 10th and 12th annual examinations during the 2023-2024 academic session, the Director General of Police (DGP), J&K R.R. Swain has sanctioned meritorious scholarship of over Rs 11.76 lakh in favour of 207 wards of serving police personnel under two different orders.

The amount has been sanctioned out of J&K Police welfare fund.

The DGP has sanctioned over Rs 5.78 lakh for 93 meritorious wards of serving Police personnel who have secured 80% and above marks in the Annual Examination of Class 10th during the academic session 2023-24.

Rs 7200 each have been sanctioned in favour of thirty four meritorious wards who secured 90% and above marks and Rs 6000 each have been sanctioned in favour of fifty nine meritorious wards who have secured

80% and above marks. The top three position holders in the list are Iqra Nissar daughter of Nissar Ahmad, Palak Gupta daughter of Narinder Gupta and Mohsin Mushtaq son of Mushtaq Ahmad.

The DGP has also sanctioned meritorious scholarship of rupees 5.78 lakh in favour of 144 wards of serving Police personnel who have secured 80% and above marks in the Annual Examination of class 10th during the academic session 2023-24.

The top three position holders in the list are Taqdees Zehra daughter of Imtiyaz Hussain Mir, Hayah Shah daughter of Mubashir Ahmad and Saika Nazir daughter of Nazir Ahmad.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: After 31 days, the Registration Counter for Shri Amaranth Yatra was closed at Mahajan Bhawan, Shalamar Road Jammu.

As a gesture, the Sabha had been organising Langar Sewa for Shri Amarnath Yatri throughout this period. More than 25 thousand pilgrims were registered in the counter set up by the administration in the premises of JCMS and almost all of them availed the facilities of free Langar, besides airconditioned hall, wash rooms etc. Romesh Chander Gupta, President of the sabha, while expressing satisfaction over the 31 days activities of the yatra in the premises of the sabha, said

that during the said period no other activity was allowed here and not even a penny was charged from the government for providing the whole complex of sabha for yatra.

He thanked all the Biradari members and other organisations/individuals, who had donated wholeheartedly for Langar Sewa. He also highlighted the role of office bearers, who did all the sincere efforts for the smooth conduct of all the activities in the Sabha premises.

He further expressed his gratitude to the concerned departments for rendering their valuable services during the yatra.

He said that the united efforts of various wings of the civil and

security forces, particularly SSB, J&K Police, Jal Shakti, PDD, Jammu Municipal Corporation, Health department, Civil Defence, Swaaha Resource (Housing and Urban Development department), besides print and electronic media, who were always keen to show their interest in high lighting such occasions and also UCO Bank, Raghunath Bazar Branch, for providing free hygienic drinking water bottles in sufficient quantity during the whole yatra.

However, the JCMS President requested the administration to convey the Sabha well in time as had been in the past, when the district administration used to officially communicate for the

commencement of the yatra and seeking permission to utilize the centrally located, easily accessible premises for setting up of registration counter for the convenience of the pilgrims reaching Jammu city from different parts of the country as well as abroad.

The cooperation and contribution of Arun Gupta, President CCI and his team members and also Anil Gupta (Anu) can not be ignored, he added.

The president also showered praises on Subhash Gupta, Sabha Vice President and also media secretary, for handling the media related works.

Shiv Partap Gupta, Sr Vice President also appreciated the role of all the Biradari members

who always come forward in such religious and social causes

The prominent personalities who were present included Harinder Gupta (Sr Vice President), CP Gupta (Patron), Dr Mohan Lal Gupta (Caisher), Subash Gupta, Balbir Gupta (Langar Incharges), Surinder Gupta, Atul Gupta, Kulbhushan Gupta (Manu), Prabhu Shah, Vipan Gupta (Vice-Presidents), Ram Saroup Gupta, Suresh Gupta, Rajan Gupta, Pawan Gupta, Ashok Gupta, Vijay Gupta, Satish Gupta, Darshan Gupta (Marriage Bureau), Dinesh Gupta, Anil Masoom (Ex. Corporator) Arun Gupta, R C Gupta and Shanti Parkash Gupta.

All Party to protest today in demand of statehood, restoration of democratic rights

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All Party will hold a dharna in Jammu on 3rd August demanding full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir and restoration of democratic rights, along with rolling back the recent amendments made in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act.

The final decision regarding this dharna was taken in the meeting held in Jammu NC office on Friday.

On this occasion Manish Sahni (State Head Shiv Sena (UBT) convener APUM), Ratan Lal Gupta



All Party leaders during a meeting at Jammu on Friday.

(NC State President), Narendra Gupta (Congress), Vijay Lochan (NC), Rakesh Singh (NC), Sunny Kant Chimb (HRC).

, Nirmal Mahana (AAP), Narendra Singh (S Akali Dal), Comrade Sukhdev Singh (DBYC), Subhash Mehta (CPL), Narendra

Khajuria, Chandra Mohan (Jammu District President) from NC, Pradeep Bali, Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, Rakesh

Singh, Raka, Jatinder Singh Lucky, Vikram Puri, Gurnam Singh and Sanjeev Kohli were present.

While briefing the media Sahni said that on August 3, peaceful dharna will be held at Maharaja Hari Singh statue site under the banner of All Party United Front. He said that the amendments made in the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, under which the jurisdiction of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir was increased, the voting rights of the people have been almost hollowed out,

voices will be raised for rolling it back with immediate effect, returning the status of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, restoration of the rights of the local people.

Sahni said that except BJP, leaders and workers of almost all opposition parties, Congress, NC, PDP, Shiv Sena (UBT), AAP etc. including social organizations will be present in this demonstration.

All leaders appealed to the people to enthusiastically participate in the demonstration for the restoration of their rights.