

# Yudhvir Sethi visits rain-affected areas to assess damage



MLA Yudhvir Sethi assessing damage at Jagti Panchayat.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi today toured rain-hit areas of Ward Numbers 2, 5, 6 and 7 in the Jagti Panchayat of the Constituency and to assess the damage caused by recent heavy rains in the constituency.

The MLA was accompanied by Teshildar Nagrota Sumit Kohli along with PDD officials, BJP Mandal President Bajalta Shiv Sharma, Sarpanch Abha Jamwal, Panch Anita Devi, Lambardar Mohinder Sharma, Retired DSP Mangal Singh,

Panch Neelam Singh, Janak Raj, Girdhari Lal.

Yudhvir Sethi emphasized the need for prompt action and coordination among the departments to address the extensive damage suffered by both public infrastructure and private properties.

He expressed concern over the hardship faced by the local population due to the natural calamity and stressed the importance of timely relief measures and compensation to mitigate the impact.

"The recent rains have caused significant destruction in several parts of Jagti Panchayat. It is imperative that J&K admin-

istration take immediate steps to restore normalcy and ensure that those affected receive the necessary support and assistance," said Yudhvir sethi.

He further directed the concerned departments to expedite the assessment of damages and ensure that relief and rehabilitation work is carried out in a transparent and efficient manner.

The rain affected residents voiced their concerns and grievances directly to the MLA. They said that earlier, rainwater would simply spread out, but after the construction of the IIM and IIT buildings, the water has been diverted and is now entering their villages, causing huge damage to their house. They urged the administration to find an alternative solution to this problem.

Yudhvir Sethi assured the residents that their concerns would be addressed promptly. He reiterated his commitment to working closely with the administration to ensure that all necessary resources are mobilized for relief and rehabilitation efforts.

# GDC Kunjwani organises campaign against Drug Abuse

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Nasha Mukti Bharat Cell, NSS Unit, Anti Ragging and Red Ribbon Club of GDC Kunjwani in collaboration with the District Administration organised an information, education and communication campaign against Drug Abuse under the Nasha Mukti

it is essential to seek help. The District Administration Deputed prominent resource persons to interact with the students.

Dr Rozia Khan (MO) provided valuable insights into the harmful effects of Drug abuse on Physical and Mental Health. She also highlighted the alarming lights in substance abuse among



Faculty members along with students during the event.

Bharat Abhiyan initiative. The programme aimed at raising awareness about drug abuse, its consequences and preventions among youth and the community.

The programme was organised under the patronage of Dr Manisha Sarup Kohli, Principal of the College.

Speaking on the occasion, she said that drug abuse is a serious issue that affects the individuals, families and communities worldwide. She exhorted upon the students that if they know someone who is struggling with substance abuse,

the teenagers and young adults. Monika Jamwal (Teacher GGHSS Shastri Nagar) emphasised the social and psychological impact of addiction especially among the youth. Iqbal Kour (GMS Makhanpur) spoke about the role of education, awareness and family support in preventing drug abuse. She also stressed the importance of early intervention and counselling for those at risk.

The programme included interactive session where student posed questions and shared their perspectives. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks.

# National Space Day 2025 celebrated at Govt. Sri Ranbir Model HSS Jammu

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: National Space Day 2025 was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Government Sri Ranbir Model Higher Secondary School, Jammu. The event featured the special presence of eminent scientists from the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

Dr. Sandeep Maithani, Scientist and Head, Urban and Regional Studies Department, IIRS-ISRO, Dehradun, Dr. Kamal Pandey, Scientist and Web Information Manager, IIRS-ISRO, Dehradun, Shankar Ram, Scientist, National Remote Sensing Centre, New Delhi, Paramjeet Nagpal, PPS to Director, IIRS-ISRO, Dehradun. The visiting scientists interacted with the students, sharing inspiring insights into India's space mis-



Students along with faculty members during the programme.

sions, satellite applications, and the country's future goals in space exploration.

As part of the celebration, a quiz competition on space science and technology was organized. Students actively participated, demonstrating their knowledge, curiosity, and enthusiasm for space research.

The interactive sessions and quiz ignited a spirit of scientific inquiry, motivating students to explore careers in science, technology, and space studies.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by the Principal, Dr. Kishor Sharma, who expressed gratitude to the

# KP Sabha welcomes action in Sarla Bhat Case, seeks justice for all victims

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The Executive Committee of the Kashmiri Pandit Sabha, Jammu, met on Tuesday under the chairmanship of its President, K.K. Khosa, and welcomed the recent action by the State Investigation Agency (SIA) in connection with the 1990 murder of Sarla Bhat. The Sabha appreciated the raids conducted in the Valley as part of the investigation into the case involving JKLF members.

The committee expressed deep gratitude to the Union Territory government, led by Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha, for initiating long-overdue steps aimed at fixing responsibility for the community's exodus from Kashmir. The members stressed that identifying and convicting those responsible for acts of murder, terrorism, and threats would

bring long-awaited justice and closure to victims and their families. The Sabha hailed the political will of the NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, citing the conviction of JKLF chief Yasin Malik for the 1990 killings of Air Force personnel as a landmark step. They contrasted this with the alleged leniency of previous governments towards such perpetrators.

The Sabha urged the UT administration to ensure time-bound convictions in all cases involving the killings of Kashmiri Pandits and called for compensation and employment under SRO-43 for the victims' families.

It also welcomed the recent decision to extend SRO-43 benefits to the next of kin of terror victims, viewing it as a significant step toward justice and rehabilitation.

# Ware House Traders' Federation to provide free Tricolour to everyone to celebrate success of Op Sindoor



Federation President Deepak Gupta talking to reporters.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: To celebrate the success of Operation Sindoor and to make the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign successful, Ware House-Nehru Market has decided to provide a free National Flag to everyone.

Any individual, social or business organization of J&K can take the National Flag without any cost. The Federation has also decided to distribute Tricolor free of cost among the shopkeepers of its entire 'Mandi' so that it can be seen waving in the entire 'Mandi' between August 13 to 15.

This was announced on Tuesday by Deepak Gupta, President of the Federation, while addressing a press conference in the Federation

office. Gupta said that the initiative started by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started appearing to be like the national festival as each and every citizen in the UT of J&K has been voluntarily hoisting the Tricolours at their homes and business establishments besides replacing their profile pictures with National Flags on social media.

He said that there is easy availability of the National Flags and people are buying the same but to encourage more and more people and to further strengthen the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, the

NC nominates YNC District Presidents of Jammu Province

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Provincial President Jammu Province, JKNC Rattan Lal Gupta has nominated the District Presidents of Youth National Conference Jammu Province. As recommended by Tejinder Pal Singh (Aman) Provincial President YNC Jammu. District Presidents nominated include Sahil Kerni for Jammu Urban, Rakesh Kumar Sharma for Jammu Rural A, Amit Kumar for Jammu Rural B, Jasen Malik for Samba, Anoop Gupta for Kathua Urban, Vishavjeet Singh for Kathua Rural, Aman Gupta for Billawar (Org), Rahil Aslam for Udhampur Urban, Akash Kharka for Udhampur Rural, Pawan Kumar for Reasi, Asif Ali for Gool-Gulabgarh, Naveed Hashmi for Doda, Sheikh Faraz Iqbal for Doda Rural (Bhaderwah), Ikhlaj Bhat for Kishtwar, Mohd Nafee Mir for Ramban, Matti Ul Rehman for Rajouri Urban, Waqar Mir for Rajouri Rural, and Parvinder Singh for Poonch.

# Tiranga rally held at Surinsar



Police officials along with locals during Tiranga rally.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a spirited celebration of India's rich patriotic fervor ahead of Independence Day, a Mega Tiranga Rally was held today at the picturesque and historic tourist destination of Surinsar. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, local residents, and the Police personnel of Sub-division Nagrota, turning the serene landscape into a sea of tri-

colour and resonating patriotic slogans.

Students from Government Higher Secondary School, Surinsar, along with the respectable citizens of the area, marched with pride alongside uniformed personnel led by SP Rural Jammu, Brijesh Sharma, SDPO Nagrota, Shri Vinod Kundal, and SHO Jhajar Kotli, IC PP Manwal proudly displaying the national flag.

The rally reflected a strong

# Connecting Kashmir with rail transport is a big achievement: Balbir



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The arrival of the first goods train loaded with cement in Anantnag district of Kashmir is indeed an important and major achievement in the direction of transportation of goods by rail. Balbir Ram Rattan, senior leader of BJP and former vice chairman, said this. He described this historic moment as the beginning of a new chapter of connectivity and economic development of the region. Balbir termed the arrival of the freight train as a game-changer for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. He said, the reduction of transportation time from several days to just a few hours is not just a logistical feat-it is a lifeline for Kashmir's economy. Until now, Kashmir was dependent on expensive and long road transport for the movement of goods. But now that the railway line is available

for freight movement, local industries-especially horticulture and handicrafts-will get easy access to markets outside Jammu and Kashmir. Balbir Ram Rattan said that the real beneficiaries of this development will be our hardworking farmers and artisans. Kashmir's apples, cherries, saffron, walnuts and world-renowned handicrafts will now be able to reach markets across India faster, fresher and at a lower cost. This will significantly increase the income of local producers and boost investments in the sector, he said.

He also said that the extension of the freight train to Anantnag symbolises the expanding rail network in Kashmir; which is part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project. The expansion of this vital infrastructure is expected to make Kashmir more economically and socially connected to the rest of the country. Rattan also said that shifting from road to rail transport would also benefit the environment. Less traffic on our highways means less pollution and safer roads. This is beneficial for everyone, he said.

He expressed gratitude to the Central Government and Indian Railways for their commitment to enhancing connectivity in the region and reiterated the importance of bringing prosperity and stability to Kashmir through such projects.

# Tiger Taekwondo Academy bags eight medals at Jammu District Championship



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Tiger Taekwondo Academy showcased an outstanding performance at the Jammu District Taekwondo Championship held on 7-8 August 2025 at Kotli Bhawan, Rehari Colony, Jammu, clinching a total of 8 medals.

The medal tally included 4 gold, 3 silver, and 2 bronze medals. Kyra Thakyal, Ashvika Gupta, Bhagya Jamwal, Atharv Gupta won Gold; Adira Gupta, Lakshay Bhatia, Tejshree Singh won Silver

and Alisha Shokat, Aaranya Gupta won bronze. Additionally, Amaira Thakyal impressed the audience with her remarkable performance in the demonstration segment.

All the medal-winning students were trained under the guidance of Suresh Kumar, a 1st Degree Black Belt holder.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from across the district, celebrating the growing talent in martial arts among the youth.

# HPS organizes plantation drive



Faculty members during the plantation drive.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SAMBHA: In a meaningful step towards environmental conservation and community responsibility, Humanity Public School organized a large-scale Plantation Drive under the nationwide campaign 'Ek Paed Maa Ke Naam'.

As part of the drive, nearly 300 saplings of various species were distributed among the school staff members, symbolizing not only a commitment to environmental sustainability but also a tribute to the nurturing role of mothers.

The event saw the active involvement of Principal,

Gaurav Charak; Vice Principal, Anku Charak; Administrator, Ravinder Sadhu; Admin Incharge, Akashdeep Raina; and the Academic Incharges of the school's distinguished wings, all of whom planted saplings as a symbolic gesture representing the pursuit of wisdom and enlightenment.

# Congress must shun disruption, focus on nation-building: Dr. Tahir Chowdhary

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir BJP spokesperson Dr. Tahir Chowdhary on Tuesday came down heavily on the Congress party over its ongoing protests and disruption of the Parliament session, alleging that the Opposition was resorting to street drama after repeated electoral defeats.

Reacting to the recent protest march by Congress-led INDIA bloc MPs to the Election Commission over the revision of electoral rolls in Bihar, Dr. Chowdhary accused the grand old party of deliberately stalling the functioning of Parliament and diverting public attention from important legislative business.

"The Congress has reduced itself to a party of habitual protestors. Whenever they lose elections, instead of introspecting and respecting the mandate of the people, they manufacture controversies to remain in the headlines," Dr. Chowdhary said, adding that the BJP government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi remains committed to democratic processes and electoral transparency.

He criticized the opposition's allegations of "vote chori" and said that the Election Commission was an independent constitutional body whose credibility should not be undermined for political gain.

"The INDIA bloc is rattled because people have rejected them repeatedly. The EC follows due process, and instead of submitting their grievances in a constructive manner, Congress leaders are creating law-and-order issues in the national capital," he remarked.

Dr. Chowdhary also condemned Congress for "politicizing" issues in Jammu and Kashmir, referring to the ongoing chain hunger strike by the J&K Pradesh Congress Committee demanding restoration of statehood.

"While BJP is delivering development, ensuring peace, and strengthening democracy in J&K, Congress leaders are busy staging protests. Their actions show they have no real agenda for the people, only the desire to grab power at any cost," Dr. Chowdhary stated.

He urged the opposition to end its disruptive tactics and engage in constructive debate inside Parliament.

# Rath Yatra on Aug 14 to mark Janmashtami celebrations



Trust Secretary, Ashok Sharma briefing media.

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The J&K Dharmarth Trust, in collaboration with the Sanatan Dharm Sabha and Dharmik Yuvak Mandal, is organizing a grand Rath Yatra on August 14, 2025, to commemorate the auspicious occasion of Shri Krishna Janmashtami.

Addressing media persons at the Trust's Central Office in Jammu, Ashok Sharma (IPS Retd) Secretary of J&K Dharmarth Trust, informed that the Shri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations will commence with a captivating Rath Yatra-a religious procession in which a beautifully

adorned chariot carrying the idols of Shri Krishna and Radha will be towed through the streets of the Temple City.

The Secretary elaborated that the Shobha Murti Poojan ceremony is scheduled to take place at 3:30 PM on August 14, 2025, at Shri Raghunathji Temple, Jammu. Following this, the Rath Poojan and Dhvajarohan ceremonies will commence at 4:00 PM. He also expressed gratitude to the Sanatan Dharm Sabha, Dharmik Yuvak Mandal, District Administration Jammu, and the Police Department for extending their support to ensure the smooth

conduct of the Rath Yatra.

The Secretary further informed that the Shobha Yatra will follow the traditional route with minor changes this year. The Rath Yatra will start from the historic Shri Raghunathji Temple and pass through various markets, including Veer Marg - Shaheedi Chowk - Rajinder Bazar - Kanak Mandi - City Chowk - Old Hospital Road - Purani Mandi - Link Road - Jain Bazar - Chowk Chabutra - Paeca Danga - Moti Bazar - Geeta Bhawan - Ranbireswar Temple - Shalamar Road - Raghunath Bazar; before finally culminating at Shri Raghunathji Temple.

Among those present at the press conference were Nischal Anand, Treasurer of Dharmik Yuvak Mandal, office bearers of Raghunath Bazar Businessman Association, Hari market, Karan Market, Rajinder Bazaar and Kanak Mandi Traders Association.