

Felicitates Langar Organisations for contribution during Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025

Nothing can beat spirit of India: LG Sinha



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha speaking at felicitation ceremony held at Spiritual Growth Centre Katra.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday felicitated the Langar organisations for their significant contribution during Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra-2025.

At a felicitation ceremony held at Spiritual Growth Centre Katra, the Lieutenant Governor congratulated and expressed his deep appreciation to the Langar organisations for their selfless service to the devotees of Baba Amarnath.

"Today's felicitation of Langar Organisations at Katra also carried a message that nothing can beat the spirit of India. Successful conduct of holy pilgrimage of

Shri Amarnath Ji this year with unwavering determination of all the stakeholders has shown that we are second to none in the world. It is also a vindication of our steadfast commitment to selfless service and a symbol of resurgent India," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also lauded the entire team of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, administrative officials, Police & Security personnel, service providers, NGOs, Volunteers, health professionals, and all stakeholders for working tirelessly 24x7 during the Yatra.

"Daily real-time feedback from Yatris on both the axis

was ensured through Rapid Assessment System and 95% pilgrims had rated the services as 'Very Good'. We can also see many emotional images and visuals where our police and security personnel can be seen carrying the pilgrims in need of assistance on their shoulders like their own family members," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board is making dedicated efforts to enhance the facilities for the devotees. He said the day is not far when devotees can travel through ropeway from Baltal and pay their obeisance to the holy cave. 122 Langars provided free of cost service to the pilgrims in the Yatra area.

► Congratulates, expresses deep appreciation to Langar Organisations for their selfless service to devotees of Baba Amarnath
► Says, successful conduct of holy pilgrimage of Shri Amarnath Ji this year with unwavering determination of all stakeholders has shown that we are second to none in world. It is also a vindication of our steadfast commitment to selfless service and a symbol of resurgent India

success every year.

He also emphasised that all the stakeholders must play their part in maintaining a safe and secure environment.

The Lieutenant Governor reiterated that the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board is making dedicated efforts to enhance the facilities for the devotees. He said the day is not far when devotees can travel through ropeway from Baltal and pay their obeisance to the holy cave. 122 Langars provided free of cost service to the pilgrims in the Yatra area.

Dr Mandeep K. Bhandari, CEO, Shri Amarnathji

Shrine Board; Ramesh Kumar; Divisional Commissioner Jammu; Bhim Sen Tuti, IGP Jammu; Sachin Kumar Vaishya, CEO Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board; Nidhi Malik, Deputy Commissioner Reasi; Rahul Singh, Additional CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board; Rajan Kapoor, President, Shri Amarnathji Yatra Bhandara Organisation; senior officials of Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, Civil and Police administration and members of Langar Organizations were present at the felicitation ceremony.



JKPSOA formed for welfare, service issues of Prosecution Deptt officers



JKPSOA members during a meeting at Jammu on Wednesday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a landmark development for the legal and prosecution fraternity, officers from the Jammu and Kashmir Prosecution Department convened a meeting under the chairmanship of Baldev Singh Manhas, former Director of Prosecution. The meeting resulted in the formation of the Jammu and Kashmir Prosecution Service Officers Association (JKPSOA), a first-of-its-kind independent body aimed at addressing the welfare, service conditions, and professional issues faced by officers in the prosecution department. This move comes in light of the prosecution wing now functioning independently from the police department.

The primary objective of JKPSOA is to ensure better representation and advocacy for the officers' concerns,

with a structured and democratic platform.

During the meeting, the Constitution and Election Rules of the Association were unanimously approved, marking a crucial first step in establishing the framework of the body.

Through a voice vote, Baldev Singh Manhas was elected as the Patron-in-Chief, recognizing his leadership and deep understanding of the system. An Adhoc Body was formed to lead the association in its initial phase.

The office bearers include Anil Mangotra (CPO) as President (Jammu), Rajesh Gill (CPO) as Vice President, Sunil Sharma (Sr. PO) as General Secretary, Puja Nijhon (Sr. PO) as Joint Secretary, Raj Kumar (Sr. PO) as Joint Secretary (M), and Yuvraj Singh (Sr. PO) as Treasurer. The Adhoc Body resolved

to submit the formation proposal to the J&K Government's Home Department through the Director General of Prosecution for official approval and recognition under the J&K Government Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971. Once the approval is granted, a membership drive will be launched, followed by formal elections to fully constitute the association.

Officers present at the meeting appreciated the initiative, viewing it as a positive and long-overdue step toward ensuring justice and fairness for those serving in the prosecution wing.

The meeting was attended by several key officers including Raj Kumar, Puja Nijhon, Manmohit Sharma, Ashwani Kumar, and Sonali Parihar, who extended their full support and best wishes to the newly formed Adhoc Body.

Dr Jitendra issues strict instructions to check illegal mining, Ujh Project revived

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh chaired the DISHA meeting with the district administration and various departments to address critical issues affecting Kathua, including illegal mining, infrastructure projects, and rising drug addiction.

Dr. Singh issued firm instructions to combat illegal mining in the region, highlighting its threat to vital national infrastructure, such as the Keerian Gadiyal bridge and the expressway corridor.

These projects, which are of immense national importance, have been secured through the direct intervention and patronage of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Dr. Singh emphasized that allowing illegal mining to jeopardize these projects would be a shame and unacceptable.

The Minister called on the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) and District Mining Officer to provide a report on illegal mining cases.



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh Chairing the DISHA meeting of district Kathua at DC Office, Kathua on Wednesday.

He questioned the reduction in fines for illegal miners, which had lowered the financial deterrent, thereby encouraging such illegal activities. Dr. Singh stressed that anyone involved in illegal mining-regardless of their political or social position-should be strictly dealt with, publicly named, and shamed.

Dr. Singh also addressed the growing menace of drug addiction in the region. He proposed the formation of a joint community comprising the district administration, police authorities, public representatives, and civil society members to curb the spread of drug abuse at multiple levels.

In a positive development,

Dr. Singh announced the revival of the Ujh Multipurpose Project, conceived nearly a century ago by the then Maharaja in the 1920s. The project has received new impetus due to the intervention of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Defense, aiming to utilize the river Ujh to check infiltration and provide irrigation to thousands of hectares of land. The project is set to transform agriculture in the region, potentially irrigating up to 90,000 hectares.

The Minister also provided an update on the Shahpur Kandi Project, a national project that has been revised after four decades with the

support of Prime Minister Modi. The last phase of the project is set to be completed by September 15, after which water will begin flowing for electricity generation.

Dr. Singh highlighted the forthcoming industrial biotech park in Barnoti, which is poised to be North India's first such facility. The park will offer significant job opportunities, particularly in bio-manufacturing and hospital instruments. Additionally, the Government Medical College in Kathua is being upgraded to provide more advanced cancer treatment, including radiation services in collaboration with Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai.

The long-standing demand for the Bala Sundri tunnel was also addressed, with a new road project linking Lakhampur to Doda via Chattra Gala Tunnel, expected to reduce travel time significantly. Furthermore, Kathua has become the first district to implement a family bunker system in border villages, with nearly 3,000 bunkers planned. Dr. Singh also announced the approval of North India's first-ever Homeopathy College, which will cater to neighboring states like Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. The meeting reviewed several flagship schemes, including PMGSY, Jal Jeevan Mission, Swachh Bharat Mission, PMAY, Samagra Shiksha, PM SVANidhi, PM MUDRA Yojana, MNREGA, Ayushman Bharat, and projects in Horticulture and Animal Husbandry.

The meeting was attended by MLA Rajiv Jasrotia, other district MLAs, and senior officers from the district administration.

LG Kavinder Gupta leads Har Ghar Tiranga Rally in Leh

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: In a spirited celebration of patriotism, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, led the Har Ghar Tiranga rally through the bustling Leh Main Market on Wednesday.

The rally, part of the nationwide campaign marking India's 79th Independence Day, received a tremendous response from local citizens, leaders, youth groups, and cultural troupes. The event underscored the deep sense of unity and pride that binds the nation together.

Addressing the gathering, LG Kavinder Gupta described the rally as more than a symbolic march.

"This is not just a celebration; it is a call to action, a national movement to foster unity and patriotism," he asserted.

He encouraged every household across Ladakh to hoist the national flag, emphasizing that the success of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign would resonate from the Himalayan peaks to the southern shores of Kanyakumari.

The Lt Governor paid tribute to the bravery and sacrifices of legendary freedom fighter Chandra Shekhar Azad and local hero Abdul Sattar. "Their sacrifices form the foundation of India's strength and independence," he said, honoring their enduring legacy.



LG Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta leading Har Ghar Tiranga rally in Leh.

Kavinder Gupta also reiterated his commitment to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of seeing the Tricolour fly atop every home in India.

"The Har Ghar Tiranga initiative is more than a ceremonial gesture; it's about igniting pride in every Indian, fostering a sense of connection to our heritage, and inspiring collective responsibility for our nation's future," he added.

The rally was attended by CEC Leh Tashi Gyalton, who emphasized the campaign's role in unifying the country. "The Har Ghar Tiranga rally is a powerful symbol of our collective spirit and patriotism," he said, urging citizens to

embrace the message of unity and national pride.

Chief Secretary Pawan Kotwal, observed the remarkable transformation in public sentiment. "Patriotism is now visible everywhere. The sense of national pride is stronger than ever," he remarked, calling on every citizen to contribute to the success of the Har Ghar Tiranga movement.

The rally concluded with participants pledging to safeguard India's sovereignty and uphold its democratic ideals. The streets of Leh came alive with the fluttering of the Tricolour and the chanting of patriotic slogans, leaving a powerful impression of a united India.

Independence Day: Full dress rehearsal held across Jammu Div



Full Dress Rehearsals: Deputy Commissioner Jammu Rakesh Minhas and Div Com Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri inspecting ceremonial parade at Jammu and Srinagar respectively and students presenting cultural programme at MA Stadium Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The full dress rehearsals for celebration of 79th Independence Day 2025 held across all the districts of Jammu Division with patriotic fervour, enthusiasm and spirit of unity in diversity.

In preparation for the 79th Independence Day celebrations, a full dress rehearsal was today conducted at MAM Stadium, Jammu, with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour. The rehearsal demonstrated the readiness and coordination of all participating contin-

gents ahead of the main Independence Day function.

The Deputy Commissioner Rakesh Minhas hoisted the National Flag and inspected the ceremonial parade, which showcased excellent coordination among all participating units. During the proceedings, the Deputy Commissioner paid tribute to the martyrs who made supreme sacrifice for the nation.

In his address, the Deputy Commissioner said, "We owe our freedom to the brave martyrs who laid down their lives for our independence.

It is our collective duty to take our nation forward and uphold the values they fought for." He acknowledged the dedicated contribution of all departments involved in making the event successful.

The Deputy Commissioner extended special thanks to the parade participants, including contingents from security forces, various departments and educational institutions, and particularly lauded the exemplary duty performed by the Police, Traffic Police, CRPF, and Armed Police personnel

for ensuring smooth conduct of the rehearsal. The Police Band and media persons were also appreciated for their valuable contribution.

The rehearsal was conducted under the command of Parade Commander SP Mohd Usman, with Deputy Commander DySP Tilak Raj Bhardwaj.

The main Independence Day function will be held on August 15 at MAM Stadium, Jammu, where the chief guest will hoist the National Flag and address the gathering. All arrangements have been finalised to

ensure a memorable and dignified celebration of the nation's 79th Independence Day.

At Srinagar, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri hoisted the National Flag at Bakshi Stadium, inspected the parade contingents, took salute at March past and addressed the participants.

Earlier, Div Com paid floral tribute to the martyrs of the nation, who laid their lives in the line of national duty, at Balidan Stambh, Pratap Park. He was accom-

panied by IGP Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Birdi, DC Srinagar Akshay Labroo, and other officers of civil administration & security agencies.

Addressing the participants at the Bakshi Stadium, the main venue for the celebration of Independence Day in J&K, Div Com highlighted developmental and socio-economic achievements of the government.

Div Com said that terrorists who massacred innocent people at Pahalgam tried to create fear and division

among the people but the general public strongly condemned the heinous and drastic act of terrorism in one voice.

He remarked that operation Sindoor was a befitting reply to dismantle the bases of terrorism while operation Mahadev delivered justice to the actual perpetrators of Pahalgam killings.

Departments for peaceful and smooth conduct of annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra.

Different contingents of BSF, CRPF, ITBP, SSB, JKAP, IRP, Women contin-

gent, SDRF, Fire & Emergency, Forest Protection Force, NCC contingents, Pipe band, Brass band and students from different schools participated in march past parade.

IGP, Kashmir, DIG Central Kashmir, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, SSP Srinagar, SSP Traffic Srinagar, SSP Traffic Rural, SSP Security, Senior officers and other security agencies including CRPF, BSE, NDRF besides HODs & offices all civil departments were present on the occasion.