

# JKPS Panjtirthi celebrates Independence Day with patriotism

## 'From struggle....to Freedom....to Progress, India moves forward'



Glimpses of Independence Day celebration at JK Public School Panjtirthi.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JK Public School (JKPS) Panjtirthi celebrated the pride of being part of a nation that is eternal and incredible.

"May this spirit of freedom lead us all to success and glory in life. It makes my heart beat with pride, to see

the colors of Independence Day spreading happiness and great joys all around," expressed the Principal of JKPS Panjtirthi, Suman Banbah while addressing the audience on the Independence Day celebration in the premises of JKPS Panjtirthi.

She wished Happy Independence day to one and all and added, "15th August does not limit itself to celebrate years of struggle, it further expands to celebrate the India's rich cultural and religious heritage and diversity and the countless Martyrs sacrifices."

Her insightful words of wisdom showed the Jakiians the way to discover the light from within. The Flag hoisting ceremony was performed by the Principal of the School and Anju Jamwal. Mamta Gupta and Pooja sharma, the Incharges of the Celebration, highlighted the

theme of Independence Day 2025.

Immense joy and love for the nation was visible on the faces of Jakiians.

The celebration was centered around arousing a sense of responsibility amongst our young generation towards the hard-earned

freedom. The voice of Participants was boosted with the power of wonderful glory and energy of freedom. Jakiians saluted the nation by paying homage to our national heroes, by presenting a short skit.

Students were dressed up as various famous free-

dom fighters. The participants expressed immense gratitude and appreciation for the sacrifice of our freedom fighters, whose dreams we are living today. Jakiians presented an energetic dance performance dipped in patriotism and excitement. The chil-

dren were educated on the history and importance of freedom and Independence through speech. The celebration filled the whole ambience with festivity and patriotism. Everyone's eyes was shining with glory and pride while singing the eternal National anthem of India.

## Dr Jitendra visits GMC to inquire about Kishtwar victims, announces MP's Help Desk

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Soon after his arrival from Kishtwar after overnight journey from the site of the cloudburst at Chositi in Kishtwar; Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh directly headed for the Government Medical College, Jammu to enquire about the well being of the injured persons admitted over there and to arrange the necessary help required.

The Minister, who is also the MP representing Kishtwar, announced the setting up of the MP's Help-Desk in the Government Medical College Hospital, who would be attending to the requirements of the needy injured persons, providing them all the required items, including medicine, food, etc., and are arranging even for their transport. The Help Desk will be directly in touch with the offices of Principal GMC, Jammu.

Dr. Jitendra, who is also an eminent medical professional, went around the patients one by one, inquired about their health and being a professional medical person himself, he was also seen to time providing some advice and suggestions to the treating doctors.

During the visit, the team of Dr. Jitendra also handed over the pre-prepared kits maintaining fruit, eating items, and other necessary requirements



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh visiting Government Medical College, Jammu to enquire about the well-being of the victims of Kishtwar cloudburst.

for the injured patients admitted.

Dr. Singh said, all arrangements have been made not only to fully provide required treatment to each of the patients, but even to arrange for their referral outside Jammu, if required. However, he said, luckily, there is no such patient who requires to be shifted outside.

Later on, while addressing the media, flanked by Principal Government Medical College, Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, and local MLA Arvind Gupta, Dr. Jitendra said, in total, there have been 67 patients admitted but after he took the round and had a discussion with the Principal and the treating doctors, it was decided that at least 15 out of these could be dis-

charged today itself, which means that the remaining number of injured patients from the Kishtwar cloud disaster tragedy will now be limited to 52.

The Minister said, he has however also advised the treating doctors that most of the patients who have very minor injuries or soft tissue injuries, which do not require any intervention or surgery could be discharged sooner than later so that they could go home and have a feeling of well-being. He said, some of the patients do not have much injury, but they are still under the panic and the shock resulting from the sudden catastrophic that struck them and caused injuries to them.

When asked about the condi-

tion of the injured patient, Dr. Jitendra said, most of the patients were quite settled and luckily none of them had any head injury or any vital organ injury because most of the injury was caused by the debris or the material, which was mostly muddy and soiled. Some of the injuries were also caused because they tried to flee from the site and had a fall and injured themselves resulting in either soft tissue muscle injuries or the bone injury. As a result, he said, it could be reasonably and confidently concluded that none of the patients had any life threatening injury.

Dr. Jitendra said, since Prime Minister Narendra Modi is personally monitoring the situation, all the government machinery has been mobilised. He appreciated the efforts of Principal Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, the various departments of the Jammu Medical College including the Orthopaedic and the Neurology department as well as the administration for their prompt action.

He said he had a particular word of appreciation for the nursing staff and the assisting staff because beyond their line or mandate of duty, they had also come forward to act as counsellors and psychological morale boosters for each of the injured.

He also reassured each of the patients and their relatives that as an MP from that area, the MP Help-Desk set up by him

would be available for their assistance round the clock and they should not feel hesitant.

Later, when asked whether the number of the pilgrims was planned to be reduced following this catastrophe, Dr. Jitendra said, the weather forecast by IMD had already predicted heavy rains for the three days, but it is difficult to predict a cloud burst, which happens as a result of a number of local factors which lead to changes in that particular section of atmospheric air or milieu. He said that the gathering of about 2,000 people there also could have been possible because it was a long weekend holiday with the Independence Day and the festival of Janmashtami. Most of the persons visiting the shrine on that day happened to be from the districts of Jammu, Reasi and Udhampur because most of the locals had already completed the darshan. He also attributed the heavy casualty to the fact that the site where the cloudburst happened, there was a lungar and many of the people were either having their food or some of them after having finished their food, were getting ready to leave for the Yatra.

However, he said, all the positive inputs from the media persons or the other sections of civil society are well taken and if required, we could also introduce regulation of the numbers, if need be as suggested, in the times to come.

## Yudhvir visits Kishtwar cloudburst victims of Jammu East, extends condolences; seeks jobs for affected families



MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi attending last rites of Kishtwar cloudburst victim at New Plot Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi, on Saturday expressed deep grief over the tragic cloudburst that struck Chasoti village in Kishtwar district, leaving several people feared dead and many missing.

The calamity occurred on the route to the revered Machail Mata shrine and has plunged the entire region into mourning.

Yudhvir Sethi visited the houses of the victims of Jammu East Constituency, who lost their lives in the tragic Kishtwar cloudburst and attended their last rites to share the grief of the bereaved families.

Yudhvir Sethi, who met the grieving family members, expressed heartfelt condolences and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls.

He said that the pain of such an irreparable loss is beyond words, but hoped that the bereaved families find strength and courage in this hour of unbearable pain, assuring them that the BJP stands firmly with them in their moment of grief.

Sethi first reached Vikram Chowk (Ward No. 19), where he paid condolences to Hem Lala, wife of Rajinder Kumar Sharma. He later visited Old Rehari (Ward No. 8) to mourn the untimely demise of Sunil Kumar (37 years) and Nidhi Kumari (14 years), expressing deep sorrow over the loss of young lives. At the same locality, he also extended condolences to the families of Anita Kumari, Shali Sharma, and Naresh Kumar.

Continuing his visit, Sethi along with Member of Parliament Lok Sabha, Jugal Kishore Sharma reached New

Plot (Ward No. 16) to meet the family of Sonia Gupta, wife of Sanjeev Gupta, who too passed away in the disaster. They prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and strength to the grieving families to bear this irreparable loss.

Describing the incident as "the biggest loss in recent years for Kishtwar," Sethi said the tragedy had left him heartbroken.

"This calamity has shaken us all to the core. The pain of losing loved ones in such a sudden and devastating manner is beyond words. Our prayers are with the families who have suffered irreparable losses," Sethi said.

The MLA also stressed that government job must be provided to next of kin of those who lost their lives in the tragedy to help them rebuild their future with dignity.

## CSIR-IIIM Jammu celebrates 79th Independence Day



Director CSIR-IIIM, Dr. Zabeer Ahmed inspecting contingents of Independence Day Parade.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (IIIM), Jammu, observed the 79th Independence Day with a deep sense of patriotism and compassion. The main programme at the Jammu campus was led by Dr. Zabeer Ahmed, Director, CSIR-IIIM, who hoisted the National Flag and addressed the gathering comprising staff, students, and members of the local community.

In his remarks, Dr. Ahmed

expressed heartfelt grief over the tragic Kishtwar cloudburst and extended condolences to the families who lost their loved ones. As a mark of respect, a two-minute silence was observed, reflecting the institute's solidarity with the affected communities.

Independence Day observations were also held at CSIR-IIIM's Branch Laboratory in Srinagar and field stations at Chatha (Jammu), Verinag and Yarikha (Kashmir), and Palam ChuchotYokma (Leh). At each

location, the National Flag was hoisted, and participants paid tribute to the victims of the tragedy.

While the celebrations were subdued in view of the incident, the occasion served as a reminder of the institute's commitment to both national service and humanitarian values. CSIR-IIIM reaffirmed its pledge to advance scientific research, strengthen farmer-centric programmes, and contribute towards a self-reliant and compassionate India.

## Dy CM hoists Tricolour on I-Day at MA Stadium Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary led the 79th Independence Day celebrations at MA Stadium, Jammu, where he hoisted the National Flag and took the ceremonial salute after inspecting the impressive Independence Day parade comprising 32 contingents, including BSF, CRPF, SSB, IIRP (Male and Women), J&K Police, JKAP, SDRF, Fire and Emergency Services, Forest Protection Force, NCC boys and girls, and student contingents from various schools, along with brass and pipe bands.

The event was marked by patriotic fervour and began with the Dy CM extending condolences to the families affected by the tragic cloudburst in Chashoti, Kishtwar, expressing the government's solidarity with the bereaved. In his address, he greeted the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the nation, paying tribute to the freedom



Dy CM Surinder Choudhary inspecting the contingents of Independence Day Parade.

fighters whose sacrifices won the country its independence.

Highlighting recent developmental achievements, the Deputy CM informed that 46 new industrial estates have been established in districts like Jammu, Samba, Kathua, Puhwama, and Budgam, with a local employment policy ensuring job priority for the region's

youth. He underscored Jammu and Kashmir's identity as not only a land of scenic beauty but also of rich cultural heritage, with GI tags awarded to various local products including Kashmiri pashmina, kani shawls, paper mache, walnut wood carvings, Solai honey, Kaladi cheese, Bhaderwah rajma, and Kishtwar saffron.

The Dy CM mentioned the distribution of 2 lakh safety kits to workers and monthly pensions under ISSS and NSAP schemes benefiting the elderly, widows, and the disabled. Healthcare infrastructure has been expanded, with increased MBBS and PG seats to benefit local students. In education, initiatives like mobile schools in remote areas and the implementation of the New Education Policy are transforming the learning landscape, supported by teacher training and student counselling programs.

For farmers, the government is promoting income through schemes in agriculture, horticulture, and sericulture, expansion of the Kisan Credit Card scheme, and a crop insurance plan covering losses from natural disasters and price drops. Under Mission Yuva, skill training in areas such as IT, tourism, dairy, and solar energy is being provided, with subsidised loans

helping youth become job creators. Women empowerment was another key focus, with Self Help Groups being supported to establish small-scale businesses in tailoring, food production, and e-commerce, aided by interest-free loans and modern marketing tools. The Dy CM also detailed major infrastructure projects including 1,741 km of rural roads under PMGSY-IV and 19 national highway projects worth Rs 10,637 crore. Power transmission and distribution have been strengthened to ensure reliability. Recognising tourism as a pillar of J&K's identity, the government is developing visitor-friendly infrastructure and crowd management systems. The Dy CM concluded by urging citizens, especially the youth, to honour the legacy of the nation's martyrs by working with honesty, dedication, and unity to preserve freedom and accelerate Jammu and Kashmir's development.