

Bridge over Chishoti Nallah a lifeline for people: Dr. Pardeep praises Army's swift action

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: By swiftly constructing a temporary bridge over the Chishoti Nallah in Kishtwar district, restoring vital connectivity for local residents who were left cut off after a devastating cloudburst, the Indian Army has once again risen to the occasion and proved that it stands as the strongest pillar of support for the people of the nation, both in war and in natural calamities.

Pardeep Mahotra, J&K BJP Media Incharge, who added that the Indian Army has demonstrated exemplary commitment, professionalism, and compassion. Expressing heartfelt gratitude, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, said that the people will always remain indebted to the Indian Army for its unparalleled service and sacrifice. At a time when despair had engulfed the region, the Army's quick response came as a lifeline. Their timely



intervention saved the people from greater hardships and reconnected lives, and hopes. Dr. Pardeep recalled that the Indian Army has consistently stood with the nation

during the gravest of challenges, be it calamities, crises, or combat. He emphasized, "The recent success of Operation Sindoor has already showcased India's military might to the world. And here again, in Kishtwar, the same forces have displayed their humane side, proving that their strength lies not just in valor, but also in service to the people." The cloudburst had triggered heavy flash flood, sweeping away the lives and cutting off the connectivity. Recognizing the urgency, the Army's engineering teams worked on a war footing and completed the bridge in record time, restoring safe movement and ensuring the flow of supplies.

responsibility and devotion to the nation. Whether in the battlefield or in the remotest corners affected by disaster, the Army has never let the nation down." He further added that the loss of more than 60 lives and the disappearance of many after the tragic cloudburst had left the region devastated, but the Army's intervention gave people a ray of hope. "In their darkest hour, the people of Kishtwar found the Indian Army standing beside them, as always. This bond of trust and sacrifice is what makes our Army the pride of the nation." Dr. Pardeep Mahotra said, "The Indian Army has once again shown that the safety, dignity, and well-being of the people are its topmost priority. We bow our heads in gratitude to their selfless service. The entire nation feels proud that in every testing time, it is our Army that we can trust without a second thought."

Massive 'Tricolour Rally' in Pahalgam a sign of changing situation in Kashmir: Balbir

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A massive Tricolour rally recently held in Pahalgam has highlighted a positive transformation and a new wave of nationalism in the Kashmir Valley. A large number of people from Kashmir participated in the rally, clearly indicating that the Valley is now moving forward on the path of peace, development, and unity. Senior BJP leader and former Vice Chairman Balbir Ram Rattan, while discussing the changing situation in Kashmir with his colleagues, made this statement in response to the success of the event. He said that such a large rally carrying the Tricolour in Pahalgam has now become possible something that was hard to even imagine a few years ago. This reflects a change in mindset and is a symbol of people's patriotism. He further said that after the abrogation of Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir has



found a new foundation for security, development, and inclusive politics. Now, hoisting the Tricolour in Kashmir has become a matter of pride and celebration, whereas earlier it used to invoke fear and opposition. He mentioned that the participants in the massive rally filled the atmosphere with patriotic fervour, chanting slogans like "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Vande Mataram". Praising the participation of youth in particular in this rally, Balbir said that this new generation now wants to move forward not on the path of separatism, but on the path of education, employment, and development.

Yudhvir Sethi starts restoration of collapsed wall at Peer Kho



MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi and Mahant Karan Nath of Peer Kho Temple starting restoration work.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In the aftermath of heavy rainfall yesterday that triggered a landslide in Ward No. 3, Peer Kho area of Jammu East, senior BJP leader and MLA Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi promptly initiated the reconstruction of the collapsed wall near the historic Peer Kho Temple. The damaged portion had created significant inconvenience for locals and passersby, as the road serves as a major thoroughfare for residents, tourists, and pilgrims visiting the temple, a key attraction in the City of Temples. Speaking at the inauguration, Sethi said, "As soon as the rains stopped, we conducted a detailed assessment of the damage and immediately started restoration and repair work. The safety and convenience of the public remain our highest priority." He emphasized that timely restoration of such

infrastructure is vital not only for public safety but also for preserving the cultural and religious significance of heritage sites in the constituency. The reconstruction work was formally inaugurated by Mahant Karan Nath of Peer Kho Temple, in the presence of PWD officials including JE T.S. Wazir, XEn Parvaiz Malik, AEE Sidharth, and local representatives such as Sonu Sharma, Aju, Jiya, Sushant, Lovely, among others, who will monitor the project. The PWD assured that all necessary resources and technical support would be deployed to complete the repair work efficiently and ensure structural stability. Sethi urged citizens to cooperate during the repair process and added that preventive measures would be undertaken in other sensitive areas of the constituency to avoid similar disruptions in the future.

infrastructure is vital not only for public safety but also for preserving the cultural and religious significance of heritage sites in the constituency. The reconstruction work was formally inaugurated by Mahant Karan Nath of Peer Kho Temple, in the presence of PWD officials including JE T.S. Wazir, XEn Parvaiz Malik, AEE Sidharth, and local representatives such as Sonu Sharma, Aju, Jiya, Sushant, Lovely, among others, who will monitor the project. The PWD assured that all necessary resources and technical support would be deployed to complete the repair work efficiently and ensure structural stability. Sethi urged citizens to cooperate during the repair process and added that preventive measures would be undertaken in other sensitive areas of the constituency to avoid similar disruptions in the future.

Seminar on GRIHA Certification for Green Buildings organized

STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The Indian Buildings Congress (J&K Chapter), in collaboration with the Alumni Association of NIT Srinagar, Civil Engineering Students Association (CESA) and JK Green Technologies, organized a Seminar on GRIHA Certification for Green Buildings at the National Institute of Technology, Hazratbal, Srinagar. The seminar was inaugurated by Er. Aamir Ali, Chairman, Indian Buildings Congress (J&K Chapter), who emphasized the urgent need to adopt sustainable building practices in Jammu and Kashmir, given the fragile Himalayan ecosystem and rising challenges of climate change. He highlighted that GRIHA certification provides a structured framework for ensuring energy efficiency, waste reduction, and eco-

friendly construction, and urged engineers and students to act as champions of green technology in their professional careers. Dr. (Prof.) Mohammed Ashraf Shah, Dean Alumni Association and International Affairs, NIT Srinagar, welcomed the participants and announced that the seminar marked the first phase of the Alumni Back to Classroom (ABC) Program, launched by the Alumni Association. Under this initiative, distinguished alumni share their professional insights, real-world experiences and practical wisdom with students and faculty, helping bridge the academia-industry gap. The keynote experts included Er. Bashir

Ahmed Dar, Managing Director JK Green Technologies and Former Secretary Technical, J&K Power Development Department, Govt. of J&K, who has been the batch topper of Electrical Engineering, REC Srinagar, 1996; and Er. Suhail Qadir, Electrical Engineer, Batch 1990, REC Srinagar, currently heading the Qatar Energy and serving as the Founder Managing Partner of JK Green Technologies. The seminar was attended by students and faculty of NIT Srinagar, including Dr. Saad Parvez, Professor Mechanical Engineering; Dr. Shahid Saleem, Professor Mechanical Engineering and Dr. Shagoofta Rasool Shah, Professor Civil

Engineering, Dr. Dasari Karthik, Coordinator CESA, Dr. HS Pali, NIT Alumni Association. Also present were eminent engineers and professionals including Er. Rafiq Ahmed Rafiq, Former Chief Engineer R&B Kashmir and Er. Abdul Aziz Lone, Executive Engineer. The seminar also witnessed participation from nearly 100 online attendees across India. Online participants included Er. Ravinder Shekher, Vice Chairman IBC (J&K Chapter); Er. Irfan Shafi Parry, Honorary Secretary IBC, Er. Ankur Nanda Treasurer IBC, Er. Muzafar A. Beigh, Asst. General Manager, BSNL, Er. Syed Shabir Rufai, Principal, SSM Polytechnic College, Adil

Rashid Naqash, CAO, SSM, Er. Shaista Waseem, besides other staff and students of SSM College of Engineering, Parihaspora; Government Polytechnics and ITIs; SP College; Amar Singh College and engineers from Public Works Department, BSNL, PMGSY, Irrigation & Flood Control, POWERGRID Corporation of India and REW Kashmir. The experts addressed various questions raised by participants, making the session highly interactive and enriching. The seminar was coordinated by the office bearers of the Civil Engineering Students Association (CESA), including its President Sabaat Riyaz Qureshi.

Samkalp Jammu and Kashmir felicitates Civil Service Qualifiers

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Samkalp Jammu and Kashmir (Mahatma Gandhi Chapter) organized a function Chyanit Pratibhagi Abhinandan Samaroh-2025 to felicitate Civil Service Qualifiers of UPSC-2024 batch from Jammu and Kashmir. The programme organized at Writers' Club, Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art Culture and Languages, was attended in person by six out of nine Civil service qualifiers. These included Mohd, Muneeb Bhat, Akshay Parihar, Vishal Deep Chandan, Hemanth Vaid and Akash Gupta, while for Iram Choudhary, Mohd. Haris Mir, Peerzada Umer and



Manil Begotra, mementoes were received by their family members and friends. The attending Civil Services qualifiers narrated their journeys of failures, hardships, despairs, continuous efforts and hopes before becoming triumphant. They elaborated how parents, teachers and friends directly and indirectly contributed to their success. The newly selected civil servants also recounted their association with Samkalp Delhi and Jammu, and expressed their gratitude to Samkalp for helping them

through guidance by eminent experts and faculty. Madhu Prbhakar, General Secretary, Madhav Sriшти Nayas, New-Delhi and Ankur, Head Education, Samkalp New-Delhi were the invited speakers who deliberated at length about the dedicated expert faculty and selfless service provided by Samkalp to the needy aspirants of Civil Services. They invited students from Jammu and Kashmir to register at Samkalp Jammu and New-Delhi for qualifying Civil Services exam conducted by UPSC.

Earlier, Dr. Gautma Mengi, President, Samkalp Jammu and Kashmir welcomed guests, newly selected civil servants, participating students, and explained about the achievements and activities of Samkalp Jammu Chapter. Vote of thanks was presented by Rajinder Kakkar, General Secretary, Samkalp Jammu who applauded efforts of Jammu Samkalp team for organizing this programme, while proceedings of the programme were conducted by Dr. Mamohan Sharma.

Two minutes silence observed by JKHCBAJ to pay homage to victims of cloudburst at Chasoti, Kathua

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu (JKHCBAJ), today solemnly observed two minutes of silence on Monday at the Justice Vinod Kumar Gupta Memorial Bar Hall, High Court, Jammu. This heartfelt tribute was organized to pay homage to the departed souls who tragically lost their lives in the recent cloudburst incidents at Chasoti, Kishtwar and Kathua.



Gathering in deep sorrow and solidarity, the office bearers of JKHCBAJ, together with Senior Advocates and other members of the Bar, assembled to express collective prayers for peace and healing. The President of the Association K. Nirmal Kotwal (Advocate), on behalf of entire Legal fraternity extends its deepest condolences and prayers to the bereaved families, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with them as they endure the irreparable loss and trauma caused by the disaster. The President of Association further prayed for the safety and swift

rescue of all those trapped or missing, and for speedy recovery of those injured. JKHCBAJ takes this opportunity to appreciate and commend the extraordinary efforts, courage, and compassion demonstrated by the Administration, Police personnel, Army, CISE, CRPF, Disaster Management team, Doctors, Nurses, volunteers, locals and every individual involved in rescue, relief, and rehabilitation operations. Their unwavering commitment to sav-

ing lives and supporting victims has been beacons of hope amid adversity and devastation. The Bar Association further assures its continued support to all initiatives aimed at providing relief and assistance to the affected families and communities. The association has further constituted a team of Advocates under the Chairmanship of S. Baldev Singh (Advocate), Vice President of the Association, who shall visit the affected sites in order to render effective services and support to the victim and their family members and further to assess the actual loss occurred due to said disaster. Today's observance not only paid homage to those who lost their lives but also reaffirmed the Association's commitment to the values of humanity, compassion, and collective healing. We call upon everyone to keep the departed in their thoughts and prayers, and to unite in strength and empathy as Jammu and Kashmir moves forward from these difficult times.

DBPS pays tribute to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on Death Anniversary

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Dogra Brahmin Pratidinli Sabha (DBPS) today paid rich tributes to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his death anniversary in a function held at the Sabha premises in Chanyark Chowk, Jammu. The event was presided over by DBPS President Ved Prakash Sharma, who lauded Netaji as an outstanding leader of India's freedom movement and a revolutionary par excellence who carried the struggle for independence beyond the country's borders. While addressing the gathering, Sharma highlighted Bose's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation, saying, "Netaji's dedication and courage will continue to inspire generations of Indians in the years to come." Floral tributes were offered to Netaji by several dignitaries, including Former Deputy Commissioner B.S. Jamwal,

DBPS Chairman Advocate P.C. Sharma, NMC President Subash Shastri, and Bawa Bhairdev Sathan Trust General Secretary Ramesh Sharma. Senior BJP leader Advocate Chandar Mohan Sharma, former JMC Commissioner Soujanya Sharma, and other prominent personalities also spoke about Bose's pivotal role in India's freedom struggle. Among those present were N.C. Sharma, M.L. Sharma, Ritz Khajuria, Satyanand Sharma, Shiv Ram Sharma, Jagan Nath Sharma, Barita Ram Sharma, M.L. Padha, Gurdas Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, Prem Balotra, Satpal Sharma, K.L. Sharma, Davinder Sharma (Baboo), Kuldeep Shukla, Sanjiv Kermi, Kewal Krishan Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, and several other social activists. They collectively emphasized that Netaji's life and ideals remain a lasting source of inspiration for every Indian.

DBPS Chairman Advocate P.C. Sharma, NMC President Subash Shastri, and Bawa Bhairdev Sathan Trust General Secretary Ramesh Sharma. Senior BJP leader Advocate Chandar Mohan Sharma, former JMC Commissioner Soujanya Sharma, and other prominent personalities also spoke about Bose's pivotal role in India's freedom struggle. Among those present were N.C. Sharma, M.L. Sharma, Ritz Khajuria, Satyanand Sharma, Shiv Ram Sharma, Jagan Nath Sharma, Barita Ram Sharma, M.L. Padha, Gurdas Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, Prem Balotra, Satpal Sharma, K.L. Sharma, Davinder Sharma (Baboo), Kuldeep Shukla, Sanjiv Kermi, Kewal Krishan Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, and several other social activists. They collectively emphasized that Netaji's life and ideals remain a lasting source of inspiration for every Indian.

Neeraj appointed Chairman of All J&K Megh Sabha



Newly nominated members of All J&K Megh Sabha.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: All J&K Megh Sabha announced the appointment of Neeraj Bhagat at its new Chairman. State President Narinder Datt informed the media that Dr. Rajeev Bhagat, the former Chairman, has been elected as MLA from the Bishnah constituency. A month ago, with the consensus of executive and general body members, Dr. Rajeev Bhagat was nominated as Chief Patron of the Sabha. Neeraj Bhagat, who has served as

Vice-Chairman for a long time, was unanimously nominated as the new Chairman. Narinder Datt and other executive members congratulated him and expressed confidence in his leadership for the upliftment of the community. In his address, Neeraj Bhagat thanked the Sabha for their trust and assured full support to the community, especially the underprivileged, emphasizing his commitment to social development and collective progress.

Rashtriya Bajrang Dal organizes Hawan, prayer for cloudburst victims in Kishtwar, Kathua



STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In the wake of the recent devastating cloudburst in Jammu and Kashmir, which severely affected Kishtwar (Sub-Division Paddar, village Chashoti) and Kathua districts, the Rashtriya Bajrang Dal, Jammu-Kashmir organized a Hawan and special prayer ceremony to honour the victims and support the affected families. The disaster claimed the lives of 62 people in the Chashoti area of Paddar; while over 150 others remain missing. Seventy-five people were critically injured and are undergoing treatment at GMC Hospital, with 20 patients already discharged, though two remain in critical condition. Rescue operations are ongoing, with SDRF and NDRF teams working tirelessly to locate hundreds still unaccounted for. In Kathua, seven people lost their lives, and several injured individuals were airlifted to the Pathankot Army Hospital for

treatment. During the Hawan ceremony, Rashtriya Bajrang Dal members offered special prayers to Goddess Bhagwati and Bhagwan Narayan, seeking blessings that the missing persons are reunited with their families, the deceased find peace, and the injured recover swiftly. Earlier, on August 15, RBJ-K volunteers had organized a blood donation camp to support the injured. Addressing the gathering, Rashtriya Bajrang Dal State President Rakesh Bajrang

said, "The Rashtriya Bajrang Dal stands with the government and administration in every possible way. Our organization is always ready to extend assistance to disaster victims, and we are prepared to provide immediate support whenever needed." The program witnessed participation from numerous office-bearers and members of the organization, demonstrating solidarity with the affected communities in these tragic circumstances.