

Vidya Bharti JK & Ladakh honours meritorious students of BVM Institutions

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vidya Bharti Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh organized a felicitation programme at Bhau Rao Devras Auditorium, BVM Senior Secondary School, Ambphalla, here to honour the meritorious students of its institutions.

These students had excelled in the CBSE and JKBOSE Class 10th and 12th examinations, achieving outstanding results. The programme aimed to celebrate their hard work and academic excellence with recognition in the form of cash prizes, certificates, and mementoes. The event was graced by Chief Guest, Dr. Shesh Pal Vaid, IPS (Retd), former Director General of Police, Jammu & Kashmir.

In his inspiring address to the students, he congratulated them on their achievements and urged them to become responsible citizens by following five key values: Respect your elders, remember your parents and locality, honour your teach-



Vidya Bharti Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh members and student at felicitation programme.

ers and friends, and love your country. The occasion also featured key addresses by Vijay Kumar Nadda, Sangathan Mantri Vidya Bharti Uttar Kshetra, and Bal Kishan, Seh-Sangathan Mantri Vidya Bharti Uttar Kshetra.

Both leaders highlighted the crucial role of Vidya Bharti in shaping the future of students by emphasizing holistic education rooted in Indian culture and values. They also stressed the importance of nation-building through quality education

and character development.

The programme was presided over by Parshotam Kumar Sharma 'Dadhichi', President of the Samiti. Several dignitaries were present at the event, including Vijay Kumar Sharma (Vice President), Dr. Naresh Kumar Sharma (General Secretary), Hari Saran Lalotra and Ramesh Singh Jasrotia (Joint Secretaries), Dr. Shiksha Sharma (Prant Samiti Member), and noted educationists like Prof. Indveer Chanyal and Prof. Arvind Gupta.

Sameer Krishan Saproo, Office Secretary, and the principals of various BVM schools-Pradeep Singh (Ramban), Reena Rajput (Ambphalla), and Sunil Chalotra (Sanyojak Prashikshan) - also attended.

During the event, top-performing students from different schools were honoured. From CBSE Class 12th (BVM Sr. Sec. School, Ambphalla), Hiranya Gupta stood first, followed by Advitya Vaid and Samrat Singh Choudhary. From JKBOSE Class 12th (BVM HSS Kishtwar), the top three positions were secured by Vanshika Parihar, Safia Sharma, and Riya Rathore. In CBSE Class 10th (SBY BVM Sr. Sec. School, Dadwara), Raghuvi Thakur, Disha Thakur, and Rydham Rajput claimed the top three ranks respectively. JKBOSE Class 10th toppers included Saksham Sharma (1st), Aditi Parihar (2nd) from BVM HSS Kishtwar, and Maneet Kumar (3rd) from BVM HS Bhaderwah.

In addition to the school-level toppers, all students who secured 90 per cent and above were recognized and honoured by the dignitaries. This recognition not only celebrated their academic success but also encouraged them to continue striving for excellence. Many students took the stage to share their personal experiences of facing board exams with dedication, regular studies, and perseverance. They credited their success to the constant support from their teachers, principals, and parents, and extended heartfelt thanks to the Vidya Bharti Society for acknowledging their efforts on such a grand platform in Jammu.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Parshotam Kumar Sharma (Dadhichi Ji), who extended his blessings to all the meritorious students and expressed gratitude to all guests and participants. Sameer Krishan Saproo conducted the programme proceedings.

Ashram alleges JDA anti-encroachment drive damaged its land

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: An Ashram in Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu, has raised concerns over an anti-encroachment drive conducted by the Jammu Development Authority (JDA) on August 18, claiming that its properly allotted land was wrongly targeted and damaged.

Shri Yog Vedant Sewa Samiti Bhagwati Nagar Jammu members stated that it holds complete documentation of the land allotted by JDA and regularly maintains and repairs the boundaries, planting medicinal plants and fodder for its Gaushala cows. Officials were reportedly informed of illegal encroachments by land mafias six months ago, and the JDA Tehsildar, along with Patwari and other officials, had visited the site at that time.



Shri Yog Vedant Sewa Samiti Bhagwati Nagar Jammu member talking to reporters.

According to the members, the recent anti-encroachment drive was conducted without prior notice, and authorities made false claims that the Ashram itself had encroached on state land. The Ashram emphasized that it has never encroached on any state or private land and is only safeguarding its own allotted property.

They expressed concern over the damage to its boundary and plantations,

noting that the illegal encroachers have not yet been penalized by the JDA. It further stressed that the drive could complicate matters regarding the status quo maintained under High Court orders.

They requested the JDA to demarcate its land clearly and take action against the actual land grabbers, emphasizing that it seeks no additional land and only wants protection of the property rightly allotted to it.

Div Com, IGP visit cloudburst affected areas of Kathua

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar and Inspector General of Police Jammu, B.S. Tuti on Wednesday conducted an extensive tour of cloudburst and flash flood-induced landslide hit areas of Kathua district to assess the situation and review the ongoing relief and restoration measures. At the relief camp established at SIDCO Ghati, the Div Com met the affected families of Jode area where five persons lost their lives in the recent calamity. He interacted with the displaced families, expressed deep concern over the loss of lives and extended condolences. He assured the victims of every possible support from the government and informed that immediate financial assistance under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) has



Div Com Jammu Ramesh Kumar, IGP Jammu, B.S. Tuti during visit to cloudburst hit areas.

already been provided by the District Administration. He directed Deputy Commissioner Kathua to ensure speedy restoration of road connectivity in the affected areas. The Div Com also visited Dilwan village, which witnessed significant damage to road infrastructure and

habitations due to flashfloods. He directed the concerned Executive Engineers of PWD, PHE and PDD to work in close coordination for restoration of essential services in the shortest possible time to mitigate the hardships of the affected families.

Later, the Div Com visited

Government Medical College, Kathua, where he met the injured persons of Jakhole and Janglote who were admitted for treatment. He enquired about their health and medical care being provided. He directed the GMC authorities and district administration to ensure best possible treatment and proper care of the injured and their families.

Deputy Commissioner Kathua, Rajesh Sharma, apprised the Div Com that adequate medical facilities and all necessary assistance are being extended to the victims.

DIG Jammu-Samba-

Kathua Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma; ADC Kathua, Vishavjeet Singh; Tehsildar concerned besides officers of PWD, PHE, PDD and other departments accompanied the Divisional Commissioner during the visit.

Historic First: J&K's legal fraternity gets husband-wife duo as Senior Advocates

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a proud and unprecedented moment for the legal fraternity of Jammu & Kashmir, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh has designated Advocate Chander Shekher Gupta as a Senior Advocate through Notification No. 2615/RG/LP dated August 19, 2025. The announcement has etched history, as his wife, Seema Khajooria Shekher, already holds the prestigious title, making them the first-ever husband-and-wife duo in the Union Territory to be honoured with this distinction.

The conferment of Senior Advocate is among the highest professional recognitions in the legal profession. Reserved for lawyers who have consistently demonstrated extraordinary legal acumen, integrity, and contribution to the development of law, the title is not just an honour but also a symbol of trust reposed by the judiciary in the ability and character of an advocate.

The recognition of both Gupta and Shekher stands out as a rare achievement and has been hailed by legal experts as a "historic mile-



Chander Shekher Gupta

stone" for the J&K Bar.

Senior Advocate is a designation accorded under the Advocates Act, 1961, and requires an advocate to meet the highest standards of practice, ethics, and jurisprudential contribution.

Seema Khajooria Shekher, who was earlier elevated as a Senior Advocate, is admired for her eloquence, sharp legal mind, and fearless advocacy. She has earned a reputation for standing firmly for causes she represents and is respected for breaking barriers in a profession traditionally dominated by men. Her journey has been an inspiration for aspiring women lawyers across the Union Territory.

On the other hand, Chander Shekher Gupta is revered for his profound



Seema Khajooria Shekher

depth of knowledge in law, principled approach to practice, and unwavering commitment to justice. Colleagues at the Bar describe him as a scholar of law whose career has been marked by consistency, humility, and dedication to professional ethics. His elevation as Senior Advocate is seen as richly deserved and long overdue.

Together, the duo exemplifies what many in legal circles have described as a shared legacy of excellence, ethics, and service to justice. Rarely does the legal profession witness such a combination where both spouses rise to the highest echelons of professional recognition. Their achievement reflects not only individual brilliance but also mutual inspiration

and support that strengthened their journeys in the legal field. The designation has been warmly welcomed across the UT, with congratulatory messages pouring in from members of the Bench, Bar associations, and civil society. Eminent lawyers and jurists have noted that the recognition of the duo will serve as an inspiration for future generations of lawyers, reinforcing the values of integrity, perseverance, and dedication.

Many see this moment as a reminder of the evolving inclusivity and dynamism of J&K's legal community, which is increasingly celebrating merit without bias. Beyond being a personal achievement for the couple, the milestone is also being hailed as a landmark in the judicial history of the Union Territory.

As both Senior Advocates continue their professional journeys, their recognition stands as an evidence to the timeless values of the legal profession-excellence, fairness, and service to justice-offering a guiding light for young lawyers aspiring to make a difference in the world of law.

Inter-zone U-19 boys meet begins at Jammu



Participating teams posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Organised by the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS), annual inter-zone under-19 boys district level competition in the disciplines of Kabaddi, Football and Volleyball got underway at Khel Gaon in Nagrota, near here on Wednesday. The opening day witnessed preliminary rounds of the competition with teams performing on the modern sports infrastructure, including AstroTurf and mats under the guidance of District (DYSS) officer Jammu, Sukhdev Raj Sharma.

Earlier, district officer and other officers accompanying him interacted with the participating teams and encouraged the young athletes.

It will be out of this event that Jammu district boys under-19 age group teams shall be finalised for the upcoming inter-district divisional level competition of DYSS. The technical panel in today's competition comprised Ashok Kumar, Jasdev Singh, Tilak Parihar, Naresh Kumar, Harsimran Singh, Nitin Sethi, Ajay Kumar and Rohit Gupta.

The Results (Preliminary

Round):

VOLLEYBALL: Zone Jammu beat Zone Chowki Choura 2-0; Zone Jourian beat Zone Dansal 2-1; Zone RS Pura beat Zone Marh 2-0; Zone Bishnah beat Zone Gandhi Nagar 2-0.

KABADDI: Zone Khour beat Zone Marh 21-13; Zone Dansal beat Zone Gandhi Nagar 28-06; Zone RS Pura beat Zone Miran Sahib 27-19; Zone Chowki Choura beat Zone Bishnah 24-14.

FOOTBALL: Zone Gandhi Nagar beat Zone Jourian 3-2 (Mohd Kunal two goals,

Akeshit one; Auneesh two goals Jourian); Zone Akhnoor beat Zone Bishnah 2-0 (Satyam scored both the goals).

Govt can recover losses from pension, rules DB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a landmark ruling, the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh today held that the Government is empowered to recover financial losses from the pension of a retired employee, though no major service penalties like dismissal can be imposed post-retirement. A Division Bench of Justice Sindhu Sharma and Justice Shahzad Azeem delivered the judgment while allowing an appeal filed by the UT Government and J&K State Power Development Corporation against a Single Judge's 2023 order in favour of Aftab Ahmad Malik, a retired Stores Officer of the Lower Jehlum Hydrel Project (LJHP), Baramulla.

Malik, accused of negligence in the 2012 copper bar embezzlement case worth over Rs 57.72 lakh, had secured relief last year when the Single Judge quashed the inquiry and ordered release of retiral benefits. The Division Bench, however, ruled that since disciplinary proceedings were initiated in 2013-prior to Malik's retirement in 2017-the Government could lawfully continue them to assess and recover losses.

The Court clarified that Malik would remain entitled to provisional pensionary benefits pending the conclusion of the inquiry.

and Ganderbal cities. He urged party workers to stay approachable and ensure that government welfare schemes reach the deserving beneficiaries at the grassroots level.

Mudasir Wani stressed on improving organizational efficiency and adopting innovative approaches to engage youth and marginalized sections, thereby ensuring inclusive growth and active participation of every citizen.

Sheikh Salman and Ghulam Hassan Rather, reaffirming the commitment of the district unit, assured that the district teams would work with dedication and collective spirit to further strengthen the BJP in the respective regions. They expressed confidence that every challenge will be addressed with unity and perseverance.

Ashok Koul, while addressing the meeting, underscored the importance of organizational unity and smooth coordination among district office bearers. He reiterated that the BJP's true strength lies in its disciplined cadre and constant connect with the common people.

"Our duty is to ensure that every household feels the presence of the party through dedicated service and transparency. Srinagar and Ganderbal units have been making sincere efforts, but greater synergy and outreach will help us achieve our larger objectives. We remain fully committed to the development and empowerment of the people of Jammu & Kashmir," he said.

Anwar Khan emphasized the need to widen BJP's footprint across Srinagar

BJP holds meetings of Srinagar and Ganderbal Districts

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Ashok Koul, BJP General Secretary (Organization) J&K, chaired meetings of its Srinagar and Ganderbal district, at Church Lane, Srinagar.

The meeting was attended by J&K BJP General Secretary Anwar Khan, Secretary Mudasir Wani, District President Srinagar, Advocate Sheikh Salman, and District President Ganderbal Ghulam Hassan Rather along with the entire Srinagar district team.

The primary agenda of the meetings was to further strengthen the party's grassroots network, review ongoing activities, deliberate on local issues, and finalize strategies for stronger public outreach and effective execution of party programmes in Srinagar and Ganderbal.

Jammu to Srinagar		
IndiGo	10:05 AM - 10:45 AM	
SpiceJet	11:10 AM - 12:00 PM	
Air India Express	12:50 PM - 1:40 PM	
Air India Express	1:35 PM - 2:45 PM	
IndiGo	1:55 PM - 2:35 PM	
IndiGo	6:40 PM - 7:20 PM	
Srinagar to Jammu		
IndiGo	11:45 AM - 12:35 PM	
Air India Express	12:10 PM - 1:05 PM	
SpiceJet	12:35 PM - 1:30 PM	
Air India Express	2:20 PM - 3:35 PM	
IndiGo	3:15 PM - 4:05 PM	
IndiGo	5:20 PM - 6:10 PM	

FIND CINEMA

WAR 2 HINDI

WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 9:00 AM / 10:00 AM / 12:20 PM / 1:20 PM / 3:45 PM / 7:10 PM / 08:00 PM / 09:50PM / 11:20 PM
PVR KC JAMMU 9:00 AM / 11:55 AM / 3:35 PM / 7:15 PM / 10:05 PM / 10:55 PM

COOLIE THE POWERHOUSE HINDI


WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 10:05 PM / 4:00 PM / 10:40 PM
PVR KC JAMMU 12:40 PM

MAHAVATAR NARSIMHA HINDI

PVR KC JAMMU 7:20 PM

SAIYAARA HINDI

WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU 1:20 PM
PVR KC JAMMU 4:15 PM



HELPLINE

TELPHONES

Directory Enquiry

197

Fault Repair

198

Local Assistance

199

Trunk Booking

180

Trunk Assistance

181

International Trunk Booking

2447952, 2577951, 2573638

Billing Complaints

2543896, 2548415

Billing Complaints Computerize

1955

Change No. Announcement

1951

Gandhi Nagar Exchange

2451953, 2430953

HOSPITALS

Government Medical College

2584290, 2484291

Psychiatry and Disease Hospital

2577444

Ambulance Rajouri

2571147, 257084, 257357

Blood Bank/Eye Bank - SMGS Hospital

2547639, 2547637

Emergency

2549669

Blood Bank

2547637, 2547638

Chest Disease Hospital

2577064, 2548012

Dental Hospital

2544670

Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar

2430041

Emergency

2431740

Child Hospital

2577023

Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital

262270

AMBULANCES

Indian Red Cross Society

2549413

Jammu University

2453165, 2543525, 2435248

FIRE STATIONS

Gandhi Nagar

101, 2435283, 2457705

City

2544263

Canal

2554064

Roop Nagar

2597522

Ganagyal

2480026

Bari Brahmana

220020

Akhnoor

252481

Kathua

234313

Samba

243280

Katra

232451

Udhampur

270897

Police Control Room

100, 2542001, 2545481-82

Police Exchange

2547621-22, 2547624

Civil Defence Control Room

2549100, 2548645, 2544920

Civil Defence

2548645, 2549100, 2544920

Hot Line

383

TOURISM

Tourist Officer, Airport

2431917

Tourist Officer, Railway Station

2430078

Tourist Reception Centre

2579554

BUS SERVICES

JKSRTC General Manager

2435262

JKSRTC Bus Stand

2577475

JKSRTC Jammu Srinagar, Service

2575652

Punjab Roadways

2542782

WATER SUPPLY

Company Bagh

2542582

Parade

2544979

Bakshi Nagar

2543557

Panjiirthi

2547501

Narwal

2430031

ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPLAINTS

Canal

2554147, 2554199

Parade

2542289, 2543398

Nanak Nagar

2430776

Gandhi Nagar

2430180

Shastri Nagar

2430781

Janipur

2543828, 2592528

Satwari

2452816

FIRE SERVICE : (Control Room)

101

CIVIC SERVICES

Municipality

2547846, 2542192

Health Officer

2547440

Garbage / Carcass Removal

2547440