

J&K CB holds conference on Anti Human Trafficking



Special DG Coordination PHQ J&K, S.J.M Gillani and others at a conference.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: To strengthen the existing framework and address the pitfalls of Human Trafficking in the digital era, Crime Branch Headquarters J&K in collaboration with MHA, GOI has conducted a UT level conference on Anti Human Trafficking on Thursday at Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

The event was aimed to educate the students in particular and public in general about the Human trafficking and its social impact.

IGP Crime Branch J&K, Sujit Kumar, elaborately explained about the broad contours of the event before the participants.

The conference was organ-

ized under the guidance of DIG Crime Branch, J&K and overall supervision of IGP Crime J&K.

Special DG Coordination PHQ J&K, S.J.M Gillani was the chief guest on the occasion. He appealed the participants to work collectively to curb the menace of Human Trafficking from the society.

ADGP, Director Fire & Emergency Services, J&K, Alok Kumar; IGP Hqrs. PHQ, Uttam Chand, Judicial Officers, Senior Officers from PHQ, various government

Department including Social Welfare, Women and Child Development and Labour Departments, students from faculty of law Kashmir University, students from

various colleges/schools, Border Guiding Officers (BSF), NGOs and Nodal Police Officers of AHTU J&K, attended the conference.

Rajesh Mani Expert trainer, Human Trafficking, Consultant, India for Children and Ravi Kant, Advocate Supreme Court of India, Founder Shakti Vahini and National Convener, Just Rights for Children, who participated in the conference projected their valuable suggestions through lectures/ PPTs to break all shackle on human trafficking.

The conference provided a platform for the stakeholders who shared their experience and expertise in combating human trafficking and identify effective strategies to prevent and support the victims.

On the occasion, mementoes were presented to the chief guest and other speakers.

Lastly, Mohammad Faisal Qureshi, SSP, SO to IGP Crime presented vote of thanks.

Vibrant Kalash Yatra launches 56th Shat Chandi Mahayagya at Baba Sidhgoria Dham



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 56th Shat Chandi Mahayagya commenced on Thursday at Baba Sidhgoria Dham, Paloura, with a grand Jal/Kalash Yatra that filled the air with spiritual devotion. Under the guidance of Mahant Kuldeep Singh Paloura Wale, the sacred procession saw a massive turnout of devotees, officially launching the 11-day spiritual festival. The procession began with women reverently carrying holy Kalash on their heads, embarking on a journey from the Dham to the canal near BSF Paloura. The two-hour yatra, filled with devotional zeal, concluded upon its return to the Dham, signifying an auspicious start to the festivities. This Kalash Yatra marks the beginning of an 11-day spiritual conclave, encompassing the Mahayagya, Hawan Pujan, and Sant Samelan, running from August 21 to August 31, 2025. Following the Yatra, the day's rituals included the Mandal Pujan and Yagya from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. A key highlight of the festival will be the discourse on the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha by the Mahant Shri Dr. Satyanarayan Das Ji Maharaj. The Katha will be held daily from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM, starting August 25 and concluding on August 31, 2025.

Yudhvir Sethi holds Public Darbar at Dogra Bhawan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Jammu East Constituency, Yudhvir Sethi today held a public Darbar at Pt. Prem Nath Dogra Bhawan, Kachi Chhawni, to address the grievances and concerns of the residents of the Constituency.

Raman Sharma Spokesman Jammu District, Shiv Sharma President Bajalta Mandal, Adarsh Jathiar Mandal President Jammu East, Anuradha Sharma, Rajinder Tiklu, Suresh Sargotra and Harvinder Singh were present on the occasion.

The event witnessed an overwhelming response from the public, who gathered in large numbers from various Wards to the constituency to interact directly with their elected representative and highlight issues affecting their day-to-day lives.

During the Darbar, people raised matters related to civic amenities, power supply, water shortage, sanitation, and health facilities. Several delegations representing market associations, mohalla committees, and youth organizations also met the MLA to put forth their



MLA Jammu East, Yudhvir Sethi listening to public issues.

demands.

The MLA gave a patient hearing to the grievances and assured that necessary steps would be taken in coordination with the concerned departments for speedy redressal.

Yudhvir Sethi emphasized that public interaction is a vital part of democracy, as it bridges the gap between the people and the government.

He reiterated the BJP's commitment to ensuring good governance, transparency, and accountability at the grassroots level.

Highlighting the developmental works carried out in Jammu East over the past few years, he assured residents that more projects related to urban infrastructure, healthcare, and youth welfare are in the

pipeline.

The MLA also urged citizens to participate actively in community welfare programs and remain vigilant in safeguarding public property.

Yudhvir Sethi said that he is committed to holistic development and that people's cooperation is essential in realizing the vision of a prosperous Jammu East Constituency.

The Darbar concluded with the leader instructing party workers to remain accessible to the public and ensure prompt follow-up on the issues raised.

Residents expressed satisfaction over the initiative, noting that such platforms provide them with direct access to their representative and strengthen the bond of trust between leaders and citizens.

CEO reviews safety of schools amid inclement weather; ensures continuity of studies

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chief Education Officer Jammu Ajeet Sharma, on Thursday conducted an extensive visit to various schools of district Jammu to review the safety arrangements in view of the prevailing bad weather conditions. He was accompanied by District Education Planning Officer B.D. Sharma, ZEO Jammu, Rukhsana Kosar and the engineering staff from PWD Engineering Wing, Jammu East. The team inspected several institutions including SRML HSS Parade, GMHSS Mubarak Mandi, GHS Dogra Hall, GHS Kachi Chawani and GMS Kachi Chawani. During the inspection, necessary safety



CEO Jammu Ajeet Sharma during visit to school.

measures were assessed and immediate steps were taken to ensure the wellbeing of students and staff.

As a precautionary measure, students of Pre-Primary, 9th and 10th classes of GHS Dogra Hall were shifted to SRML HSS Parade, while stu-

dents from Classes 1st to 8th were temporarily relocated to GMS Kachi Chawani. These timely arrangements were made to ensure that studies continue without interruption despite the weather-related challenges. The CEO informed that the ongoing bad weather

has affected certain school buildings, prompting the department to arrange alternative facilities for students in nearby schools. He added that strict directions have already been issued to Cluster Heads, Principals and ZEOs to remain vigilant and adopt all necessary safety measures in view of the inclement weather.

"The primary purpose of today's visit was to assess damages, monitor the environment in schools and ensure that no child's education is hampered due to the weather conditions," the CEO said. He further stated that actionable recommendations have been issued to all school heads to enhance school safety and overall effectiveness.

JKAACL organises Youth Hindi Writers' Meet, book release function



Dignitaries releasing a book.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages today organised a Youth Hindi Writers' Meet (Kavi Goshti) and a Book Release Function at K.L. Saigal Hall, Jammu.

The first poetry collection "Drishyon Par Toran" authored by Amayra Gupta, a Class 10th student of Presentation

Convent Sr. Secondary School, Jammu, was formally released in the presence of eminent literary personalities and dignitaries. Padma Shri Prof. Dr. Vishnu Murti Shastri graced the event as the Chief Guest, while Rahul Sahay, President, PHDCCI Jammu Chamber, was the Guest of Honour. Harvinder Kour, Secretary, JKAACL, and Dr. Javaid

Rahi, Divisional Head, JKAACL Jammu, also shared the presidium. Welcoming the guests, Harvinder Kour stated that the prime objective of the programme is to provide a vibrant platform for young and budding poets in Hindi literature. She applauded the talent of Amayra Gupta, whose poetry vividly reflects the emotions and thoughts of the younger

generation towards life and nature.

Rahul Sahai, President, PHDCCI Jammu Chamber, congratulated Amayra and her parents Mannu Gupta and Dr. Anupam Gupta for bringing her creativity into book form and commended JKAACL for organising such a purposeful literary event. Deepak Pathania, Assistant Professor, and Dr. Anita, teacher of Amayra, lauded the young poet's contribution to Hindi literature at such an early age. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Dr. Chanchal Sharma, Editor (Hindi), while vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Javaid Rahi.

Senior citizens are institutions in themselves: Balbir



Balbir Ram Rattan, senior leader of BJP J&K with others at a programme.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Balbir Ram Rattan, senior leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, and former Vice Chairman, has said that senior citizens are institutions in themselves. They possess immense experience, knowledge, wisdom, and the strength to endure both the hardships and comforts of life. He emphasized that youth should consider senior citizens as mentors, draw inspiration from them, and make their blessings the guiding light of their lives.

On the occasion of Senior Citizens' Day, observed on August 21, Balbir Ram Rattan

extended his greetings to BJP senior leader and advocate Chander Mohan Sharma, while sharing these thoughts. He was accompanied by Professor Kulbhushan Mohtra, in-charge of the Nanaji Deshmukh Library, and social worker Raman Sharma.

Balbir appreciated Chander Mohan Sharma's contributions to society and his efforts for the welfare of senior citizens. He stated that the presence of committed seniors like Sharma Ji serves as a source of inspiration for society.

Chander Mohan Sharma also took the opportunity to call

upon the youth to pledge to respect and serve the elderly. He said that his experience in law and social work can serve as a guiding path for the current generation.

Balbir stated that the place of senior citizens and elders in our society should not be confined to a corner of the house. They are the guiding lights of society. They have witnessed every shade of time - faced hardships, experienced both success and failure. For today's young generation, their experience is invaluable.

He further said that senior citizens and elders are not just storytellers - they are living witnesses of history, and their experiences are like living books for us.

Balbir especially appealed to the youth to spend time with their parents, grandparents, or any elder citizen, listen to them attentively, and learn from their life experiences. He said that if we respect the elderly and embrace their wisdom, we will not only grow stronger as individuals but cross hardships with ease by following the guiding lines of success.

ANTF Jammu attaches property under NDPS Act



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SHOPIAN: Under the ongoing crackdown on drug-related assets, the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF), Jammu got property attachment in village Wachi, Shopian & served confirmation order of SAFEMA on Thursday.

Pertinently on credible inputs and after following due legal procedures in FIR NO 13/2023 U/S 08/15/29 NDPS ACT of P/S ANTF Jammu, ANTF got the land acquired through the

proceed of illicit trade of narcotics frozen and today ANTF handed over the attachment order of the competent authority to one Mohd Yaqoob bhat s/o Gulam Ahmed R/o Wachi tehsil Zainpura Distt

Shopian. The land measuring 2 kanal and 01 marla falling under Khassra No. 2301/1051, khewat no 204, Mutation no 1436/01 & 1544 in Wachi has now been officially seized/ attached.

The action was taken under Section 68-F of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 after the property was found to be illegally acquired and linked to proceeds of narcotic trafficking.

The land in question has now been officially attached, and the owner has been restrained from selling, leasing, or transferring the said property in any form. General public is also advised not to engage in any purchase or transaction related to this property.

SMVD Shrine Board hosts ceremonial farewell for outgoing CEO

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATRA: The Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) hosted a farewell ceremony to bid adieu to its outgoing CEO, Anshul Garg, who served the Board for over three years prior assuming his new role as Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir. Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, Sachin Kumar Vaishya, formerly

Commissioner, Jammu, has succeeded him as the new CEO of SMVDSB. In recognition of Garg's exemplary service and unwavering dedication to the organization, he was felicitated with a Mata Ki Chunri and a commemorative memento.

During his farewell address, Shri Garg expressed heartfelt gratitude to the officers and staff of the Shrine Board for their steadfast support and cooperation throughout his



SMVDSB officials according farewell to its outgoing CEO, Anshul Garg.

tenure. He highlighted the various initiatives launched by the Board during his tenure, which have been completed, ongoing and are forthcoming, all focused on improving facilities and services for pilgrims.

Alok Kumar Maurya, Addl. CEO, fondly reminisced about working under Anshul Garg's leadership, praising his visionary approach, administrative expertise and commitment to excellence which greatly contributed to the Shrine Board's growth.

He extended warm wishes

on behalf of the Shrine Board family to Garg for success in his new role and expressed hope for his continued association with the organization.

Among those present on the occasion were Satish Kumar Sharma Jt. Chief Executive Officer; Mahesh Sharma, FA/Chief Accounts Officer; Pawan Kumar Goswami, Dy. CEO, Vipin Bhagat, Dhruv Gupta, Dr. Gopal K. Sharma Asstt. CEOs, other Sr. Officers, Managers, Engineers and employees of the Shrine Board.

Two-day international seminar commences at Department of Linguistics, CLUJ

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Department of Linguistics & Literature, School of Humanities and Liberal Arts, Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ), in collaboration with Tarak Sewa Sanstha, Varanasi, and Bayaar Foundation, Lucknow, organized a two-day international seminar on "Text, Tongue and Technology: The Changing Face of Humanities" starting Thursday. The event was held under the patronage of Vice Chancellor Prof. K.S. Chandrasekar.

Dr. Sunil Kumar Barnwal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education, Government of India, was the Chief Guest. Prof. Monika Sharma, Dean, welcomed the dignitaries and emphasized the relevance of technology-integrated studies in Humanities, especially in the context of the NEP 2020. Dr. Reena Salaria, HoD Linguistics, presented the



A dignitary speaking at a seminar.

concept note, highlighting how technology preserves text and tongue in the digital era.

Prof. Abhilasha Singh from IGNTU delivered the keynote address on digitalization in literature and linguistics, stressing the importance of preserving cultural memory. Prof. Chandrasekar, in his presidential address, discussed the communicative function of language and referenced scholars like Panini to reiterate the value of ancient linguistic traditions.

Distinguished speakers included Prof. Umapati Dixit, Dr. Rahul Awasthi,

Prof. J.N. Baliya, Prof. Monika Sethi, Dr. Anitabh V. Dwivedi, Prof. Serhii Petrenko, Prof. Veena Gupta, Prof. Vandana Sharma, Prof. Shushant Mishra, and others.

Dr. Barnwal highlighted the government's role in preserving linguistic diversity using digital tools and the potential of AI in protecting endangered languages. The event was coordinated by various committees, with proceedings conducted by Dr. Neha Garg and students. The vote of thanks was delivered by Prof. Ruth Maschi.

LG Kavinder reaches Daman & Diu; reviews flagship infrastructure and development projects



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

DIU: Lt Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, accompanied by First Lady Bindu Gupta, undertook a significant visit to the Union Territory of Daman and Diu on Thursday. Received by Administrator Praful Patel, the visit focused on reviewing key infrastructure and development projects aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for

inclusive growth.

In Diu, the Lt Governor inspected affordable housing for the Economically Weaker Sections under the PMAY-U scheme in Ghoghla and the construction of a modern Government Higher Secondary School near Vadlimata. He also visited the Tent City project at Nagao Beach aimed at boosting high-end tourism and reviewed the 25-acre

state-of-the-art Education Hub, including the IIIT Vadodara International Campus.

Further, he assessed the 7 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant and the under-construction Sewa Bhawan. Praising the rapid development in Daman and Diu, Gupta commended the Administration's commitment to public welfare and shared Ladakh's progress, especially in renewable energy.

Earlier, the Lt Governor and First Lady offered prayers at the Somnath Temple in Gujarat. Gupta hailed the developmental strides in India's Union Territories, crediting the Prime Minister's leadership and vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas."