

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! Dream beyond limits...

walls to stop us; they are meant to be crossed," he said. With humility and wisdom, he emphasized compassion in medicine, citing AIIMS Jammu's recognition as a "Pain-Free Hospital" as a testimony to collective dedication and service.

Major Samar Pall Singh Thorri, JKPS alumnus and Infantry Combat Veteran, spoke of resilience through personal trials and his life in the Army. From loneliness in childhood to rebuilding his life after grave challenges, he reminded the audience: "Giving up is the easiest thing, but real strength lies in facing the storm."

Sunita Thawani, Corporate leader and CEO of Full Circle, shed light on women's leadership and the urgent need to address workplace harassment. She called for creating safe, inclusive spaces for women and urged society to unite in dignity, respect, and shared humanity.

Advitya Sharma, entrepreneur and EdTech innovator, shared his journey from introvert to inspiration. His message: "Clarity gives focus, focus builds conviction and conviction when articulated well-leads to success." He inspired the youth to embrace clarity, courage and authenticity in the AI-driven era.

Rahul Pandita, JKPS alumnus, entrepreneur and global diplomat, recounted his struggles with shyness and stammering. His breakthrough moment came when a teacher believed in him, igniting his confidence. With humour and candour, he reminded: "Life stammers for everyone in different ways. The lesson is to confront it, not hide from it."

Anshika Sharma, Grade XI student of JKPS, gave voice to youth leadership reminding that creativity and unity empower young people to be agents of change.

The event celebrated curiosity, creativity and critical thinking. Each story resonated deeply urging the audience to embrace possibilities and move beyond boundaries.

Delivering the Vote of Thanks, Gautam Daluja, Member of Management, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Guest, dignitaries, media, teachers and students. He emphasized that the success of such platforms lies in collective vision, passion and execution. The inaugural TEDx at JKPS Kunjwani was not just an event-it was a movement. With its stellar lineup of speakers, enthusiastic participation of students, and the gracious presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, the occasion became a historic milestone in the school's journey. It set a new benchmark in nurturing thought leadership, proving once again that at JKPS, education transcends classrooms to become an experience of ideas, inspiration and transformation.

Woman, son among...

passengers, including some students, were injured when a private bus overturned near a bridge in the Arnia area of R S Pura on the outskirts of Jammu.

The bus was on its way to Jammu when its driver lost control, as a result of which the vehicle skidded off the road and turned turtle in an open field, the officials said, adding the injured were shifted to the hospital and the condition of four of them was stated to be "serious".

A woman and her son were killed while her husband was injured after her car hit a roadside parapet wall in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district on Saturday, officials said.

Abdul Kabir Zargar, a retired employee of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation, was travelling with his wife Shafiqa Begum and son Asif Kabir to Kishtwar from Jammu when their car met with the accident near Tikri on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, the officials said.

Shafiqa Begum died on the spot while her 33-year-old son succumbed to his injuries at a hospital in Jammu, where Zargar is undergoing treatment and his condition is stated to be "serious", they said. In a separate incident, four persons were injured after three trucks, heading to Jammu, collided with each other near the Sideo Chovk along the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway in Samba district early Saturday. The collision disrupted traffic movement on the vital road for several hours, the officials said, adding that the damaged vehicles were towed away and the injured were hospitalised.

We have certain...

interests of our farmers and small producers. We are very determined on that. That's not something we can compromise on." The external affairs minister also responded to repeated allegations by Trump administration officials that India is "profiteering" by buying discounted Russian crude oil and then selling refined petroleum products at premium prices in Europe and other places.

"It's funny to have people who work for a pro-business American administration accusing other people of doing business," Jaishankar said. "That's really curious. If you have a problem buying oil or refined products from India, don't buy it. Nobody forces you to buy it. But Europe buys, America buys, so you don't like it, don't buy it," he added.

Police bust fake...

The racket managed everything, including arranging the bride, priest, and related formalities, the spokesman said, adding that shortly after marriage, the bride would desert the groom on one pretext or the other.

Due to social stigma, many victims refrained from reporting such incidents, he said.

Police have arrested Deepak Kumar and Vikas Kumar, both from Poonch, Arun Kumar, a native of Bihar, and Istakhar and Kusum Lata, the "bride", both from Uttar Pradesh, the spokesman said.

Four similar cases surfaced during the probe from Akhnoor and Nagrota, he said.

The spokesman appealed to the people to remain vigilant against such fraudulent activities and promptly report any such incident to their nearest police station.

The nexus primarily targeted vulnerable individuals, especially those unable to find a suitable match or overage for marriage, he said.

Level of success...

was the chairman of the (Maharashtra) legislative council. We did not have a house in Mumbai. When I was in Amravati, I must have gone to the college only about half a dozen times. One of my friends who later on became a judge of the high court, used to mark my presence," the CJI said.

CJI Gava's father, late R S Gava, founder of the Republican Party of India (Gava), was chairman of the Maharashtra legislative council from 1978 to 1982. He later became the Governor of Bihar, Sikkim and Kerala.

The CJI further said the student who topped the results went on to become a criminal lawyer, while the second-rank holder became a high court judge.

"And the third one was me, who is now the Chief Justice of India," he said.

He said that he stood third in the merit list without going to the college, but kept reading books and solved the exam papers of five years.

Referring to the students, the CJI said, "Now you are fortunate enough that with the advent of a five-year course, the legal education system has taken a paradigm shift."

"When I used to preside over moot courts as a judge of the Bombay High Court and listen to the arguments of the students, I would sometimes feel that high court lawyers should be made to attend the moot courts and made to learn from the young lawyers how to argue in the court," he added.

According to the CJI, the practical-oriented training provided today helps students build their career as lawyers.

"We have a lot of interns and the depth of knowledge they have

is something one must try to emulate," he said.

Speaking about the issues faced by junior lawyers, he said the stipend paid to some of them by the seniors is meagre, which makes it difficult for them to survive.

CJI Gava said the benefits of legal aid should reach the remotest part of the country.

"We tried to percolate because unless citizens know they have the right to legal remedy, the remedy or rights would be of no use to them," he said.

A large number of law students are enrolled in the colleges and universities across the country, many of which face challenges in infrastructure, faculty quality and curriculum design. Therefore, the stakeholders should focus on strengthening legal education throughout the country, the CJI noted.

Inter-state drug...

was booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS), the spokesperson further said. Further investigation is underway.

2,100 kg adulterated...

(FSSAI), including breaches w.r.t storage under insanitary conditions, improper storage, labeling provisions and operating without a valid FSSAI License. Notably, the raid was carried out with active support and inputs from the SHO Satwari, Officials from Jammu Municipal Corporation and GRP Railway Police, making it as successful and precise operation. This enforcement raid marks another major success in the department's ongoing campaign to crack down on food adulteration.

The drive was conducted under overall supervision of Commissioner, Food & Drugs Administration (FDA), J&K, Smita Sethi, who said that samples of the suspected synthetic paneer were also lifted on-site for laboratory analysis under FSSAI norms. The Commissioner further said that such violations, often found to surge during the summer season, pose an immediate threat to public health. She however, reaffirmed the department's zero-tolerance policy towards food adulteration and warned all Food Business Operators (FBOs) to strictly adhere to safety norms.

The Commissioner revealed that the FBOs shall be booked under various provisions of the FSSAI for dealing in expired food items and legal action under FSS Act has been initiated. She further added that these enforcement drives will continue rigorously across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir to curb the menace of food adulteration. However, given the significance of nature of the violations, the department has called on the general public to be vigilant and report any suspected cases of adulteration at department's Toll-Free Helpline for Consumer Complaints: 104, for speedy action.

Earlier, the department had issued advisories on unpermitted colours and storage and labelling of meat and meat products, for information of the FBOs and stakeholders, the advisories also contained guidance on hygienic storage conditions, temperature control for perishables, prohibition on the use of unpermitted food colors.

Multiplicity of languages...

the discussion held in the Constituent Assembly on 14 September 1949, the Lieutenant Governor said that when the debate was going on in India on the selection of the official language, Hindi got the most support from those areas where Hindi was not spoken. For our Freedom Fighters, Policy Makers, Hindi was linked to the identity of the nation. They saw Hindi as a thread of harmony and it has further enriched the diversity present in our cultural heritage, he said.

He also appreciated the endeavours of Culture Department and J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages to promote J&K's linguistic heritage.

On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor felicitated the students, teachers and artists for their exceptional participation in a campaign launched by Wadies Hindi Shiksha Samiti in the month of June-July this year in four Kendriya Vidyalayas to generate interest in Hindi language among students of class 6th to class 10th through various activities.

Principal Secretary Culture, Brij Mohan Sharma; Param Vir Chakra recipient (Honorary Captain) Yogendra Yadav; MD & CEO J&K Bank, Amitava Chatterjee; Deputy Commissioner, KVS, Jammu, Nagendra Goyal; National President Wadies Hindi Shiksha Samiti, Nasreen Ali Nidhi; senior officials, prominent literary personalities, heads of educational institutions and youth in large number were present.

HM operative arrested...

Altaf Hussain Wagay, resident of Reban Gund area of Behram in Shopian. The OGW worked as a sleeper cell for the terrorist organisation Hizb-ul-Mujahideen," a SIA spokesperson said.

He said the arrest was made as a part of the ongoing investigation into a case. "During the investigation, SIA Kashmir has adduced evidence which establishes the connection of the arrested accused with a terrorist handler belonging to HM who is operating from across. "On the behest of the terrorist handler, the OGW was orchestrating terrorist, unlawful and anti-national activities by actively engaging in terrorist conspiracy, propagating and furthering anti-India narratives," the spokesperson said.

3 IAS officers...

posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Marh, vice Athar Amin Zargar; JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD.

Prince Kumar, IAS (AGMUT2023), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD has been posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Kokernag, vice Suheel Ahmad Lone, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the GAD; and Swati Sheenar, IAS, (AGMUT2023), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD has been posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ramnagar.

Jal Shakti Dept reaffirms transparency in tender process

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Rural Division Jammu has issued a detailed clarification in response to a news published on August 19, 2025, regarding the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the Water Supply Scheme (WSS) at Mini Township Jagti, Nagrota. The department termed them baseless and aimed at maligning a vital service. It clarified that the WSS was earlier managed by the PWD under the Relief and Rehabilitation Department since 2011 and was officially handed over to the Jal Shakti Department in November 2024 vide Govt Order No. 4395-99 dated 24-09-2024.

The department highlighted that it floated its first tender for the O&M in the middle of the financial year for Rs 75 lakh and allotted the work to the lowest qualified bidder after completing all codal formalities.

A fresh tender for the 2025-26 period, amounting to Rs 2.09 crore, has now been floated under e-NIT No. 17 of 2025. This includes comprehensive O&M as well as necessary repairs and alterations to various components of the scheme.

The department clarified that the earlier work was carried out by M/S Sai Constructions at Rs 1.65 crore in 2021-22, and there has been no significant cost escalation over four years, thereby dismissing the claim of a 40% hike.

Emphasizing transparency, the Jal Shakti Department stated that the entire tendering process has been conducted through open e-tendering, following strict codal procedures and technical specifications vetted by the Chief Engineer.

It reaffirmed its commitment to fair practices, accountability, and the uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water to the residents of the Kashmiri Pandit Colony at Jagti.

Col Mahan conducts survey of affected areas of Bhoond Block

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: Col Mahan Singh (Retd.), DDC Chairman Kathua, along with the local DDC member, undertook an extensive tour of the Bhoond Block in Kathua district, visiting the far-flung Panchayats of Hutt, Draman, Dodla, and Sandhar, which border Himachal Pradesh.

The tour was aimed at assessing the damage caused by landslides, soil erosion, flash floods, and land sinking following heavy rainfall in the recent past.

During his visit, Col Mahan Singh conducted an on-ground survey and interacted with residents through a series of meetings and chopals, listening to their grievances regarding damage to houses, agricultural land, rural infrastructure, roads, drinking water supply, and electricity. He assured the people



Col Mahan Singh (Retd.), DDC Chairman Kathua, along with locals at Bhoond Block.

that the administration is taking proactive measures to address their concerns and provide relief.

Col Mahan Singh was accompanied by Capt Yubkaran Singh, Sarpanch Madhu Bala, Munish Thakur, Soni Mohd, and other local officials. He emphasized that the District Administration is committed to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged public infrastructure and private property.

During the tour, Col

Mahan Singh also met Er Madak Lal Sharma, General Manager, NHPC Mashka, to discuss local issues and coordinate remedial measures. He visited Government High School Gadodi and Government Higher Secondary School Hutt, where he interacted with teachers and students to understand their concerns regarding staffing and school infrastructure.

Speaking to the media, Col Mahan Singh said, "The administration is actively

working to resolve public issues, and all necessary steps will be taken to mitigate the problems faced by residents of Bhoond Block. Ensuring proper infrastructure, education, and basic amenities remains a top priority for the district administration."

The tour highlighted the administration's focus on community engagement, infrastructure assessment, and speedy implementation of rehabilitation measures to restore normalcy in areas affected by natural calamities.

J&K Govt takes over schools linked to banned JeI amid tight security

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Teams of officials accompanied by police visited schools affiliated with the banned Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) across the 10 districts of Kashmir as the J&K government on Saturday took over their management.

According to officials, the entire process was conducted "peacefully and smoothly", without disturbing the education of the students.

The School Education Department had on Friday ordered the takeover of 215 schools affiliated with JeI and its Falah-e-Aam Trust, where over 51,000 students are enrolled, in order to "safeguard their academic future".

On Saturday morning, officials of district administrations, principals of the respective nearest high and higher secondary schools, accompanied by police teams, reached these schools. The administrative teams took charge of the schools, checked their documents and the infrastructure, as well as interacted with the staff, the officials said.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A meeting of the Medical and Surgical Traders Association (MASTA) was held today to address growing concerns among member suppliers regarding long-pending payments and unjust penalties imposed by the Jammu & Kashmir Medical Supplies Corporation Limited (JKMSCL).

During the meeting, MASTA members unanimously appealed to the Jammu & Kashmir Government to expedite the clearance of outstanding bills from the government treasury worth Rs. 150 Crore lying there since April, 2025.

The association highlighted that despite timely and consistent supply of critical medical items, payments remain blocked in the treasury, leading to a severe financial burden on member companies. Many suppliers have been forced to take high-interest bank loans to maintain operations, resulting in substan-



MASTA members during a meeting.

tial losses due to accumulating interest costs.

In addition, MASTA appealed to the government to waive the penalties imposed on suppliers for delayed deliveries, noting that similar waivers have been granted in the past. Members pointed out that many of these delays were due to unavoidable factors.

"Our members have stood by the healthcare system of J&K, ensuring uninterrupted supply even during the most challenging times. It is only fair that the government reciprocates by clearing our dues and offering relief from penalties that are unfair under the current circum-

stances," said a MASTA spokesperson.

MASTA pointed out that some mischief was being played and urged the government to take swift action to avoid further disruption in the medical supply chain, which could directly impact public healthcare services in the Union Territory.

The meeting was attended by the following office bearers and members: Ashok Anla (Chairman), Vijay Bhardwaj (President), Vimal Arora (General Secretary), Sandeep Gupta (Senior Vice - President), Vikas Pandita, Vijay Tickoo and Mela Singh.

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 TRAIN SCHEDULE		
11078 Jhelum Express		
Departure	: 23:35 from Jammu Tawi	
Arrival	: 11:15 at New Delhi	
12426 Jammu Tawi - New Delhi Rajdhani Express		
Departure	: 21:25 from Jammu Tawi	
Arrival	: 05:55 at New Delhi	
12446 Uttar Sampark Kranti Express		
Departure	: 21:50 from Jammu Tawi	
Arrival	: 08:55 at New Delhi	
Train 26401 - Katra to Srinagar (Morning Service)		
Departure	: 8:10 AM from Katra	
Arrival	: 11:10 AM at Srinagar	
Intermediate Stop	: Banihal at 9:58 AM	
Fare:		
Chair Car (CC): 715		
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,320		
Booking: Available on IRCTC		
Train 26403 - Katra to Srinagar (Afternoon Service)		
Departure	: 2:00 PM from Katra	
Arrival	: 05:00 PM at Srinagar	
Fare:		
Chair Car (CC): 660		
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,270		
Booking: Available on IRCTC		

FIND CINEMA		
WAR 2 HINDI		
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU	10:00 AM / 1:15 PM / 4:30 PM / 7:45 PM / 11:00PM	
PVR KC JAMMU	9:00 AM / 12:35 PM / 7:20 PM / 10:55 PM	
COOLIE THE POWERHOUSE HINDI		
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU	2:50 PM / 10:55 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU	12:05 PM	
MAHAVATAR NARSIMHA HINDI		
PVR KC JAMMU	5:50 PM / 8:40 PM	
SAIYAARA HINDI		
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU	10:30 PM / 07:00 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU	4:10 PM	
PHAPHEY KUTNIYAN (PUNJABI)		
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU	10:00 AM / 12:25 PM / 06:05 PM / 08:30 PM	
PVR KC JAMMU	09:30 AM	

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Psychiatry and Disease Hospital		2577444
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Blood Bank	2547637, 2547638	
Chest Disease Hospital	2577064, 2548012	
Dental Hospital		2544670
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Indian Red Cross Society		2549413
Jammu University	2453165, 2543525, 2435248	
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Gandhi Nagar	101, 2435283, 2457705	
City		2544263
Canal		2554064
Roop Nagar		2597522
Gangyal		2480026
Bari Brahmana		220020
Akhnoor		252481
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Katra		232451
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JKSRTC Jammu Srinagar, Service		2576562
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Company Bagh		2542582
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Parade	2542289, 2543398	
Nanak Nagar		2430776
Gandhi Nagar		2430180
Shastri Nagar		2430781
Janipur	2543828, 2579258	
Satwari		2452816
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		101
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Municipality	2547846, 2542192	
Health Officer		2547440
Garbage / Carcass Removal		2547440