Shantmanu visits GGM Science College, Govt. SPMR College of Commerce to assess flash flood damages

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Higher Education, Shantmanu, on visited GGMScience College and Govt. College Commerce here to gather first-hand appraisal of disruptions caused in academic activities of these institutions in the aftermath of recent flash floods.

Nodal Principal Jammu Division Colleges, Prof. Ravinder Tickoo also accompanied the ACS during the visit.

inspecting the While affected institutions, Shantmanu expressed deep concern over the scale of destruction and inconvenience caused to students

He assured the college administrations that the



Department will extend every possible support for early restoration of academic activities.

ACS emphasized that the welfare of students and continuity of education remains the top priority of the Government. He further directed the college authorities to prepare detailed reports on damand immediate requirements so that timely assistance can be arranged.

department's commitment to strengthening infrastructure resilience in higher education institutions to withstand such natural calamities in the future. He stressed that safeguarding academic spaces is crucial for ensuring uninterrupted learning and research

College, Prof. Romesh Kumar Gupta Govt. SPMR Principal College of Commerce, Prof. Rajinder Singh, apprised the ACS about the extent of the damages. It was informed that both

Principal

GGM Science

institutions reported water logging in academic blocks, laboratories, and libraries, hostel as well as damage to furniture, equipment, and learning resources. ACS was also

informed about damages caused to botanical garden, lawns, boundary wall and other green areas of GGM Science College. He was also apprised about infrastructural damage CollegeSPMRCommerce which caused disruptions in regular functioning of classrooms and student facilities.

Secretary Health review post-flood preparedness, response measures across J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary, Health & Medical Education, Dr. Syed Abid Rasheed Shah today chaired a high-level meeting to review post-flood preparedness and response measures across Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting was attended by Heads of Departments, Directors of Health Services Jammu / Kashmir, Principals and Medical Superintendents (MS) of Government Medical Colleges, Managing Director JKMSCL, Chief Medical Officers (CMOs), State Surveillance Officers (SSO) and Sate Malariologist. During the meeting, the Secretary emphasized the importance of rapid health assessment in flood-affected areas, strengthening of disease surveillance, and ensuring readiness of health facilities. He directed the officers to undertake rapid health assessment of affected populations, functionality of health facilities, availability of medicines, sanitation, and cold chain.

The Secretary called upon the CMOs to conduct assessment of flood damages and submit reports for same in due course of time. He stressed for daily disease surveillance under IDSP for diarrhoea, cholera, hepatitis A/E, leptospirosis, malaria, dengue, ARI, and snakebite with immediate reporting of clustering of cases and activation of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs).

The Secretary also instructed for immediate restoration of health services in damaged facilities, deployment of mobile medical teams tempo-

JYBT organizes relief distribution drive for flash flood victims in Jammu

of ORS, IV fluids, antibiotics, vaccines, antisnake venom, anti-rabies vaccine and serum and anti-malarial drugs. He called upon the officers to coordinate with Jal Shakti Department for provision of safe drinking water through chlorination, distribution of chlorine tablets for household use and regular water quality testing at public water sources and relief camps. He also asked for intensification of vector surveillance, fogging, larvicidal measures and residual spraying in stagnant water areas, besides safe water arrangements, sanitation, drainage, waste disposal, immunization, and regular medical check-ups in relief camps. The Secretary also stressed on risk communication and community awareness regarding use of ORS, safe drinking water, early reporting of fever/diarrhoea/jaundice, snakebite first aid. He also laid emphasis on timely shifting of pregnant mothers with near expected date of delivery from cut off areas to nearest health facility. The Secretary further directed all concerned officers to ensure timely action, inter-departmental coordination and close monitoring so that public health risks in the aftermath of floods are min-

rary camps, and ensuring uninterrupted supply

He also reiterated for public awareness regarding helplines like 104 for health-related issues, 102/108 for ambulance services, and 14416 (Tele-MANAS helpline) for mental health support.

Rakesh Mahajan meets DRM Jammu to discuss restoration of railway services, infrastructure



Vice President BJP J&K UT, Rakesh Mahajan meeting with DRM Jammu, Vivek Kumar.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vice President of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), J&K UT, Rakesh Mahajan, today met Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), Jammu, Vivek Kumar, to review the current scenario of railway services in the region following recent disruptions.

The discussion primarily focused on the impact of floods on railway operations, the status of Bari Brahmana Railway Yard, and the steps needed to restore normalcy in train

Speaking to the media, Rakesh Mahajan emphasized the importance of prompt action. He stated, "We discussed in detail the situation at Bari Brahmana Railway Yard and the challenges faced by traders and passengers. I urged the DRM to address these issues on priority and ensure that essential infrastructure is strengthened to avoid future disruptions. The trader community has been waiting for improved facilities, and it is impera-

tive that their needs are met without delay." Mahajan also praised the initiatives taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Indian Railways in modernizing railway facilities across the country.

He added, "I requested the DRM to extend similar upgraded facilities and services at Jammu Railway Station so that passengers and traders benefit from enhanced infrastructure and smoother operations."

Responding to the concerns, DRM Vivek Kumar assured that all issues raised would be

He said, "We have carefully noted the challenges at Bari Brahmana Yard as well as the demands of the trader community. Efforts are underway to resume full train services as soon as possible. Infrastructure gaps are being assessed, and remedial actions will be taken to strengthen facilities and ensure uninterrupted operations.'

Both Mahajan and the DRM agreed that a coordinated effort is essential to ensure timely resolution of operational issues, infrastructure upgrades, and enhanced passenger and

Tribal Affairs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU:: In a heartfelt gesture of solidarity and support, the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust (JYBT) organized a relief distribution drive at its "Sankat Mochan Panchmukhi Shree Hanuman Mandir," located at B.C. Road, Jammu.

The initiative aimed to provide essential ration materials and tarpaulins (Tarpal) to the families affected by the recent flash floods that devastated parts of the Jammu region.

The event was graced by Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament, who attended as the Chief Guest. He performed Puja Archana at the temple and prayed for the well-being and swift recovery of those impacted by the calamity. In his presence, the Trust extended material support to the displaced and distressed families, emphasizing the spirit of community care and resilience.

The relief effort comes in

Minister stated that there can

be no delay by any authority

within the Department, except

for the essential verification and

de-duplication process mandat-

ed under central government

In this regard, the Minister

issued explicit directions to both



MP Jugal Kishore Sharma distributing relief during a drive being initiated by JYBT.

response to the record-breaking rainfall that struck the Jammu region on August 26, 2025, causing sudden flash floods in the Tawi River. The disaster inflicted widespread damage - washing away roads, bridges, homes, and critical infrastructure - and left hundreds of families homeless and without liveli-

Taking immediate cognizance of the dire situation. the Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust mobilized resources to

the Secretary and the Director,

Tribal Affairs, J&K, to ensure

the immediate disbursement of

all pending scholarships to eligi-

ble ST students, including ST-2

beneficiaries who had applied

the

De-duplication exercise was

Scholarship Portal (NSP).

through

National

extend on-ground assistance. Under the leadership of Pawan Kumar Shastri, President of the Trust, the team worked relentlessly to reach the affected communities with relief supplies.

He was joined by Raj Kumar Gupta President), Gurdas Sharma General Secretary/Treasurer), and other dignitaries, including Mahant Rajesh Bittu (Sant Mahatma Sangathan Rajesh Gupta

Parishad Jammu), Ashwani Kumar Sharma, Vinay Radha Sharma. Kumar Ranjan Gupta, and Sukhdev (Working Committee Member of the Trust).

(President, Vishwa Hindu

In his address, Pawan Kumar Shastri conveyed a compassionate message, "In these hours of crisis, our thoughts are with the families who have suffered immense loss. We stand in solidarity with the affected communities, and our efforts are directed at providing them with solace, dignity, and hope during these trying times.

The distribution of relief materials was made possible with generous support from Vijay Mahajan Charitable Trust, whose donation of ration supplies and tarpaulins played a crucial role in offering immediate relief to those who lost their homes and means of livelihood. These items were essential to shelter and sustain displaced families in the aftermath of the flooding.

The Jammu Yatri Bhawan Trust reaffirmed its commitment to continue working tirelessly for the rehabilitation and recovery of those affected. The Trust emphasized that its efforts are not limited to immediate aid but will remain engaged in longterm recovery initiatives as

The Trust also extended its deepest gratitude to Jugal Kishore Sharma, Member of Parliament, for his valuable presence and unwavering support. His involvement not only boosted the morale of the affected families but also underscored the importance of unified efforts in times of natural disasters.

Together, the community, administration, and social organizations can make a meaningful impact and help fellow citizens navigate these difficult times with strength,

Disbursement of Scholarships to ST-2 Students in J&K under ambit of TAD: Rana

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Minister for Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, has reaffirmed the commitment

of the Government to ensure timely disbursement of scholarships to all Scheduled Tribe (ST) students, in full compli-

Restore power, water supply to entire Rajouri Poonch on war footing: Ravinder

Power shutdown

JAMMU: Chief Engineer (Distribution) JPDCL, Jammu has

informed that the power supply to Grid Station Canal,

Pounichack, Katra Reasi, Rajouri, Draba, Jourian and Barn

will remain off on August 30 from 6 am to 6 pm (on continu-

ous basis). During the period the power supply to district

Reasi, Rajouri, Poonch, Part of district Jammu, Katra and

Railway Traction System will remain affected. However, the

power supply to the essential installations shall be made on

phased manner. Meanwhile, the Superintending Engineer

(Distribution) JPDCL, O&M Circle Kathua has informed

that the power supply to Jatwal and its adjoining areas will

remain affected on August 30 from 7 am to 1 pm.



JAMMU:Congress expressed grave concern over the acute power and water crisis in entire rural belt of Rajouri Poonch and urged for restoration on war footing. JKPCC Chief Spokesperson

STATE TIMES NEWS

Rayinder Sharma has said that the people are facing great hardships as there is blackout in entire Rural areas of twin Districts as a result the water supply is disrupted in most parts of border districts. He said that except in some Urban areas ,the rural belt is worst affected .This is very unfortunate that the restoration work is not being taken on war footing.

> He demanded immediate restoration of power and water supplies especially in the rural areas of twin districts.

Ved Sharma slams Congress for abuse against PM Modi, seeks apology

STATE TIMES NEWS

ance with the established guide-

lines of Union Ministry of

Reiterating that the disburse-

ment of Pre-Matric and Post-

Matric Scholarships to ST-2

students falls clearly within the

mandate of the Tribal Affairs

Department (TAD), the

JAMMU: Ved Sharma, All Cells Incharge of BJP, J&K UT, strongly criticized the Congress leadership for the abuses hurled at Prime Minister Narendra Modi during Rahul Gandhi's ongoing 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar. Speaking to the media,

Sharma said the remarks and behavior displayed by Congress leaders were completely unacceptable and reflected a lack of respect for the highest office in the coun-

Sharma stated, "We will not tolerate the insult to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Rahul Gandhi, his party, and alliance partners will have to apologize for their reprehensible conduct."

He condemned the derogatory language and actions, directed towards the Prime



Minister, asserting that such behaviour was unbecoming of political leaders in a democratic setup.

He further highlighted that the BJP has always emphasized respectful political discourse and that attempts to demean national leaders would not be taken lightly.

Sharma urged Congress to introspect and adhere to the principles of civilized political engagement, stressing that accountability and dignity must form the core of public political interactions.

Sharma also called upon the people of India, particularly voters in Bihar residing in J&K UT, to take note of such behaviour, stating that respect for Prime Minister and democratic values is fundamental to nation-building.

He warned that the BIF would continue to stand firmly against any attempt to discredit or insult the Prime Minister and that such act could have political conse-

Sharma reaffirmed BJP's commitment to protecting the dignity of national institutions and maintaining a culture of accountability in Indian politics.

He reiterated that Congress leaders must immediately issue a public apology to Prime Minister Modi to uphold the sanctity of political debate and the respect due to the Prime Minister of India.

undertaken to ensure that ST-2 students who were earlier receiving scholarships through the Social Welfare Department are now included only under the Tribal Affairs Department, as per Government of India direc-

The Directorate has since completed and eligible ST-2

process in consultation with the Social Welfare Department, and received the necessary clar-Consequently, the entire

completed the de-duplication

process for disbursement of pending scholarships has been students are now entitled to scholarship under the Tribal Affairs Department.

The eligible ST students who are yet to receive their scholarship have been asked to contact the Director, Tribal Affairs, J&K for prompt redressal and

Unchecked, illegal riverbed mining intensified flood destruction in Jammu region: Vikramaditya

Calls for strengthening disaster preparedness to reduce future losses

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Unchecked and illegal mining in riverbeds has significantly aggravated the impact of recent floods in Jammu region, weakening natural safeguards and contributing to large-scale destruction of residential areas.

This was observed by former MLC and senior political leader Vikramaditya Singh in a handout issued here today.

The senior leader said the unprecedented natural calamity has caused massive damage not only to human lives but also to public infrastructure. He expressed concern over the closure of vital highways and inter-district link roads due to landslides, particularly pointing to

the damage caused to the Lakhanpur barrage and the main bridge over the Ravi River. Such damage, he said, has paralyzed essential connectivity and severely affected supply chains, making life miserable for common people while causing heavy losses to traders and transporters.

Vikramaditya emphasized that besides natural causes, man-made factors like rampant illegal mining in rivers have dangerously increased the vulnerability of several areas. He urged strict enforcement of environmental safeguards to prevent such practices from compounding the effects of natural disasters in future

He further called upon

the Government to provide immediate relief to victims, restore essential services on a war footing, and take comprehensive measures to strengthen disaster preparedness so that such losses can be minimized in the times

ahead. Expressing profound grief over the tragic loss of 41 lives caused by record rains and landslides across the Union Territory, including the devastating incident on the Vaishno Devi pilgrimage route, Vikramaditva extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for peace to the departed souls. He also wished for the speedy recovery of the

DB slams govt flip-flop, upholds tribunal relief on withheld salary

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a stern message to the J&K administration,

DISCLAIMER "STATE TIMES" does not take responsibility for the contents of

the advertisements (Display/Classified) carried in this

newspaper paper does not endorse the same Readers are request verify contents on their own before acting there

the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has dismissed a writ petition filed by the UT government and the J&K Special Tribunal against a Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) order directing consideration of withheld salary of an employee, branding the petition as "miscon-

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Arun Palli and Justice Rainesh Oswal noted that the government had already complied with the CAT's November 2023 direction by

issuing a consideration order, and therefore could not "turn around and assail The dispute con-

Ghulam Mustafa Mantoo of Qazigund, whose salary had been withheld over allegations of producing forged educational certificates. The CAT, while hearing his plea, directed the authorities to consider releasing his "legitimately earned salary" within four weeks, subject to an undertaking that the payment would abide the outcome of pending proceedings.

Despite challenging the CAT's order, the record showed that the government subsequently suspended Mantoo on July 26, 2024, examined the matter through a comprehensive enquiry report on July 9, 2025, and passed a consideration order on July 14,

"Having accepted and acted upon the CAT's directions, the petitioners cannot now maintain a challenge to the very order they complied with," the court observed while dismissing the writ. (JNF)

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a strongly worded judgment, the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Jammu has castigated a trial court for its "insensitive and unprofessional" handling of a decade-old cheque bounce case, while setting aside the dismissal of the complaint for want of evidence.

Justice Rajesh Sekhri restored the complaint of appellant J.N. Wadhera against Uttam Singh under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act and directed the trial court

to dispose of the matter

dates back to 2015, pertained to four dishonoured cheques issued by Uttam Singh, amounting to over Rs 4.5 lakh. The accused had admitted liability during trial, even making partial payments in 2023 and 2024, and filing an undertaking in September 2022 to clear dues within two months.

However, when Wadhera failed to attend two hearings in February 2025 due to a serious liver ailment

within two months. The litigation, which

HC tears into trial court over 'Insensitive' handling of case

want of evidence.

sional manner. Had the trial

and hospitalization, the Special Mobile Magistrate (Electricity), Jammu, dismissed his complaint for

Observing glaring lapses, the High Court found that the trial court neither enforced the accused's undertaking nor ensured effective case man-

"If the trial court record is glanced over, it appears that case of the appellant has been dealt with and tried in a most insensitive and unprofescourt kept a track of the proceedings, the controversy would have been settled long back," Justice Sekhri remarked. The Court noted that

accused repeatedly evaded proceedings, even facing non-bailable warrants, while the trial court failed to exercise control over the litigation timeline.

Terming the dismissal "illegal and preposterous," the High Court restored Wadhera's complaint to the trial court's file, with a clear direction for expeditious disposal within two months.