

GMC Jammu starts Surgical Operations in Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Govt. Medical College (GMC), Jammu, a pioneer institution in the Jammu region today started surgical procedures in Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home, GMC Jammu after a gap of 10 years thereby initiating quality medical services to the patients of the region who aspire to have private care. This was stated by Dr. Ashutosh Gupta, Principal & Dean, Govt. Medical College who took personal interest in upgrading the facilities in Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home.

It is pertinent to mention here that Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home, GMC Jammu which is a private wing of Govt. Medical College, Jammu was not working for the last 10 years due to lack of adequate civil infrastructure. Now, as the renovation has completed, Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home has again started pro-



Surgical team led by Dr Zahoor senior laproscopic surgeon performed first laproscopic surgery after 10 years at Col. Chopra Nursing Home GMC Jammu.

viding medical facilities to the patients of the region. The Nursing Home has 40 Air-Conditioned Rooms with attached washrooms and upgraded medical facilities like centralized air conditioning, centralized oxygen and suction equipped with modular monitors, ventilators & quality furniture etc.

The surgery OTs are well equipped with high end Laproscopic machines, Anaesthesia work station, Fiber Oticoptic Laryngo Bronchoscope & various other equipments / machinery and The Govt. Medical College, Jammu administration has done a commendable job by creating an excellent

environment and impact in the whole complex containing 40 patient rooms and Operation Theatre Complex. The GMC Administration has ensured that the affordable rates will be offered to the patients using medical facilities of Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home. Ofcourse, the medical facil-

ities will be backed by excellent medical infrastructure available in the Govt. Medical College, Jammu and high quality medical and surgical team available for the patients.

The first surgery (Laposcopic Cholecystectomy) was performed after a gap of 10 years on 02-08-2025. The procedure was done by Senior Surgeon, Dr. Zahoor Hussain and his team.

Anaesthetic team consisted of Dr. Ashufta under the supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Rajesh Mahajan. Second surgery was performed by Dr. Akhil under the supervision of Prof. (Dr.) Sanjeev Gupta.

The overall arrangements were looked after by Dr. Shaista Ganai, Nodal Officer, Sir Col. Chopra Nursing Home, GMC Jammu under the guidance and supervision of Principal & Dean, Govt. Medical College, Jammu.

Dr. Pardeep slams NC-led govt for governance lapses in J&K

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a scathing critique of the NC-led government in Jammu and Kashmir, Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge of B-JP (J&K), said that the Omar Abdullah-led dispensation is derailing the development momentum initiated by the Central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He accused the government of failing to deliver on basic governance and ignoring the aspirations of the people.

Dr. Mahotra said that the Jammu region, in particular, is reeling under sheer government apathy. The administration appears indifferent to the genuine problems of the people, and the common man continues to suffer amid growing administrative failures. He noted that instead of focusing on the real issues, the ruling NC leadership is indulging in political rhetoric and diversionary tactics, particularly around the issue of statehood, to hide its inability to govern effectively.



Dr. Pardeep Mahotra, Media Incharge of B-JP (J&K), speaking at a public meeting.

He reminded the government of the grand promises made by the National Conference in its 2024 poll manifesto. These included a war on drug abuse, job creation, filling government vacancies, financial assistance of Rs 5000 per month to female heads of families, free 200 units of electricity, access to clean drinking water, uninterrupted power supply, hydroelectric development, and 12 free LPG cylinders per year. "Today, those promises are either forgotten or unfulfilled, exposing the disconnect between words and actions," he said.

Dr. Mahotra emphasized that critical sectors such as education, healthcare, focused tourism, PHE, PDD etc. are languishing for want of attention. He said that Chief Minister Omar Abdullah must rise to the occasion and shoulder the responsibility of accelerating the development initiatives laid out by the Modi government for J&K.

Calling for equitable governance, Dr. Mahotra urged the NC-led government to work sincerely for the welfare of both Jammu and Kashmir regions without discrimination especially in areas like tourism.

"It is time to stop blaming tools as an excuse for bad workmanship, and focus on good governance that benefits the common people with the optimal use of official machinery," he added.

Rekha urges Ashish Sood to reject early release plea of Priyadarshini's killer

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu and Kashmir Vice President, Rekha Mahajan has written a strong letter to Ashish Sood, Minister for Home Affairs, Delhi, urging the Sentence Review Board (SRB) to firmly reject the early release plea of Santosh Kumar Singh, who was convicted for the heinous rape and murder of Priyadarshini Mattoo in 1996.

In her letter, Rekha Mahajan emphasized that granting leniency to a convict in such a brutal and premeditated crime would not only embolden other criminals but also undermine the public's faith in the judicial system.



Rekha Mahajan, Vice President of BJP Jammu and Kashmir, writing a letter to the Minister for Home Affairs, Delhi.

"This is not just about one case - it's about the message we send to society," she wrote. Rekha highlighted the relentless struggle Priyadarshini's family undertook to secure justice and reminded that her parents had demanded the harshest punishment for their daughter's murderer. "The pain and trauma

they endured cannot be forgotten. The psychological assessments submitted to the SRB should not overshadow the sheer gravity of this crime," she asserted.

Calling the case a litmus test for justice, Rekha Mahajan appealed to the Minister to uphold the spirit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" initiative, and to ensure that the justice system remains a pillar of hope for women across the nation.

"By rejecting his plea, you will not only honor Priyadarshini's memory but also send a strong message that crimes against women will not be forgiven," she said.

Jammu Police South Zone concludes 45-Day Internship Program with University students; Distributes certificates

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JAMMU: On the directions of IGP Jammu Zone, DIG JSK Range, and SSP Jammu to enhance student outreach, an immersive internship-cum-engagement program was initiated by Jammu Police, South Zone for students of the Department of SIIEDC, University of Jammu.

This initiative aimed to provide students with real-time exposure to the workings of the police department, encouraging experiential learning and preparing them as informed, responsible, and future-ready citizens capable of contributing meaningfully to society.

The program was conducted under the supervision and guidance of SP South Jammu, Ajay Sharma.



SP South Jammu, Ajay Sharma with JU students and others at closing ceremony.

During their time at various police units, the interns gained valuable insights into crime prevention, law enforcement procedures, community policing, and the role of police in tackling real-time societal issues. The student interns expressed heartfelt gratitude to Jammu Police for granting

them the opportunity to witness the inner workings of the police department from such close quarters. Many shared that the experience not only enhanced their understanding of governance and policing but also sensitized them to the practical challenges faced by society as well as Police. They

pledged to utilize this exposure in their future academic and entrepreneurial ventures to contribute meaningfully to society. While interacting with the interns, SP South lauded their enthusiasm and positive engagement throughout the internship. He emphasized that such collaborations help

in breaking stereotypes and reducing the fear associated with police stations among law-abiding citizens.

"The trend we see today is that people with criminal or negative intentions are more familiar with police processes and try to exploit the system. Through programs like this, we aim to change that. More good, aware, and socially conscious citizens should be frequenting police stations-not out of fear, but as partners in justice and community welfare," he remarked.

Jammu Police continues to promote community-police partnerships and youth engagement programs, reinforcing its commitment to transparency, approachability, and citizen-centric policing.

Dr. Romesh addresses youth on Life Skills, Mental Health, under Viksit Bharat Youth Connect Program 2025 at JU

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In an inspiring session held at the University of Jammu (JU) under the Viksit Bharat Youth Connect Program 2025, Dr. Romesh Kumar, renowned psychologist and Head of Department, DIET Jammu, delivered an impactful talk on Life Skills, Mental Health, and Psychosocial Support. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from school and college students, faculty members, and university dignitaries, including Prof. Prakash Anthal, Dean Students Welfare, University of Jammu.

Dr. Kumar emphasized the critical significance of life skills not only in per-



Dr. Romesh Kumar, psychologist and Head of Department, DIET Jammu being honoured.

sonal well-being but also in professional success. Drawing attention to the growing mental health pandemic, he called for immediate, collective, and

systemic solutions to address the silent crisis affecting India's youth. "Mental well-being," he asserted, "is not just a personal concern-it is a

national prerequisite for building a Viksit Bharat."

In his interactive, activity-based and experiential session, Dr. Kumar highlighted strategies for managing emotions, building resilience, and handling stress, offering practical tips for emotional well-being.

He placed special focus on Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), advocating its integration into the educational system as a transformative tool for nurturing compassionate, mentally strong, and socially aware citizens.

Importantly, Dr. Kumar drew a compelling connection between mental health, life skills, and national productivity, arguing that emotional health is deeply linked to economic development and

human capital enhancement.

He also introduced the concept of "Happy Schools", aligning with UNESCO's vision of holistic education, where mental well-being, positive relationships, and meaningful learning experiences are prioritized.

He emphasized on creating a wellbeing ecosystem in all educational institutions. The session concluded with an engaging Q&A segment, where students posed insightful questions, and Dr. Kumar responded with evidence-based, practical solutions.

Participants left with key takeaways on self-awareness, empathy, communication, stress management, and the value of community support.

Mankotia to participate at Global Legislative Conference in Boston, USA

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: It is a proud moment for Jammu & Kashmir as MLA from Chenani, Balwant Singh Mankotia, will be participating in a prestigious global legislative conference to be held in Boston, USA, from August 4 to 6, 2025.

Mankotia a three-time MLA who hails from a small village Kaghote in Ramnagar Tehsil, Udhampur District, is set to represent the region on an international platform, bringing pride to the people of J&K.

The event is organized by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and is being supported through the National Legislators Conference Bharat (NLC Bharat) - a non-political platform that works to strengthen the capabilities of Indian legisla-



Balwant Singh Mankotia, MLA from Chenani, participating in a global legislative conference in Boston, USA.

tors and promote national and international democratic dialogue. Over 130 legislators from 24 Indian states and 21 political parties are part of this delegation, making it the largest-ever Indian representation at an international democratic forum.

This initiative reflects a growing spirit of cooperation, dialogue, and knowledge-sharing among democracies across the world.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Mankotia said, "It is a matter of great pride for me to represent my state and region at a global stage. This is not only an opportunity to gain international exposure but also to learn from the best governance practices across the world and apply them in service of our people. I sincerely thank NLC Bharat for this opportunity."

The delegation will engage with over 6,000 legislators from across the globe, participating in discussions on important topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Digital Democracy, Cyber Security, Voter Confidence, and Policy Innovation.

The visit will also include learning sessions on the American legislative system and interactions with Indian-origin leaders in the United States.

Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu brings joy to visually impaired girls at LBM School



Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu members interacting with visually impaired girls.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu took a heartwarming initiative by visiting the LBM Residential School for Girls in Rop Nagar on August 1. The visit was aimed at supporting and uplifting the lives of visually impaired students and spreading joy among them. The event commenced at 12:00 PM at the Blind School, with the presence of Club President Manpreet Kour, past presidents Anita Goel and Ambika Samotra, and several other dedicated

club members. Their presence highlighted the club's continued commitment to community service and the well-being of underprivileged children.

As part of the visit, the club donated several essential items to the school. These included 400 Braille sheets, pillow covers, bed sheets, sanitary napkins, eatables such as biscuits and Maggi, soaps, shampoo pouches, and toothpaste. These items were selected with care to address the daily needs and comfort of the students.

Speaking on the occasion,

a spokesperson from the Inner Wheel New Gen Club expressed their joy and purpose behind the initiative. "We are thrilled to visit the school for the sightless and bring some joy to the students. We believe that every small gesture counts, and we hope to inspire others to join us in this noble cause," they said.

This compassionate act by the Inner Wheel Club New Gen Jammu was not just a donation drive but a powerful message of inclusion, empathy, and collective responsibility.

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JAMMU: As part of the Jammu and Kashmir Congress's ongoing public outreach campaign, Working President of the Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) and former Minister, Raman Bhalla, met with prominent members of the business community at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) House in Jammu. The meeting focused on the urgent demand for the restoration of full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, a promise made repeatedly but unfulfilled over the past six years.

Raman Bhalla, joined by a team of senior Congress leaders including Mula Ram, Yogesh Sawhney, Rajnish Sharma, Th. Manmohan Singh, Taranjit Singh Tony, and others, strongly criticized the BJP-led administration for what he termed "anti-trader policies" that have had a severe impact on the region's economy. He said that the prolonged delay in



JKPCC Working President, Raman Bhalla meeting with members of business community.

restoring statehood has created a governance vacuum and disrupted the economic ecosystem, especially in Jammu.

Addressing the gathering of traders and industrialists, Bhalla asserted that the BJP government has consistently taken decisions without consulting stakeholders, imposing policies that have proven burdensome to the business community.

He noted that instead of providing relief and incentives to local entrepreneurs and shopkeepers already grappling with economic challenges, the administration has adopted an approach that is detached

and unaccountable. Bhalla emphasized that the restoration of statehood is not merely a political demand, but a necessity for economic revival and good governance.

He stated that Jammu and Kashmir needs a locally accountable government that understands the unique aspirations and issues of the people, especially the trading community. According to him, a full-fledged state would provide the democratic framework required to implement business-friendly policies, promote local industry, and ensure administrative efficiency. Expressing solidarity

with the business community, Bhalla called upon them to actively support the broader democratic movement for statehood.

He assured that once a representative government is in place, the Congress Party would prioritize ease of doing business, transparent governance, and policies aimed at promoting entrepreneurship and employment generation.

During the interaction, members of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry raised several concerns, including unilateral tax implementations, lack of financial packages for local businesses, delays in industrial policy execution, and

rising unemployment. They echoed Bhalla's sentiments and agreed that restoration of statehood is essential for safeguarding the economic interests of the region.

Bhalla accused the current dispensation of curbing democratic voices and stifling dissent through authoritarian means. He warned that such measures only widen the gap between the government and the people.

He reiterated the Congress's firm commitment to fight for the restoration of statehood and assured the business community that their interests would be protected under a people's government.

The meeting concluded on a strong note of unity and resolve. Both Congress leaders and business representatives agreed that the demand for statehood is not just about political representation, but about reclaiming the right to economic development, administrative justice, and democratic accountability.