

BJP KDD calls on Chief Secretary, raises key issues regarding KPs

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation from the BJP Kashmir Displaced District (KDD), led by District President Rajiv Pandita, met Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo at the Civil Secretariat, Jammu, to raise pressing concerns of the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community. General Secretaries M.L. Bhat and Vimal Raina also participated in the meeting.

The delegation submitted a comprehensive memorandum highlighting the need for immediate enhancement of monthly cash assistance to approximately 17,000 displaced families, citing rising living costs. They also stressed that the Relief Organization (Migrant)



BJP KDD delegation led by District President Rajiv Pandita meeting with Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo.

Jammu is understaffed, affecting service delivery. The delegation requested the appointment of at least three additional Relief Commissioners and other staff, along with the urgent allotment of shops at Muthi

and Jagti.

Attention was also drawn to the plight of non-migrant Kashmiri Hindus, requesting that Deputy Commissioners be directed to engage with these families and address their needs. The poor living conditions in migrant camps, particularly in Jagti, were flagged, with a demand for immediate infrastructure repair and renovation.

The delegation called for the expedited approval of bifurcation cases and submitted a separate memorandum regarding the demands of PM package employees in Kashmir. Key demands included permanent accommodation, a separate access road to Maehbhawan

(Mattan), and completion of allied works in Fatepora (Baramulla) and Odina (Bandipora). Additional requests included land for a temple and park at Wandhama (Ganderbal), uniform construction standards, CCTV installation, and prioritization of disabled non-PM package employees for transit accommodation.

They also proposed appointing a dedicated Nodal Officer, preferably of Tehsildar rank, to address daily civic issues of PM package employees in Kashmir.

The delegation expressed confidence in early resolution of these long-standing issues and thanked the Chief Secretary for his attention.

Rotary Club Jammu Aastha spreads festive cheer at Bal Ashram

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Rotary Club Jammu Aastha celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan with the affectionate inmates of Bal Ashram, Channi Himmat, spreading joy, warmth, and the true spirit of togetherness.

The event was marked by heartfelt interactions, as members tied Rakhis to the children, shared sweets, and spent quality time with them. Gifts and refreshments were also distributed, bringing smiles and festive excitement to the young residents.

President Rtn. Vaishali Goel expressed her gratitude to all members for their active participation, saying, "It is



Rotary Club Jammu Aastha members celebrating Raksha Bandhan with inmates of Bal Ashram, Channi Himmat.

moments like these that strengthen our bonds with the community and remind us of the power of service above self."

The celebration saw the enthusiastic presence of Secretary Rtn. Shruti Gupta,

Rtn. Pooja Gupta, Rtn. Inderdeep Kaur, and Rtn. Shivani Gupta.

The occasion beautifully reinforced Rotary's mission of fostering goodwill, compassion, and human connection.

SHO Ajaz Manhas honored by Rehari Colony Mohalla Association for outstanding service



Rehari Colony Mohalla Association members felicitating SHO Ajaz Manhas.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: SHO Ajaz Manhas, who served at Bakshi Nagar Police Station, has been recognized for his exemplary work in maintaining law and order

and serving the community within the Bakshi Nagar jurisdiction. During his tenure, SHO Manhas earned the respect and appreciation of local residents for his dedicat-

ed efforts. His recent transfer to Miran Sahib Police Station has left the people of Bakshi Nagar saddened, as they bid farewell to an officer who worked tirelessly for their welfare. In acknowledgment of his outstanding service, the Rehari Colony Mohalla Association organized a felicitation ceremony in his honour. The event saw the presence of prominent community members, including Vishal Chopra, Abhishek Kapoor, Varun Gupta, Gurmeet Dutta and Atul Kumar who expressed their gratitude and best wishes for his new posting.

Balbir, along with youth pledged to boycott Chinese Gattu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior leader of Bharatiya Janata Party and former vice chairman Balbir Ram Ratan along with an enthusiastic group of youth took a pledge to boycott Chinese Gattu (Chinese Manjha). On this occasion, he appealed to kite flying enthusiasts to adopt Indian made, eco-friendly and safe Gattu. Along with him, BJP media member Sanjay Bakshi also participated in this campaign and took a pledge to boycott it.

Balbir Ram Ratan, while speaking to a group of youth, said that fine particles of nylon and glass are mixed in Chinese Gattu, which are



Senior BJP leader Balbir Ram Ratan with youth taking pledge to boycott Chinese Gattu.

extremely dangerous for birds. He said that every year hundreds of birds get injured or killed by these sharp manjhas. Also, many times these manjhas prove

fatal for humans too, especially for bike riders.

He said that this manjha is not only harmful to biodiversity but also causes long term damage to the environ-

ment as it is plastic based and does not decompose easily. Balbir called upon the youth to not limit patriotism to slogans but to follow it in their everyday decisions as

well. Balbir suggested encouraging the use of traditional cotton manjha made by Indian artisans. He said that it is not only safer, but it also promotes local industries and handicrafts. He said that "adopt swadeshi, save country" is the need of the hour.

He said that this initiative will inspire the youth to be responsible towards the environment and strengthen campaigns like 'Make in India'.

He also requested the local administration to strictly ban the sale and use of Chinese Gattu so as to protect the environment and life.

DLSA Udhampur observance of World Tribal Day

STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Udhampur, under the guidance and supervision of Virinder Singh Bhou (Principal District & Sessions Judge Udhampur), Dr. Smriti Sharma (Secretary, DLSA Udhampur) and in collaboration with Narsing Dev Institute of Medical Sciences, Udhampur organized a program to observe World Tribal Day at The program aimed to raise awareness about the rights and welfare of tribal communities.

The program was graced by the presence of Kamlesh Pandit, Additional District and Sessions Judge,



Kamlesh Pandit, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Udhampur with others at a programme.

Udhampur, who served as the chief guest. Adv. Sanjeet Kumar, Panel Lawyer, DLSA Udhampur, served as the resource person.

He delivered a detailed presentation on the significance of World Tribal Day and the NALSA (Protection and Enforcement of Tribal

Rights) Scheme, 2015 and Strengthening Access to Justice for Marginalized, Vulnerable Adivasis and Denotified/Nomadic Tribes), 2025 concerning tribal welfare.

The NALSA scheme focuses on providing legal and constitutional rights to

tribal people, ensuring they are aware of and can access benefits. He discussed the importance of protecting tribal rights and promoting their well-being.

Kamlesh Pandit, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Udhampur, addressed the participants, explaining the purpose and significance of World Tribal Day.

He emphasized the need to support and empower tribal communities. The program provided a platform for participants to understand the importance of tribal rights and the role of legal services in promoting their welfare.

Thereafter, cultural programs were presented by the students of Government Middle School Nagrota Udhampur (Boys), Gujjar and Bakarwal Hostel and students of Narsing Dev Institute of Medical Sciences, Udhampur.

The program concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Institute Administrator Jia Lal Sharma and he expressed gratitude to the participants, organizers, and resource persons for their contributions to the program success.

Khatana hails Modi-era reforms for record savings, job creation and energy milestones

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha MP Gulam Ali Khatana has hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reforms as a "transformational force" that has delivered measurable gains across healthcare, employment, energy and digital infrastructure.

Khatana said the Jan Aushadhi scheme has saved citizens over Rs 38,000 crore on medicines in the past 11 years, making affordable healthcare a reality for millions of families.

Khatana highlighted that in a historic first, India has crossed the coal production milestone of 1 billion tonnes in a single year. He added that the PM Surya Ghar Yojana has enabled 15.45



lakh households to adopt rooftop solar power, with Gujarat emerging as the top beneficiary.

Khatana pointed to the rapid growth of digital transactions, noting that payments through UPI and other platforms have crossed Rs 65,000 crore in just six years, penetrating even small towns and rural mar-

kets. He further said that Tier-II and Tier-III cities are emerging as new hubs for Global Capability Centres, showing the spread of opportunities beyond metros.

Khatana asserted that 17 crore jobs have been created since 2017-18, with women now accounting for more than 40% of the workforce. He also noted that multidimensional poverty has fallen from 29% to 11% in nine years, reflecting major improvements in housing, healthcare and sanitation.

Khatana said these achievements are "not isolated events" but the result of bold, inclusive and sustained reforms under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, shaping a stronger and more equitable India.

BJYM J&K organises 'Har Ghar Tiranga' bike rally in Srinagar to promote national unity



BJYM J&K President Arun Prabhat leading a bike rally.

STATE TIMES NEWS

SRRINAGAR: As part of the nationwide 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, Jammu and Kashmir Bharatiya Janata Party Yuva Moreha (BJYM), under its President Arun Prabhat, and accompanied by District President BJP Srinagar Sheikh Salman, organised a Bike Rally in Srinagar on Friday.

The rally, carrying the Tricolour in full splendour, began from Rawalpora, passed through Jahangir Chowk, and culminated at the historic Ghanta Ghar, Lal Chowk.

Hundreds of youth and party workers participated, riding with the National Flag to showcase unity and patriotism.

Addressing the gathering at Lal Chowk, Arun Prabhat

paid rich tributes to the brave martyrs of Jammu & Kashmir Police and security forces, including DySP Humayun Bhat, Inspector Arshid Ahmad, ASI Ghulam Mohammad, Inspector Parvez Ahmad, Rifleman Aurangzeb, and Lieutenant Umar Fayaz, along with many others who sacrificed their lives to protect the peace and integrity of the nation.

He condemned Pakistan and anti-national elements for their continued attempts to disturb peace in the Valley, reaffirming that the BJP stands firmly with the security forces and the people of J&K in defeating terrorism.

Prominent among those present at the rally were senior leader Altaf Thakur, along with Mir Asim, Umar Jan, Zubair Kulgami, and Khalid Waqar.

CCI Jammu delegation calls on Labour Commissioner, discusses issues

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A delegation of Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCI) Jammu headed by its President Arun Gupta called on Labour Commissioner Charandeep Singh, and discussed the issue relating to non-functioning of Labour departments online system.

During interaction Arun Gupta said that presently the online portal of the Labour Department is non-functional.

The Labour Department should publicize the non-functioning of the Online System so that the traders who find difficulty while operating their CC limits and also those want to open new current accounts in the bank may not face any kind of difficulty. Further the



CCI Jammu delegation calling on Labour Commissioner Charandeep Singh.

notices issued to the traders should immediately be withdrawn and the department should not impose any kind of late fee or penalty to the traders who apply for Naga Certificate Online as and when portal starts working.

Arun Gupta also requested the Labour Commissioner that instruc-

tion should be issued to all district level officers that there should be no mandatory close day practice in any district.

While replying to the issues relating to non-functioning of online portal the Labour Commissioner said that since at present our portal is not functioning, we

are going to allow the traders to fill the prescribed format manually. The soft copy of the format will be available in the department. The traders have to deposit the soft copy along with hard copy manually and when the portal start working the department will upload the documents itself.

The Labour Commissioner further informed that the department is considering to allow the traders to work 24x7 without any restrictions this way the government will get revenue and the traders will work as per their choice without any kind of interference.

The others who accompanied the delegation include Anil Gupta, Sr. Vice President CCI, Rajeev Gupta, Jr. Vice President CCI, Manish Gupta, Secretary General CCI, Sh. Rajesh Gupta, Secretary CCI, Rajesh Gupta, Treasurer CCI, Ashish Gupta, President, Kanak Mandi Traders Association and Vikas Gupta, General Secretary, Kanak Mandi Traders Association.

DB dismisses Govt's delayed appeal against SPO's reinstatement; Terms disengagement stigmatic

Failure to Follow Natural Justice Fatal to Case, Rules Bench

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Jammu has dismissed a Letters Patent Appeal (LPA No. 147/2025) filed by the UT administration against the reinstatement of Special Police Officer (SPO) Satish Kumar, terming the disengagement order "stigmatic" and the delay in filing the appeal as unjustified.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Arun Palli and Justice Rajnesh Oswal passed the judgment on August 5, 2025, while hearing an appeal filed by the

DIG Doda-Kishtwar Range and the SSP Doda, represented by Senior Additional Advocate General Monika Kohli.

The appeal was filed against the writ court's order dated May 21, 2024, which had quashed the March 18, 2009 disengagement of the SPO and directed the authorities to take action, if any, only after granting him an opportunity of being heard.

The government sought condonation of a 362-day delay in filing the appeal, arguing that time was consumed in completing administrative formalities and

obtaining sanction, which was eventually granted on March 19, 2025. However, the Bench noted that even after receiving sanction, the appeal was filed only on July 18, 2025, with no explanation for the additional delay.

"The applicants-respondents have not been able to demonstrate sufficient cause... we are not inclined to condone the delay," the court observed, adding that even on merits, the appeal was without substance.

Referring to the language used in the disengagement order-which cited lack of dedication and failure to perform

duties the court held it to be stigmatic in nature. It ruled that the SPO should have been given a chance to respond before termination, especially in view of the Supreme Court judgment in U.P. State Road Transport Corporation vs. Brijesh Kumar (2024 INSC 638).

The Bench held that disengagement, even of contractual employees, must follow the principles of natural justice. The court dismissed both the application seeking condonation of delay (CM No. 4525/2025) and the main appeal, along with connected applications.

CLUJ conducts Poster Making and Slogan Writing Competitions

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: School of Teacher Education, Cluster University of Jammu (CLUJ) under the guidance of Dean, Dr. Mohd. Zubair Kales organised an inter-college/School poster making and slogan writing competition on Thursday in collaboration with Dean, Student Welfare, Cluster University Jammu and Directorate of Extension and Outreach under aegis of Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Program.

More than 30 students of different college and schools of CLUJ participated in the competitions. These were adjudged by Dr. Shalika Gupta (Associate Professor) and Dr Rakesh



Participating students with faculty of CLUJ at a event.

Bharti (Assistant Professor), Government College of Education, Jammu. First position was secured by Seresh Tariq Butt (School of Sciences), second by Siya (School of Sciences) and third position was secured by Muskan Sharma (School of Sciences) and Kushpreet

College) in Slogan writing. In Poster making the first position was secured by Simran Choudhary (GCW, Gandhi Nagar), second by Madhav Soutra (Govt. MAM College, Jammu) and third position was secured by Muskan Sharma (School of Sciences) and Kushpreet

Kour (GCW, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu). Certificates were distributed among the winners and the participants. Other faculty members viz. Dr. Niharika Panda (SOTE), Dr. Shubb Mangal Singh Jamwal and Prof. Kiran Thappa were also present on the occasion.