

# Dy CM distributes appointment letters, motorized tricycles among beneficiaries at Nowshera

## Stresses on prompt service delivery for public convenience

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NOWSHERA: Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary on Sunday chaired an awareness-cum-scooty distribution Camp in Nowshera. The camp aimed at empowering beneficiaries and promoting inclusive development in the region was organised by the Social Welfare Department.

Addressing the gathering, Deputy Chief Minister stressed on the importance of impartiality in government offices and called upon officers to work with zeal and dedication to ensure prompt service delivery to the general public.

He asserted on focusing collective development proposal submission than individual ones, assuring that developmental initiatives in the region would be taken up on priority basis.



Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary distributing motorized tricycles among beneficiaries at Nowshera.

During the camp, the Deputy Chief Minister handed over appointment letters to as many as 40 Aayas from the Education Department, and four Anganwadi Helpers from the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Department.

The Deputy Chief Minister additionally, distributed six motorized tricycles (scooties) among beneficiaries of the Social Welfare Department, providing them with enhanced mobility and independence.

District Social Welfare Officer Rajouri extended heartfelt gratitude to the Deputy Chief Minister for gracing the occasion to encourage and inspire the participants.

The program was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Nowshera, District Social Welfare Officer Rajouri, Tehsildar Nowshera, Block Development Officer Nowshera, Executive Officer (EO) Municipality Nowshera,

and members of Nowshera's civil society. Alongside them, Anganwadi workers, teachers, officials of the Social Welfare Department, and the general public participated, with over 300 attendees marking their presence.

The camp served as a vital platform to spread awareness about welfare schemes and ensure doorstep delivery of essential services, reaffirming the government's commitment to inclusive growth, empowerment, and holistic development in Nowshera and beyond.

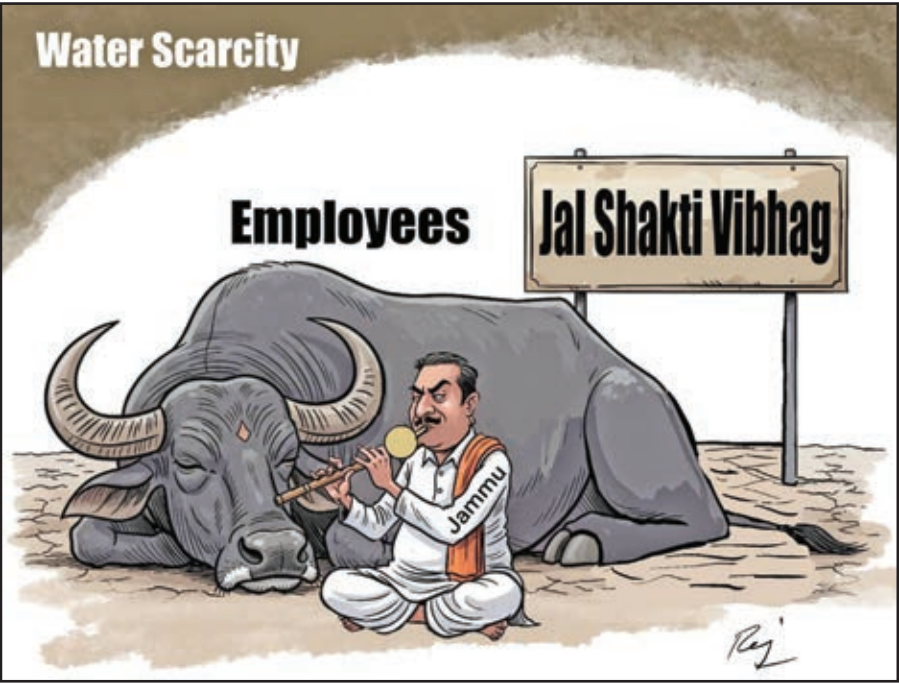
# Spiritual fervour marks conclusion of 56th Mahayagya at Baba Sidhgoria Dham

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: An eleven-day spiritual festival at Baba Sidhgoria Dham, Paloura, reached its grand conclusion today with the successful completion of the 56th Shat Chandhi Mahayagya.

The final day witnessed a massive congregation of devotees, sadhus, and dignitaries who gathered for the concluding ceremonies.

The atmosphere was charged with devotion as thousands participated in the Purnahuti, with sacred hymns and chants marking the culmination of the Mahayagya.

The event also featured the final, spellbinding sermon on the Shrimad Bhagwat Katha by the revered Mahant Shri Dr. Satyanarayan Das Ji Maharaj, who captivated



Mahant Shri Kuldeep Singh Ji Maharaj distributing Prasad.

the audience with his profound wisdom.

The concluding day's events began with a Prabhat Pheri from 8 AM to 12 PM, which journeyed from the Mandir through Top Paloura, Patoli, Jaggi Darbar, Janipur, and Muthi Camp before returning. The ceremonies culminated with the Purn Ahuti and a grand Bhandara at 2 PM.

Expressing his gratitude for the immense turnout, Mahant Shri Kuldeep Singh Ji Maharaj stated, "The success of this event is a testament to the unwavering faith of the devotees. We are humbled by the overwhelming participation and the spiritual fervour witnessed throughout these eleven days."

On this occasion, Chairman Team Jammu

Zorawar Singh Jamwal expressed profound concern over the recent natural calamity that struck Jammu Province, causing extensive loss of life and property. He prayed to the Almighty to bestow eternal peace upon the departed souls and to grant strength and solace to the bereaved families during this time of sorrow.

The Purnahuti was graced by several prominent spiritual and social figures, including Mahant Rameshwar Dass Maharaj, Mahant Dutt Giri Maharaj (President, Shat Darshan Sadhu Samaj), alongside other political and religious dignitaries.

The 56th Shat Chandhi Mahayagya has left an indelible mark on all who attended, reinforcing their spiritual connection and leaving them with a sense of divine peace.

# Rana reviews water supply restoration measures in Jammu

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana on Sunday undertook an extensive tour of the flood-affected areas of Jammu city, particularly Channi and Sainik Colony.

The Minister, accompanied by MLA Ch. Vikram Randhawa and DDC Member T.S. Tony also visited Gurjar Desh Charitable Trust and KB Public School to assess the scale of damage and interact with affected residents.

During the visit, the Minister conducted an on-ground review of the ongoing water supply restoration efforts undertaken by the Jal Shakti Department.

Emphasizing the importance of swift and fair distribution of



Jal Shakti Minister, Javed Ahmed Rana visiting flood-affected area.

essential services in times of crisis, he issued firm instructions to the Chief Engineer and Superintending Engineers of Jal Shakti, Jammu, to monitor the deployment and operations of private water tankers in the affected localities.

Maintaining that there should be strict monitoring of the water tanker operations, Rana said that operators must not be allowed to take undue advantage of the crisis.

Rana had earlier convened a review meeting, where he

instructed the Deputy Commissioner Jammu and Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation to take immediate and effective steps to regulate private tanker operations.

Furthermore, the Minister has instructed several Deputy Commissioners across the Jammu region to implement similar measures and maintain close oversight of tanker operations in their areas.

He reiterated that ensuring safe, timely and affordable access to drinking water is a top priority for the Omar Abdullah Government and directed officials to maintain a zero-tolerance approach towards any lapses.

# GGF extends support to flood-affected families in Jogi Gate, New Company Bagh, Kabir Colony

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In continuation of its humanitarian mission, Gandhi Global Family (GGF) reached out to the flood-affected families residing in Jogi Gate, New Company Bagh and Kabir Colony who have suffered heavy losses to their homes and livelihood due to the recent torrential rains.

Volunteers of GGF, along with its Women Wing, distributed essential relief items including food packets, dry ration, sanitary products and other daily-use commodities to the affected families. The initiative was aimed at providing immediate relief to those who have been struggling to meet basic needs after the disaster.

At Jogi Gate, the drive



Gandhi Global Family members during distribution of relief among flood-hit people.

was initiated by SP South Vivek Shekhar, Army Veteran Lt. General Rakesh Sharma, Padam Shri Dr. S. P. Varma and carried on by other members of GGF.

Speaking on the occasion, GGF representatives expressed deep solidarity with the distressed families,

assuring them that the organization will continue to extend every possible help to support their rehabilitation.

They highlighted that humanitarian service is the true reflection of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of compassion and service to humanity.

The drive at New Company Bagh and Kabir Colony near Poonch House was carried out in collaboration with Punjab National Bank Officers' Association led by General Secretary Vishal Varma.

Manager Nitin Singh and Anil Bharti from

PNB Talab Tillo Branch were present there to extend services. The local community expressed heartfelt gratitude to GGF for standing with them in this hour of crisis.

The prominent members present on the occasion included Jaswinder Singh Kuku, Mehant Rajesh Bitoo, Dr Alka Sharma, Sumi Sahi Seth, Punit Kour, Ved Verma, Naresh Maini, Dr Jyoti Malhotra, Dr. Himani Bhutyal, Er S.K Vaid, Dalbir Chib, Reetu Choudhary, Amit Gupta, Neelam Nargotra, Manish Joshi, Babita Bhat, Sanjay Bhat, Amit Varma, local prominent citizens, representatives of local administration & various NGOs.

# Ganesh Chaturthi: First time since terrorism, KPs hold rath yatra in Srinagar

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Kashmiri Pandits of the Valley took out a 'rath yatra' as part of Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations, a first since the eruption of terrorism 35 years back.

The procession began from the Ganpatyar temple in the Habba Kadal area of the city here. The Pandit community also undertook Ganapati visarjan in the the Jhelum.

"A rath yatra was taken out from Ganpatyar temple and Ganesh ji was immersed in the Jhelum," activist Sanjay Tickoo told PTI Videos.

He said the procession was "the first time after the eruption of militancy" in the Valley.

"We prayed that natural



Kashmiri Pandits with children taking out a 'rath yatra' as part of Ganesh Chaturthi at Srinagar.

disasters stop and all people, irrespective of caste, creed or religion, live together with love. We prayed that we are safeguarded from such natural disasters," Tickoo said.

The Kashmiri Pandit leader said the community

has been organising Ganapati Visarjan in the Valley for the last three years.

The five-day celebrations, which concluded on Sunday, were observed with devotion and festive spirit.

# Strong voices unite at AIIMS Jammu to address violence against healthcare workers

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: AIIMS Jammu organized a high-level Panel Discussion on "Violence against Healthcare Professionals", bringing together experts from the judiciary, police, medical academia, nursing community, and media to deliberate on one of the most pressing issues confronting healthcare today-the safety and confidence of doctors and caregivers.

The event, held at the AIIMS Jammu Convention Centre, highlighted not only the magnitude of the problem but also charted pathways for solutions at legal, institutional, and community levels.

The session was chaired by Justice B. L. Bhat (Retd.), Justice J&K & Ladakh High Court and Member, Institute Ethics Committee, AIIMS Jammu.

Distinguished panelists included Prof. (Dr.) Ashutosh Gupta, Principal & Dean, GMC & Associated Hospitals Jammu; Prof. (Dr.) Dinesh Rao, HoD, Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, AIIMS Jammu; Rajinder Kumar Gupta, Deputy Director, SKPA Udhampur; Dr.



ED & CEO AIIMS Jammu, Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta with panelists at Discussion on "Violence against Healthcare Professionals".

Shruti Sharma, Additional Professor, Dept. of Anesthesiology, AIIMS Jammu; Dr. Rimple Sharma, Principal, College of Nursing, AIIMS Jammu; Dr. Ayush Srivastava, Assistant Professor, Trauma & Emergency Medicine, AIIMS Jammu; Faheem Tak, Channel Head, News Now Jammu; and Dr. Kshitija Singh, Assistant Professor, Hospital Administration, AIIMS New Delhi, who moderated the session.

Welcoming the gathering, Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, said, "Violence against

healthcare professionals is not merely an attack on individuals, but an assault on the very spirit of care and compassion that defines medical practice.

As AIIMS Jammu expands its services, we remain committed to ensuring not only quality care for patients but also dignity and protection for our healthcare teams."

During the discussion, the moderator, Dr. Kshitija Singh, set the stage by presenting the magnitude of the problem, its root causes, and the psychological and professional consequences on doctors and nurses.

Justice B. L. Bhat

(Retd.) called for the enactment of a comprehensive central law, better patient-doctor communication, and the installation of CCTV cameras in hospitals as deterrents.

Prof. (Dr.) Ashutosh Gupta, Principal GMC Jammu, emphasized that "laws will continue to be framed, but the real change must begin at the ground level-through stronger systems, better counselling of patients' families, and preventive mechanisms in hospitals."

Rajinder Kumar Gupta, expressed that though the system is willing to protect doctors and bring perpetrators to task but many

cases collapse midway as doctors often withdraw complaints: "FIRs are registered, but doctors do not pursue cases to the end.

Unless accountability continues till trial, deterrence will remain weak."

Prof. (Dr.) Dinesh Rao stressed the role of medical ethics in preventing conflict and underscored the responsibility of doctors in upholding transparency and trust in care delivery.

He emphasized the vital role of institutions in providing support and handling the matters in order to provide safe environment to its doctors

Dr. Shruti Sharma based on her experience in criti-

cal care emphasized the importance of timely brief of patient status and empathetic communication in handling such sensitive situation. She also stressed upon the psychological toll of such violence, especially on young residents

Dr. Rimple Sharma shared the importance of incorporation of training nursing students and medical graduates in soft skill communication and clinical psychology to handle diverse patients.

Dr. Ayush Srivastava pointed out the heightened risk in emergency and trauma settings, where emotions run high and

healthcare providers are most vulnerable.

Representing the media, Faheem Tak remarked, "Media is of two kinds-ethical media, which reports responsibly, and citizen-driven media, which often goes live without facts or context. Irresponsible reporting can escalate tensions, whereas responsible media can build trust and act as a bridge between doctors and society."

A deeply human perspective came from Dr. Ruchika Agarwal, PG student from GMC Jammu, who recently faced an incident of violence while on duty.

Her testimony brought home the lived reality of young doctors and reinforced the urgent need for institutional safeguards and a plea to society to be understanding and supportive towards doctors who are working tirelessly.

Dr. Kshitija, moderator of the session at the end presented the recommendations of the panel.

The institutions and society need to together bring changes to reestablish the trust and respect which was once the foundation of Indian medical care.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from Faculty, Residents, Nursing Officers, Administrative Staff, Students, Media and Civil Society.

The dialogue generated actionable recommendations-ranging from legal reforms to community sensitization and hospital-level measures-aimed at ensuring safer healthcare environments.

AIIMS Jammu reaffirmed its commitment to leading this movement, emphasizing that protecting those who heal is essential to protecting public health itself.

