

UT Ladakh Administration resolute in rebuilding flood-affected areas: LG Kavinder

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, on Monday reiterated the UT Administration's commitment to the speedy restoration and holistic development of flood-affected areas across the region.

He assured that every possible measure is being taken to rehabilitate affected families and rebuild damaged infrastructure with a long-term focus on resilience and sustainability.

The Lt Governor made these remarks while interacting with a delegation led by Chushul Councillor Konchok Stanzin at the LG Secretariat.

He emphasised that the administration is working in mission mode to address grievances, restore normalcy, and prioritise the safety of vulnerable groups, including women, children, and the elderly.

Highlighting coordinated efforts, the Lt Governor stated that all government departments are working closely with local authorities to expedite relief operations, restore essential services, and reconstruct critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, and utilities.

Tara Chand demands special relief package for J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In response to the widespread devastation caused by recent flash floods in Chhamb and Akhnor constituencies, the former Deputy Chief Minister and Working President of J&K Congress Tara Chand today, visited the flood-affected areas of Indri, Chak Sikander, Bakore, Gardh, Saint, Gigrail and Khour.

During his visit, he personally assessed the damages, interacted with the affected communities, and expressed his deep concern for the wellbeing of the residents, many of whom have lost their homes, livestock, and crops due to the calamity.

Tara Chand demanded early announcement of Special relief package for Jammu and Kashmir.

The former Deputy Chief Minister began his tour early in the morning, visiting several villages and towns across the flood-hit regions. The visit provided a firsthand account of the widespread destruction caused by the floodwaters, which have left many families in distress.

The former Deputy Chief

JKHCBAJ visits flood affected areas; urges rehabilitation, loss assessment, compensation for victims

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The office bearers of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, Jammu (JKHCBAJ), visited flood affected areas of Jammu to take stock of the grave situation caused by the recent flash floods. The floods have led to extensive damage to property, livelihoods, and have left countless families in distress, including members of the legal fraternity. During the visit, President K. Nirmal Kotwal noted that many advocates have suffered severe losses to their homes, offices, and personal belongings. This tragedy has not only disrupted their professional commitments but has also inflicted immense financial and emotional strain.

LMD imposes penalty on 2 cement manufacturers

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Under the supervision of Controllor Legal Metrology J&K, the Legal Metrology Department has imposed penalties on two cement manufacturers for failing to legibly declare mandatory information on their product packaging.

Deputy Controllor Consumer Protection Jammu imposed a penalty of Rs 1.25 lakh on the two manufacturers for violation of packaging norms as prescribed under the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules.

The violations included failure to clearly display critical consumer information such as Maximum

Retail Price (MRP), packing date, name of manufacturer, consumer helpline number, and most importantly-the net weight of the cement bags.

These declarations are mandatory to uphold the consumer's Right to be informed and ensure transparency in the sale of packaged commodities.

The manufacturers admitted their guilt and the cases were accordingly compounded for a total amount of Rs 1.25 lakh. They have also been issued a formal warning to exercise greater care and compliance in the future.

Commenting on the action, Controllor Legal Metrology J&K, Rajinder

Singh Tara, said, "The Department will not tolerate any violation of consumer rights.

Every manufacturer and trader is duty-bound to provide clear and accurate information to the consumers. Any attempt to mislead or hide crucial details will invite strict legal action."

The Legal Metrology Department reiterates its commitment to enforcing the law strictly and protecting consumers from unfair trade practices. The Department has made it clear that any future violations will attract harsher penalties and stricter enforcement, including prosecution wherever required.



Lieutenant Governor Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta interacting with delegation led by Chushul Councillor Konchok Stanzin.

apprised the Lt Governor of the extensive damage caused by the flash floods on August 12 in Maan and Merak villages, outlining issues related to connectivity, housing, and livelihoods.

The Councillor from Chushul

similarly, a delegation from Likte village, led by Khamtak Rinpoche,

He highlighted the urgency of providing financial aid, relief materials, and medical support to the communities that have been left in dire conditions.

He further emphasized the importance of swift action to restore vital infrastructure such as roads and bridges and ensure that affected families are given temporary shelter and food. "The scale of the destruction is overwhelming. It is crucial that the government responds immediately to the needs of these flood-hit communities. The affected people are in dire need of relief materials, financial aid, and government support to rebuild their homes and lives," the former Deputy Chief Minister stated.

"The people of Pargwal, Khour, and Jourian have suffered immensely due to this natural disaster. The damage to their homes, livelihoods, and the loss of crops is heartbreaking. It is essential that the government steps in urgently with a comprehensive relief package, which includes restoring infrastructure, providing

humanitarian aid, and offering financial support for rehabilitation efforts. We must work together to restore the lives of these communities."

Beyond immediate relief, Tara Chand also called for a long-term rehabilitation plan, which will involve rebuilding homes, restoring agricultural lands, and providing necessary financial assistance to those who have lost everything. He stressed that the state's recovery strategy should focus not only on relief but also on sustainable solutions to ensure the resilience of these communities in the face of future natural calamities.

Others who accompanied him were General Secretary PCC, Narinder Sharma, Vijay Singh Chib, Nirmal Singh Mehta, Devinder Singh Bittu, Ex. MC president Khour Ashok Sharma, Jagdish Kumar Sharma, Madan Lal Sharma, Ex. Sarpanch Puran Singh, Adv. Prashant Singh Manhas, Mukesh Kumar, K.K Bhagat, Pt Somraj, Romesh Verma, Tarsem bhagat and others.

sought support for maintaining 1.5 lakh saplings planted over three years and requested assistance to develop a community centre for traditional education.

Delegations from the artisan community and the All Ladakh Transport Association also met the Lt Governor. Artisans discussed participation in the upcoming Enchanting Ladakh event and the India International Trade Fair, requesting relocation of stalls at Dilli Haat. The transport association raised demands related to road black-topping, parking space, and basic amenities at the Bomb Garh transport site.

Expressing satisfaction over the constructive dialogue, Gupta assured all delegations that their concerns would be prioritised. He reaffirmed the administration's commitment to inclusive development, livelihood promotion, cultural preservation, and building a resilient and prosperous Ladakh through continuous community engagement.



BJP delegation meets Amit Shah, seeks National Disaster declaration, special relief package

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A high-level delegation of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir, led by Party President Sat Sharma, and Leader of Opposition Sunil Sharma on Monday met Union Home Minister Amit Shah and submitted a detailed memorandum in the presence of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha.

J&K BJP General Secretary (Organization) Ashok Koul, BJP National Secretary & MLA Dr. Narinder Singh, MP (Lok Sabha) Jugal Kishore Sharma, MP (Rajya Sabha) Ghulam Ali Khatana, General Secretaries Baldev Singh Billawaria, Sanjita Dogra, and Gopal Mahajan, MLAs S.S. Slathia, Sham Lal Sharma, Chander Prakash Ganga, D.K. Manyal, Pawan Gupta, Prof. Gharu Ram Bhagat, Baldev Raj Sharma, Balwant Singh Mankotia, Vikram Randhawa, Yudhvir Sethi, Arvind Gupta, Surinder Bhagat, Mohan Lal Bhagat, Rajiv Bhagat, Kuldeep Dubey, and Sunil Bhardhwaj were part of the BJP delegation.

The delegation apprised the Home Minister of the grave situation caused by incessant rains, cloudbursts, and flash floods in the Jammu region, which have resulted in the loss of precious human lives and

large-scale damage to homes, agriculture, business, and public infrastructure.

The memorandum highlighted that the devastation is beyond the financial capacity of the Union Territory Government and outside the purview of SDRF norms. It, therefore, urged that the calamity be declared a "National Disaster" and that a Comprehensive Relief and Rehabilitation Special Package be sanctioned to enable immediate assistance and long-term rehabilitation. The delegation pointed out that roads, bridges, and essential services like water supply, electricity, and communication have been badly disrupted, while thousands of kanals of agricultural land have been destroyed under sand and boulders. Farmers have lost standing crops and livestock, calling for immediate compensation and provision of free ration for at least six months until new crops are cultivated.

The BJP also demanded adequate support for families whose houses and belongings have been damaged, including repair grants for partially damaged dwellings. Businesses, shops, and small-scale industries have been hit hard and require revival assistance. Educational institutions across urban and rural areas, both government and

private, have sustained significant damage, necessitating compensation to restore normal functioning.

The memorandum further underlined the urgent need for restoration and upgradation of public infrastructure, particularly in the water supply, power, sewerage, and drainage sectors. It stressed desilting of drains and nullahs on a war footing to avert health and sanitation risks.

For long-term measures, the delegation proposed dredging and channelization of major rivers such as the Chenab, Jammu Tawi, and Balol Nallah, along with tributaries in Rajouri, Poonch, Udhampur, Samba, and Kathua, which repeatedly cause floods every few years. A comprehensive plan for Chenab has already been submitted to the Government of India and requires early approval. The delegation emphasized that only a central intervention through a national disaster declaration and special package can adequately address the crisis, provide relief to affected families, and build resilience against recurring calamities.

The Union Home Minister patiently listened to all the details and the demands submitted by the BJP delegation and assured them of every possible help, according to a handout issued by the BJP.

World speaks in one voice against terrorism at SCO; A historic win for India: Gaurav

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP Spokesperson J&K UT Gaurav Gupta said that the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's (SCO) Tianjin Declaration marks a historic moment for India and for the global fight against terrorism. For the first time, the world has spoken in one united voice not only against terrorists, but also against those who organise, fund, and sponsor terrorism.

He said the Pahalgam terror attack of April 22, 2025, in which 26 innocent lives were lost, was a barbaric act that shook the conscience of humanity. "In the Tianjin Declaration, SCO member states strongly condemned the massacre, expressed condolences to the families of the victims, and categorically stated that perpetrators, organisers and sponsors of such attacks must be brought to justice. This is a resounding endorsement of India's long-standing stand under the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji," Gupta stated.

He said the Tianjin Declaration, adopted unanimously by all SCO member states-including Russia, China, and even Pakistan-categori-



BJP Spokesperson J&K UT Gaurav Gupta talking to reporters.

cally condemned the barbaric attack in which 26 innocent lives were lost. Importantly, the declaration went beyond perfunctory statements and asserted that perpetrators, organisers, and sponsors of terrorism must be brought to justice. "This is nothing less than a global endorsement of India's long-standing stance that state-backed terrorism cannot go unpunished," Gupta said.

Gupta underlined that the declaration assumes even greater significance because it was adopted in the

presence of Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. Despite Pakistan's consistent policy of nurturing and exporting terror; the SCO as a collective body has now sent out a strong and united message that the use of extremist groups for political or mercenary purposes is unacceptable.

He recalled how Prime Minister Modi Ji, while addressing the summit plenary, powerfully invoked the Pahalgam massacre as not just an attack on India, but a direct challenge to humanity itself. Modi Ji stressed that India has been at the forefront of the global fight against terrorism for four decades, opposing terror-financing and extremist networks with unwavering determination. Gupta said, "The Prime Minister's clear stand that double standards on terrorism will no longer be accepted has now found resonance in the SCO joint declaration."

The BJP Spokesperson further observed that the international backing for India's position comes at a time when the nation has already undertaken bold actions such as Operation Sindoor and Operation Mahadev targeting militant infra-

structure across the Line of Control, as well as the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, a landmark decision that demonstrates India's zero-tolerance approach.

"India has borne the brunt of terrorism for the last forty years, with countless families shattered and countless mothers losing their sons to this menace. The SCO's unequivocal statement of solidarity is not only recognition of India's pain but also of India's courage and leadership in mobilising the world against terror," Gupta said.

He added that the united stand at Tianjin by global powers such as India, Russia, and China, alongside other SCO members, reflects a new international consensus that terrorism, separatism, and radicalism are grave threats to global peace, security, and development.

Gupta concluded by asserting: "This is a major diplomatic win for India. Prime Minister Modi has ensured that the world speaks in one voice against terrorism, its perpetrators, and its sponsors. The SCO has today echoed India's voice, proving that our fight is not just for our nation, but for humanity at large."

President confers SCOPE Eminence Award in HR Management to POWERGRID

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India, has been conferred with the SCOPE Eminence Award for Human Resource Management by President of India Droupadi Murmu in a function held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

The award was received by Ravindra Kumar Tyagi, Chairman and Managing Director, POWERGRID along with Dr. Yatindra Dwivedi, Director (Personnel), POWERGRID.



President of India Droupadi Murmu presenting award to Ravindra Kumar Tyagi, Chairman and Managing Director, POWERGRID.

On the occasion, Pankaj Chaudhary, Union Minister of State for Finance and K. Moses Chalai, Secretary, DPE, Ministry of Finance

were present along with senior officials of CPSUs, SCOPE and POWERGRID.

This recognition high-

lights POWERGRID's progressive HR practices that emphasize employee-focused policies, continuous upskilling and leader-

ship development, while nurturing a culture of innovation, inclusivity, and holistic well-being across the organisation.

As of 31st July 2025, POWERGRID has commissioned and is operating 286 Sub-stations and more than 1,80,849 ckm transmission lines and 5,74,331 MVA of transformation capacity. With the adoption of the latest technological tools and techniques, enhanced use of automation and digital solutions, POWERGRID has been able to maintain an average transmission system availability of more than 99.85%.