

Webinar on 'Built Environment Performance in Recent Disasters: Lessons Learnt' held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The Indian Buildings Congress (IBC) J&K Chapter commemorated the 34th Foundation Day of IBC with a webinar on "Performance of Built Environment in Recent Disasters: Lessons Learnt."

The session brought together engineers, architects, planners, builders, academicians and policymakers to reflect on recent disaster events and translate lessons into resilient practice. Welcoming participants, Er Aamir Ali, Chairman, IBC J&K Chapter, said that the recent impacts of floods, earthquakes, cyclones, and other hazards underscore that "while development is essential, resilience in the built environment is non-negotiable."

He noted that the performance of buildings, bridges, and lifeline infrastructure during disasters directly determines community safety and the continuity of essential services, urging professionals to reflect on past experiences, identify shortcomings, and translate

lessons into action. Inaugurating the webinar, Er Chinmay Debnath, President, Indian Buildings Congress, highlighted IBC's growth into a respected professional body contributing to national policies, building codes, research, and innovation in the construction sector.

He emphasized IBC's pivotal role in promoting safe, sustainable, and resilient infrastructure across the country, and called for sustained focus on research, dialogue, and action in sustainable construction and disaster-resilient infrastructure. Given the region's fragile mountains, seismic vulnerabilities, and climate-related risks, he underscored the urgency of embedding resilience as a core value in planning, design, construction, and maintenance.

The keynote address was delivered by Professor Dr. Amir Ali Khan, Head, Resilient Infrastructure Division, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India,

and Member, Advisory Committee of J&K SDMA. He raised concerns over the rising frequency and severity of disasters in hill regions, citing the cloudburst in Uttarakhand as an example of recurrent hazards. He stated that persistent encroachment of floodplains reflects gaps in risk-sensitive planning. Elaborating on core Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) concepts-hazard and vulnerability-he discussed their practical applications. While expressing concern about the growing impacts of water- and climate-related hazards, he reminded that earthquakes remain highly deadly and demand sustained attention. He stressed the need to integrate traditional knowledge and best practices into disaster preparedness and development planning. Dr. Khan referred to recent extreme events in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, and Himachal Pradesh, including the Tawi Bridge collapse, linking failures to poor construction practices and weak land-use planning.

Citing the 2014 Kashmir floods, he noted that older city areas were relatively less impacted, whereas newly developed zones suffered more due to neglect of traditional risk-mitigating practices.

He underlined the relationship between disasters and development, urging stakeholders to choose a pathway that safeguards communities: sustainable and resilient development aligned with standards and codes. He called for improved construction practices in line with BIS and NBC standards, risk-sensitive urban planning, and the strategic integration of climate resilience and DRR measures.

The webinar was attended by hundreds of participants from across India, including Er S.R.S. Madni, Former Secretary to Government, PHE Department; Er Yogesh Mohan Mehra, Chief Engineer; PWD Haryana; Dr. Narayan Rao, IIT Indore; Rahul Jugran SDMA Uttarakhand, Dev Dutt Sharma (IAS Retired) Himachal Pradesh, Ar Masroor Ahmed Shah, Project

Chairman DLSA reviews preparations for 3rd National Lok Adalat 2025



Chairman DLSA, Y.P. Bourney chairing a meeting on Monday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A review meeting was held on Monday with regard to the 3rd National Lok Adalat-2025 which is going to be held on September 13, 2025.

The meeting was presided over by Y.P. Bourney, Chairman District Legal Services Authority Jammu. The meeting aimed to ensure that a maximum number of cases are settled in the forthcoming 3rd National Lok Adalat.

The Divisional Managers of various Insurance companies attended the meeting through virtual mode, while Ld. Advocates attended the meeting in person.

The Chairman DLSA Jammu, while addressing the participants, said that National Lok Adalat is a significant event that pro-

vides a platform for the resolution of pending cases through mediation and settlement. The DLSA's efforts to review preparations for the NLA demonstrate its commitment to promoting access to justice and reducing the burden on the courts.

The Chairman District Legal Services Authority (Principal District & Sessions Judge) Jammu stressed on taking proactive steps to ensure the success of the 3rd National Lok Adalat and promoting access to Justice for all.

JK Lecturer Forum demands regularisation and Transfer Policy reforms



Jammu & Kashmir Lecturer Forum members after the meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Lecturer Forum for Government Teachers held a press conference today under the leadership of Vijay Kumar (President), General Secretary Rakesh Kumar Verna, Advisory Kuljeet Singh, and Chief Advisor Subhash Chander to highlight several pressing issues affecting the teaching community.

The forum raised concerns regarding the long-pending regularisation of Incharge Lecturers in subjects such as Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, as well as Headmasters, ZEOs, and Principals.

During the conference, forum leaders emphasized that many Incharge

Lecturers who acquired their degrees during service have been awaiting regularisation for over two decades, despite obtaining necessary permissions as per government directives. The forum pointed out that the government had issued a one-time exemption under Order No. 188-IK (Edu) dated March 15, 2024 and subsequent submissions by DSEJ in May and July 2024 for processing these regularisations. However, no response has been received from the General Administration Department (GAD), leaving several employees retired or deceased without formal regularisation.

The forum appealed to the Education Minister for urgent intervention to ensure

timely regularisation of all Incharge Lecturers, ZEOs, and Principals. They also appreciated the recent transfer list released by Chief Education Officers of Jammu Province (except Jammu and Udhampur districts), verified by DSEJ and approved by the Education Minister, noting it has satisfied most teachers.

Further, the forum requested that teachers and lecturers nearing retirement be transferred to their native districts, while others who have been serving outside their districts since 2020 should be considered for transfers in accordance with a suitable transfer policy. The goal is to ensure equitable opportunities for all employees in serving both

their home districts and other postings.

The forum also expressed gratitude to DSEJ Dr. Naseem Javaid Chowdhary, Joint Director, Personal Officer Manisha Sharma, and other officials including Liykat, Ravesh, Lalit, Abhishek and Gazetted Section of DSEJ for submitting teacher data to the Administrative Department.

Members present at the press conference included Ajay Choudhary, Mohan Lal Sharma, Fayaz Ahmed, Gopal Singh, Rattan Lal, Shiv Dev Singh, Raiz Ahmed, Wakil Chand, Yash Pal, Sohan Lal, Saleem Khan, Shabir, Ali Khan, Sham Sunder Singh, Harsh Choudhary, Bodh Raj, Kuldeep Raj, Yash Pal Sudan, Santosh Kumar, Mammohan Singh, Rakesh Sharma, Narinder Singh, Jaswant Singh, Iqbal, Tilak Raj, Satish Bhat, and Babal.

The forum reiterated its commitment to continue advocating for the rights of teachers and ensuring equitable and timely administrative action in Jammu and Kashmir.

BJP Minority Morcha listens to PM's 'Mann Ki Baat'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The monthly broadcast of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' was listened to collectively today at the residence of Surjit Singh, Parbhari of District Minority Morcha, in Sector 44, Nanak Nagar.

The program witnessed enthusiastic participation of local residents and BJP leaders.

The event was graced by MLA Bahu, Ch Vikram Randhawa and Mandal President Gandhi Nagar, Rahul, along with the Mandal team. Both leaders were warmly honoured by the residents and Surjit Singh. Kamalpreet Singh, Seh-Parbhari Minority Morcha, was also honoured on the occasion by MLA Bahu, Ch Vikram Randhawa and Mandal President Rahul.



BJP Minority Morcha members with MLA Bahu.

The program turned into an interactive community gathering, where BJP leaders and citizens shared their views on the Prime Minister's vision and policies.

Senior party functionaries including Charanjit Singh, Gurpreet Singh, Jagjeet Singh Nanavat, Vinay Gupta, Rajesh Satnaami, Aman, Pawan Goswami, Sahil Mahajan, and members of Mandal of Ward 44 were present.

The presence of a large number of citizens reflected the growing connect of the public with the 'Mann Ki Baat' initiative, which has become a channel of dialogue between the Prime Minister and the people of India.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Ch Vikram Randhawa said, "Mann Ki Baat is not just a radio program, it is a medium that directly connects

the Prime Minister with every household of the country. It highlights the achievements of common citizens, inspires youth, and spreads awareness on issues of national importance. The program gives voice to the people and motivates all of us to contribute towards nation-building."

He further added that the people of Jammu, particularly the residents of Gandhi Nagar constituency, have always stood by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and will continue to actively participate in every initiative aimed at strengthening the nation.

The event concluded with expressions of gratitude from local residents, who pledged their support for party programs and reiterated their commitment to spreading the messages conveyed in 'Mann Ki Baat.'

DB seeks action plan on Wular, Surinsar-Mansar, and Ladakh Lakes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has called for urgent steps to finalize and implement conservation strategies for major lakes and wetlands across J&K and Ladakh, including Wular, Surinsar-Mansar, Haigam, Shalbugh, Tso Kar and Tso-Morari, while expressing concern over prolonged delays.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Arun Palli and Justice Rajesh Oswal, while hearing PIL on wetland protection, took note of status reports and affidavits submitted by the Union Territory administrations and the Ministry of

Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The court was informed that the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for Wular Lake has been approved by the Ministry. However, IMPs for Surinsar and Mansar Lakes are still awaited from the J&K administration. For Haigam and Shalbugh Wetland Conservation Reserves, the plans are under technical appraisal by IIT Roorkee, and the Union Government assured that responses would be expedited within a week. With respect to Tso Kar and Tso-Morari Lakes in Ladakh, the IMPs are yet to be received. The Deputy Solicitor General of India assured the court that necessary approvals and clearances would be processed "within a week" to avoid further delay.

Anicus Curiae Nadeem Qadri raised serious concerns that despite Rs 200 crore being allocated, no effective measures were taken to prevent garbage dumping by 33 surrounding villages into Wular Lake. The Bench directed that a specific affidavit addressing this lapse be filed before the next hearing.

The PIL has been listed for October 6, 2025, along with connected PIL No. 345/2006. The court has directed that specific affidavits showing ground-level progress be placed on record by then.

BJP holds meeting of former Councillors, contested candidates of JMC, stresses on relief at ground level

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, held a meeting at the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, which was chaired by Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), J&K BJP.

J&K BJP General Secretary Baldev Singh Billawaria, former Mayors Adv. Chander Mohan Gupta and Rajinder Sharma, and District President Naresh Singh Jasrotia also addressed the meeting. The meeting was addressed by party's former Councillors and contested candidates of Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC).

During the deliberations, the participants shared feedback on the widespread damage



Gen Secy (Org), J&K BJP, Ashok Koul chairing a meeting.

caused by incessant rains and subsequent flash floods in their respective wards. They highlighted that many families have been left in distress due to the loss of their residential places, households, and livelihood, and stressed the need for continued relief and rehabilitation measures including the clearance of collected debris and other practical measures to reach the affected people without delay.

The former Councillors and contested candidates expressed concern over the disruption of

drinking water supply in several localities among other issues, causing hardships to the residents. They emphasized that timely intervention is essential to restore proper water and electricity supply and demanded that the administration be pursued to resolve the matter on a priority basis. The issue of water tanker availability was also discussed widely in the meeting. The party leaders assured that BJP will stand shoulder to shoulder with the people in these difficult times

and intensify efforts to ensure the provision of essential services.

Ashok Koul, while addressing the meeting, underlined that BJP has always remained committed to serving the people in every situation of crisis. He said that the organizational machinery at every level must remain active and reach out to the flood-affected families to provide immediate assistance and also act as a bridge between the public and administration.

Koul also stressed on identifying local issues such as damaged roads, clogged drainage system, and sanitation concerns, which need urgent attention. They called upon party cadres to maintain close contact with the people, note down their grievances, and forward them for redressal.

NOTICE

I, Sgt.Mohd Rafi khan S/O Sh. Badar Zaman R/O Ward No. 3 Village Samote, Teh: Surankote Distt: Poonch J&K state that my name has been wrongly written as Mohd Rafi instead of Mohd Rafi Khan in my service record Armed Police JKAP 8th Bn. Bearing PID No.077640. Now I am applying for correction of the same. Objection if any may be conveyed to concerned authority within seven days.

CGPWA Jammu celebrates birthdays of August-born veterans'



Former DGP Kuldeep Khoda felicitating veterans with roses.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association

(CGPWA), Jammu, on Monday celebrated the birthdays of its members born in

August.

Four veterans- former IGP's M.A Anjum, S.S. Bijral, former Additional PCCF Ashwani Gupta, and former DGRE of DRDO Ashok Uppal-cut the cake on behalf of all.

Former DGP Kuldeep Khoda felicitated them with roses. CGPWA has initiated the practice of celebrating members' birthdays monthly to honour their contributions and foster camaraderie.

Jammu to Srinagar		
IndiGo	10:05 AM - 10:45 AM	
SpiceJet	11:10 AM - 12:00 PM	
Air India Express	12:50 PM - 1:40 PM	
Air India Express	1:35 PM - 2:45 PM	
IndiGo	1:55 PM - 2:35 PM	
IndiGo	6:40 PM - 7:20 PM	
Srinagar to Jammu		
IndiGo	11:45 AM - 12:35 PM	
Air India Express	12:10 PM - 1:05 PM	
SpiceJet	12:35 PM - 1:30 PM	
Air India Express	2:20 PM - 3:35 PM	
IndiGo	3:15 PM - 4:05 PM	
IndiGo	5:20 PM - 6:10 PM	

11078 Jhelum Express		
Departure	: 23:35 from Jammu Tawi	
Arrival	: 11:15 at New Delhi	
12426 Jammu Tawi - New Delhi Rajdhani Express		
Departure	: 21:25 from Jammu Tawi	
Arrival	: 05:55 at New Delhi	
12446 Uttar Sampark Kranti Express		
Departure	: 21:50 from Jammu Tawi	
Arrival	: 06:55 at New Delhi	
Train 26401 - Katra to Srinagar (Morning Service)		
Departure	: 8:10 AM from Katra	
Arrival	: 11:10 AM at Srinagar	
Intermediate Stop	: Banihal at 9:58 AM	
Fare:		
Chair Car (CC): 715		
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,320		
Booking: Available on IRCTC		
Train 26403 - Katra to Srinagar (Afternoon Service)		
Departure	: 2:00 PM from Katra	
Arrival	: 05:00 PM at Srinagar	
Fare:		
Chair Car (CC): 660		
Executive Chair Car (EC): 1,270		
Booking: Available on IRCTC		

PARAM SUNDARI (HINDI)		
WAVE ONE MOVIES JAMMU	9:30 AM / 12:05 PM / 02:45 PM /	
4:30 PM / 5:30 PM / 8:15 PM / 10:00 PM / 11:00 PM		
PVR KC JAMMU	10:15 AM / 1:10 PM / 04:05 PM / 07:00 PM /	
09:55 PM / 10:55 PM		
WAR 2 (HINDI)		
PVR KC JAMMU	1:35 PM	
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU	1:15 PM	
PHAPHEY KUTNIYAN (PUNJABI)		
WAVE ONE MOVIE JAMMU	7:30 PM	
MAA JAYE (PUNJABI)		
WAVE ONE MOVIES JAMMU	9:45AM / 12:15 PM / 3:00 PM /	
5:20 PM / 10:40 PM		

HELPLINE		
TELEPHONES		
Directory Enquiry		197
Fault Repair		198
Local Assistance		199
Trunk Booking		180
Trunk Assistance		181
International Trunk Booking	2447952, 2577951	2573638
Billing Complaints	2543896, 2548415	
Billing Complaints Computerize		1955
Change No. Announcement		1951
Gandhi Nagar Exchange	2451953, 2430953	
HOSPITALS		
Government Medical College	2584290, 2484291	
Psychiatry and Disease Hospital		2577444
Ambulance Rajouri	257147, 257084, 257357	
Blood Bank/Eye Bank - SMGS Hospital	2547639, 2547637	
Emergency		2549669
Blood Bank	2547637, 2547638	
Chest Disease Hospital	2577064, 2548012	
Dental Hospital		2544670
Govt Hospital Gandhi Nagar		2430041
Emergency		2431740
Child Hospital		2577023
Acharya Shri Chander College of Medical Sciences and Hospital		262270
AMBULANCES		
Indian Red Cross Society		2549413
Jammu University	2453165, 2543525, 2435248	
FIRE STATIONS		
Gandhi Nagar	101, 2435283, 2457705	
City		2544263
Canal		2554064
Roop Nagar		2597522
Gangyal		2480026
Bar Brahmana		220020
Akhnoor		252481
Kathua		234313
Samba		234280
Katra		232451
Udhampur		270897
Police Control Room	100, 2542001, 2545481-82	
Police Exchange	2547621-22, 2547624	
Civil Defence Control Room	2549100, 2548645, 2544920	
Civil Defence	2548645, 2549100, 2544920	
Hot Line		383
TOURISM		
Tourist Officer, Airport		2431917
Tourist Officer, Railway Station		2430078
Tourist Reception Centre		2579554
BUS SERVICES		
JKSRTC General Manager		2435262
JKSRTC Bus Stand		2577475
JKSRTC Jammu Srinagar, Service		2576562
Punjab Roadways		2542782
WATER SUPPLY		
Company Bagh		2542582
Parade		2544979
Bakshi Nagar		2543557
Panjthirthi		2547501
Narwal		2430031
ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPLAINTS		
Canal	2554147, 2554199	
Parade	2542289, 2543398	
Nanak Nagar		2430776
Gandhi Nagar		2430180
Shastri Nagar		2430781
Janipur	2543828, 2579258	
Satwari		2452816
FIRE SERVICE : (Control Room)		
		101
CIVIC SERVICES		
Municipality	2547846, 2542192	
Health Officer		2547440
Garbage / Carcass Removal		2547440