

J&K police living beacon of sacrifice and bravery: DGP

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JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat on Sunday hailed his force as a "living beacon of sacrifice and bravery" and urged the police personnel to continue upholding the motto of service and sacrifice.

Zonal Police Headquarters Jammu on Sunday organised a grand Pipping-cum-Felicitation Ceremony at the Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu, to honour the gallant personnel who displayed exemplary courage in counter-terrorism operations. The event was presided over by the Director General of Police, J&K, Nalin Prabhat, in the presence of senior officers of the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The ceremony was held to recognise three categories of outstanding contributions: Police personnel awarded Out-of-Turn Promotions for their exemplary role in operations; Special Police Officers (SPOs) who have now been inducted as Constables in the Jammu and Kashmir Police; and personnel who were rewarded for their exceptional operational performance. The felicitation was also marked by a solemn tribute to the martyrs who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

Among the distinguished dignitaries present were Anand Jain, IPS, ADGP Armed J&K; Bhim Sen Tuti, IPS, IGP Jammu



DGP J&K Nalin Prabhat speaking at Pipping-cum-Felicitation Ceremony at the Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu.

Zone; Sujit Kumar, IPS, IGP Security & Crime; Tejinder Singh, IPS, DIG RP Range; Shridhar Patil, IPS, DIG DKR Range; Dr. Vinod Kumar, IPS, DIG Armed; Shiv Kumar Sharma, IPS, DIG JKS Range; Mubbashir Latif, IPS, DIG Personnel, PHQ J&K; and Dr. Haseeb Mughal, IPS, DIG Traffic. Senior district police officers were also in attendance, including SSP Kathua Shobhit Saxena, IPS; SSP Udhampur Amod Nagpure, IPS; SSP Rajouri Gourav Laskotra, IPS; SSP Jammu Joginder Singh, JKPS; SSP Samba Virender Singh, JKPS; Shamsheer Hussain, JKPS, SO to IGP Jammu; Rajesh Sharma, JKPS, SSP Security Jammu, Farooq Qaiser, SSP Traffic Jammu, others along with Zonal SPs and DSsP Operations of JKS, UR and RP Ranges. Senior gazetted officers of the Zone also attended, lending further dignity to the ceremony.

Bhim Sen Tuti outlined the structure of the event, highlighted the proud legacy of the Jammu and Kashmir Police in fighting terrorism, and expressed gratitude to the DGP for his dynamic leadership and for ensuring due recognition to the brave personnel through timely processing of their cases.

The highlight of the ceremony was the pipping of officers who were promoted out of turn for their extraordinary courage in operations.

Personnel who fought valiantly in Kathua, Jammu, Rajouri, Udhampur and other districts were honoured. Their field stories, drawn from various successful encounters across the Zone, served as a testament to the indomitable spirit of the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The families of martyrs were remembered with reverence. The supreme sacrifice of HC Bashir Ahmed,

HC Jaghbir Singh, SgCT Jaswant Singh, SgCT Tariq Hussain and SgCT Balvinder Singh, among others, was specially mentioned, with the gathering paying silent homage. Injured personnel were also lauded for their bravery under fire. Their courage in the face of grave danger will forever inspire the Police family.

A large number of SPOs, who have long stood shoulder to shoulder with regular police personnel in some of the toughest operational environments, were inducted as Constables. Their inclusion into the permanent folds of the Jammu and Kashmir Police marked the recognition of their sacrifices and services, and was a proud moment for their families.

The ceremony also acknowledged hundreds of police personnel who were granted cash rewards for their operational excellence. Their collective contribution in thwarting infiltration attempts, neutralising terrorists, recovering arms and ammunition, and ensuring the safety of civilians reflects the true spirit of duty.

In his keynote address, DGP J&K, Nalin Prabhat congratulated all the awardees and their families. He hailed the Jammu and Kashmir Police as "a living beacon of sacrifice and bravery" and underlined their critical role in rooting out terrorism. He emphasised that the stories of courage witnessed in the recent operations are not just achievements but milestones in the proud journey of the Police force. He urged personnel to continue upholding the motto of service and sacrifice.

The vote of thanks was delivered by DIG JKS Range, Shiv Kumar Sharma who expressed heartfelt gratitude to the DGP and all senior officers for gracing the occasion.

He highlighted that the felicitation of gallant personnel is a powerful reminder that the organisation stands firmly behind every jawan who puts his life on the line.

He also lauded the efforts of the organisers and made a special mention of SP Operations Jammu, Kameshwar Puri, who managed the event logistically. The ceremony concluded with the National Anthem, a group photograph, and an interactive tea session, marking a day of pride, inspiration and solidarity for the entire Jammu and Kashmir Police family.

Manzar Khayam, Chief Prosecuting Officer, Court of 1st Additional District & Sessions Judge, Jammu, along with Lady PSI Mandep Kour of District Jammu and PSI Rakshit Sharma, ably conducted the proceedings as the Masters of Ceremony for the event.

ICSSR-Sponsored Consultative Workshop explores Constitutional Reforms and Marginalized Groups in Reorganized J&K



Dignitaries at one-day consultative workshop at University of Jammu.

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JAMMU: In its continued efforts to understand the prismatic perspective on the discourse of marginalization in J&K, a one-day consultative workshop on "Constitutional Reforms and Marginalized Groups: A Socio-Legal Analysis in Reorganized Jammu and Kashmir" was organized under the aegis of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)-sponsored Research Project in collaboration with the Department of Law, University of Jammu (JU).

The opening session, chaired by Prof. Arvind Jasrotia, outlined the objectives of the study, including examining socio-economic impacts, human rights concerns, and proposing inclusive policy measures, followed by special remarks on the theme by Prof. Manju Jamwal, Head, Department of Law.

Speaking on behalf of PoJK displaced families, Dr. Deepak Kapoor, President, PoJK Visthapit Samiti, and Romi Sharma, Chairperson, Parivartan NGO, stressed the urgency of rehabilitation through land rights, housing, education, and political representation. Representatives of West Pakistan Refugees, Labha Ram Gandhi and Jagdish Singh Manhas, acknowledged recognition post-2019 but urged deeper integration via education, employment, livelihood opportunities, and socio-economic empowerment. On Kashmiri migrants, B.L. Saraf, Retired District & Sessions Judge, emphasized judicial sensitivity and special legislation, while Dr. Mahesh Kaul highlighted cultural preservation and resettlement policies to address identity crises.

From a gender lens, Prof. Vishav Raksha, Head, Department of Sociology, and Dr. Hema Gandotra, Associate Professor, underlined multiple vulnerabilities faced by displaced women, especially from the Valmiki community, calling for gender-sensitive reforms, welfare schemes, and protective legal frameworks.

The tribal session focused on Gujjar-Bakarwal, Pahari Ethnic Group, and Paddari Tribe. Dr. Javaid Rahi noted benefits post-reorganization through the Forest Rights Act, SC & ST Atrocities Act, and political reservation, while cautioning about implementation gaps.

Vikrant Sharma, State Coordinator, Pahari Tribe ST Forum, termed recognition of the Pahari community as a tribal group a historic milestone post-reorganization but flagged issues like discontinued scholarships, inadequate hostels, and the need for proportional political reservation with respect to the population.

In the expert panel, K.B. Jandial, retired IAS officer, observed deeper emotional integration, reduced militancy, and rising investments creating over 255,000 jobs, while noting that certain marginalized groups still face gaps in political representation.

Prof. Renu Nanda, former Head and Dean of Education, emphasized the social responsibility of institutions in building inclusive reforms.

Dr. Ganesh Malhotra shared insights on strategic and political dynamics in South Asia, linking them to local governance in Jammu and Kashmir. Legal reforms were discussed by Advocate Kiran Thakur, who highlighted progressive changes under the Domestic Violence Act following the reorganization. She noted that live-in relationships and broader definitions of shared households are now legally recognized, with expanded support mechanisms through NGOs and one-stop centers.

Dr. Swati Sharma, social activist, echoed these points and stressed the importance of women's rights and empowerment in the evolving legal landscape.

Concluding the proceedings, Prof. Jasrotia delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the contributions of participants, stakeholders, and research team, and reiterating the significance of collective engagement in addressing the issues under study.

GGF celebrates International Day of Peace 2025



President GGF J&K, Dr. S. P. Varma felicitating dignitaries.

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JAMMU: The Gandhi Global Family (GGF), under the leadership of Dr. S. P. Varma, President GGF J&K, commemorated the International Day of Peace 2025 with a heartfelt and impactful event held in Jammu. The program highlighted the vital role of peace building and community service, especially in light of recent challenges faced in the region.

As part of the celebration, GGF felicitated individuals and institutions for their outstanding contributions to peace, humanitarian service,

and social upliftment.

Among the recipients were Dr. Needhi Gupta Abrol for her tireless work towards a hunger-free J&K, Pritam Singh from the Peppal Saves People Foundation, Vinay Sharma and Inderpal from the PNB Officers Association Jammu, Rev. Father Yessu Deep Sandhu, Head of Little Flower School Udhampur, and Dr. Nitin Sharma from the Law School, University of Jammu.

In his address, Dr. Varma applauded the silent yet significant efforts of the

awardees, stating that such acts of service are the pillars of a peaceful and compassionate society. He stressed the importance of recognizing grassroots efforts in building social harmony, especially during testing times.

The event also underscored GGF's commitment to Gandhian ideals of non-violence, unity, and selfless service. The contributions of the honorees in fields like hunger relief, environmental protection, and education were especially noted. Several dignitaries and members of the Gandhi Global Family attended the event, including Lt. Gen. Rakesh Sharma (Retd.), Dr. Robert Robin Gill, Jaswinder Singh Kuku, and many others.

The celebration served as a powerful reminder of the enduring relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's teachings and the role of civil society in promoting peace, resilience, and social cohesion in today's world.

Sharadiya Navratri to begin today: Pt Amit Shukla

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JAMMU: The auspicious festival of Sharadiya Navratri will commence on Monday, September 22 this year. Considered one of the most significant Hindu festivals, Navratri is dedicated to the worship of Goddess Durga and her nine divine forms. During these nine sacred days, devotees across the country engage in fasting, prayer, and spiritual practices such as Durga Saptashati recitation, seeking divine blessings for peace, protection, and prosperity.

This year, an important astrological event adds to the auspiciousness of the festival. The Chaturthi Tithi (fourth lunar day) will extend over two days due to Tithi overlap, which is traditionally considered to be

highly beneficial and spiritually fruitful.

According to religious scholars, the increase in this tithi during Navratri is a positive sign and is believed to multiply the blessings received through rituals and prayers.

One of the most important rituals to mark the beginning of Navratri is Kalash Sthapana (Ghatasthapana), which symbolizes the invocation of the divine feminine energy into the household. Although the ritual can be performed throughout the day, astrologers have identified the most auspicious times for Kalash Sthapana: the morning Muhurat from 6:11 AM to 7:52 AM, and the Abhijit Muhurat from 11:51 AM to 12:39 PM. Performing this ritual during these times is believed to



bring enhanced spiritual energy and grace.

Throughout Navratri, devotees worship nine different forms of Goddess Durga, each representing a unique aspect of divine power. The first day honors Maa Shailputri, the daughter of the Himalayas, symbolizing stability and strength. On the second day, Maa Brahmacharini, the ascetic form of the Goddess,

is worshipped for her discipline and penance. The third day is dedicated to Maa Chandraghanta, who rides a lion and represents bravery and peace.

As the festival progresses, devotees pay homage to Maa Kushmanda, the creator of the universe, who blesses her worshippers with energy and good health. The fifth day is devoted to Maa Skandamata, the mother of Lord Kartikeya, symbolizing maternal love and compassion. Maa Katyayani is worshipped on the sixth day, especially by young women seeking marital blessings. The seventh day honors Maa Kalaratri, the fierce destroyer of evil forces, who removes fear and negativity.

On the eighth day, devotees pray to Maa

Mahagauri, a symbol of purity and serenity, who blesses her followers with peace and prosperity. The ninth and final day is dedicated to Maa Siddhidatri, the giver of all spiritual and supernatural powers (sidhis), who helps devotees progress on the path of liberation and enlightenment.

Sharadiya Navratri is not just a religious festival but a period of deep spiritual reflection and renewal. It is believed that sincere worship during these nine days removes obstacles, brings inner strength, and fills life with joy, harmony, and divine blessings.

As temples prepare for rituals and families decorate their homes, the atmosphere is filled with devotion, hope, and the vibrant spirit of celebration.

Om Pramath Jai Pramath Trust holds 32nd Langar of the year; thousands participate



Om Pramath Jai Pramath Trust members serving Langar.

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JAMMU: The Om Pramath Jai Pramath Trust organized its 32nd Langar of the year today, drawing thousands of devotees who gathered to seek the blessings of Lord Hanuman Ji and partake in the community feast.

The Langar, held as part of Navratri celebrations, offered falahar (fruit-based food) for those observing fasts.

Several prominent figures, including Ambica Manhas, Rajkumar Chadha, Darshan

Choudhary, Sindhu Jyoti, and Narinder Karewal, graced the event.

Trust Chairman Sandeep Singh shared that the langars will continue daily until October 5, aiming to complete 100 Langars this year. "This is our way of serving the community and encouraging devotion," he said.

The event reflected a strong sense of devotion and community service, reinforcing the Trust's commitment to seva (selfless service) and social welfare.

"Seva Pakhwada" signifies spirit of service and social commitment: Balbir

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JAMMU: The nationwide celebration of "Seva Pakhwada", marking the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is being observed with great enthusiasm and public participation, reflecting the values of selfless service, good governance, and welfare of the poor, said Balbir Ram Rattan, senior BJP leader and former Vice Chairman.

Running from September 17 to October 2, the fortnight-long campaign is a grassroots movement inspired by PM Modi's vision of "Seva, Sushasan, and Garib Kalyan." Balbir emphasized that Seva Pakhwada is more than a celebration—it's a call to action for every citizen to serve society and promote inclusive development.

A variety of impactful pro-

grammes are underway, including Swachhata Abhiyan (cleanliness drives) in slums, hospitals, and public spaces; free health check-up camps for underserved communities; and blood donation drives with active youth participation.

Additionally, plantation drives are being organized in urban and rural areas, supporting environmental sustainability, and youth awareness rallies on drug de-addiction are motivating young people to embrace healthy, substance-free lifestyles.

Balbir noted that beneficiaries of government schemes, SHGs, and civil society groups are actively involved, making Seva Pakhwada a vibrant expression of national unity, service, and empowerment.

Chairman District 307 visits Innerwheel Clubs of J&K



Prity Khajuria, Chairman of Innerwheel Clubs District 307, with others at Innerwheel club.

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JAMMU: Prity Khajuria, Chairman of Innerwheel Clubs District 307, visited the Innerwheel clubs of Jammu and Kashmir at Amar Singh Club, Jammu.

Addressing the gathering, she highlighted this year's theme-Friendship and Service to Society, with a

strong focus on environmental awareness, breast-feeding education, and support for the needy.

She emphasized the importance of adopting girls for education and encouraged clubs to undertake joint ventures and ensure media visibility to attract more capable members.

Over 60 members from five clubs participated in the event, which featured a ramp walk and cultural performances. The event underscored the role of Innerwheel in driving impactful community service and fostering connections through shared values and meaningful action.

'Har Ghar Swadeshi, Ghar-Ghar Swadeshi' to make India economically strong: Rekha Mahajan

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JAMMU: BJP J&K Vice President and Co Convenor Atmanirbhar Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan, Rekha Mahajan addressed workshops in Kashmir Displaced District, District Jammu, Jammu South under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Sankalp Campaign, promoting the spirit of "Har Ghar Swadeshi, Ghar-Ghar Swadeshi." The initiative aims to encourage local production, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance across households.

The workshops aimed to familiarize party workers and the public with the vision of a self-reliant India, emphasizing local production, entrepreneurship, and youth empowerment.

Speaking to participants, Mahajan said, "Har Ghar Swadeshi, Ghar-Ghar Swadeshi is not just a slogan but a path to make India economically strong. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat empowers citizens to contribute to national growth through



BJP J&K Vice President, Rekha Mahajan speaking at a workshop.

local products, startups, and skill development."

Rekha said, "India's journey towards becoming a developed

nation lies in the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, championed by our visionary Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His

leadership has ignited a movement where every citizen can contribute to India's growth through self-reliance, skill

development, and entrepreneurship."

She stressed that the campaign encourages economic empowerment, support for startups, and creation of employment opportunities, particularly for youth. Speaking on the broader objective of the workshops, she said, "Our aim is to ensure that the Atmanirbhar Bharat Sankalp reaches every household, instilling the spirit of self-reliance and local empowerment. This campaign is not only about eco-

nomie progress but also about building confidence in every citizen that they can achieve success through their own efforts."

Rekha Mahajan highlighted the significance of collective effort in realizing the Prime Minister's vision.

"From villages to cities, each one of us has a role to play in making India stronger and globally competitive. By promoting Swadeshi products, supporting local businesses, and encouraging skill development, we are contributing to

the dream of a self-reliant India," she said.

She urged all participants to take the campaign forward, stating that the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat will empower citizens and elevate the nation's standing on the global stage. The workshops concluded with a renewed commitment from participants to actively support the campaign and spread awareness about Prime Minister Modi's vision of a strong, self-reliant India by 2047.