

MLA Akhnoor lays foundation stone of development works

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
AKHNOOR: MLA Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat, laid the foundation stone of various development works under the District Capex Annual Action Plan 2025-26 (PRI) in Panchayat Sungal Lower C of Block Akhnoor. These works are estimated at a cost of Rs 16.6 lakh. While addressing the gathering, the MLA urged all stakeholders to strictly adhere to the stipulated timelines for project completion. He directed the contractors to ensure both quality and quantity in line with the detailed estimates, emphasizing that durable and sustainable development remains the



MLA Akhnoor, Mohan Lal Bhagat laying foundation stone of a development work.

top priority. Mohan Lal further called upon the officers and officials of the Rural Development Department to strengthen supervisory and monitoring mechanisms to guarantee transparency, account-

ability, and quality in the execution of developmental works. He also underlined the importance of greater public participation in the process to achieve people-centric and transparent governance.

The MLA announced that approximately ₹10 crore worth of development works will be undertaken during the current financial year across all Panchayats of Akhnoor Assembly Constituency. Prominent persons present on the occasion included BDO Akhnoor Sushil Kumar, Ex-Sarpanch Sungal C Ashwani Sharma, Ex-Sarpanch Sungal B Ram Pal Sharma, Ex-Sarpanch Anju Sharma, BJP Mandal President Sohal-Sungal Shamsher Dass, Ex-Panch Satvir Kour, Ex-Panch Tilak Raj, Mangat Ram, Retd DySP Gurdial Singh, Jagdish Singh, Sham Lal, Gurcharan Singh, Mohinder Singh, Sardari Lal, Ved Parkash and Satpal Verma.

IRP-20th Bn extends support to education



Officers handing over stationery to a student.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SRINAGAR: The IRP-20th Battalion of Jammu and Kashmir Police demonstrated its commitment to educational support and community welfare by distributing books and stationery to orphans and girl children of Government Middle School Yakmanpora Parihaspura.

The program aims for reaffirming its commitment to community welfare and the upliftment of the underprivi-

leged students, to provide essential educational material to Orphans and girl children. Comprehensive study kits containing notebooks, geometry boxes, school bags and other stationery items were distributed among these deserving students of the school.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police views community engagement an integral part of its duty and investing in the education of our youth is a direct investment in future of

the Union Territory. We are particularly focused on supporting our school children and orphans, ensuring they have the necessary tools to pursue their education without financial constraints.

These bright young minds represent the hope of a peaceful and prosperous Jammu and Kashmir. The initiative is aimed at encouraging the particular involvement, reducing the financial burden on vulnerable families and fostering stronger Police public relations, especially with the younger generation. The beneficiaries, along with their guardians and teachers expressed deep gratitude for the timely support by the Jammu and Kashmir Police.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police remain dedicated to continue such welfare activities under its civic action programme to bridge the gap and contribute positively to social development.

Screening, counselling services for women held



Doctors examining patients during the camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
UDHAMPUR: The sixth day of the Swasth Nari Shakshat Parivar Abhiyaan (SNSPA) campaign, health teams across District Udhampur continued to provide comprehensive screening and counselling services for women. Screenings were conducted for hypertension, diabetes, anaemia, tuberculosis, and common cancers such as cervical, breast, and oral cancers. Free diagnostic tests including haemoglobin, blood sugar, sputum examination, chest X-ray, and ultrasound were made available at health facilities. Health education sessions were organised to promote

balanced nutrition, healthy lifestyle practices, and the importance of early detection of diseases. Women identified with health concerns were referred for further management and follow-up.

CMO Udhampur, Dr. Anil Manhas, visited GMC Udhampur to oversee the campaign activities. He interacted with staff and beneficiaries, and encouraged the medical teams to maintain momentum and ensure maximum coverage under SNSPA.

The campaign continues to progress successfully, receiving an encouraging response from the community.

Awareness program held by Vyapar Mandal Poonch regarding New GST Rates

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
POONCH: An awareness program was organized today by the Vyapar Mandal Poonch under the aegis of its President Rajiv Tandon, regarding new GST rates which are being implemented from 22nd of September.

Vyapar Mandal launched an awareness drive among their traders and shopkeepers.

Following this, Qurat Ul Ain Batool, State Taxes



Members of Mandal speaking during the programme.

Officer Poonch and other officials from the depart-

Surinder Mehta elected as President of Brahman Sabha, Kathua

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATHUA: Meeting held for elect to new president for Brahman Sabha under the president ship of Prior President Dr. Dushyant Ubbott. During election his name proposed mostly as president. So Mehta elected unanimously new president of Brahman Sabha Kathua

This election reflects the confidence and trust the Sabha members have placed in his leadership, dedication, and vision for the com-



munity. Speaking after his election, Surinder Mehta expressed gratitude to all members for their unwavering support and assured

Multi-media exhibition of CBC on BNS-23, Mission LiFE, SHS, CSSs held

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
SURANKOTE: As a part of ongoing Nationwide awareness campaigns on Centrally Sponsored Schemes an Integrated Communication Outreach programme (ICOP) will be organized by Central Bureau of Communication, Pooch, (J&K), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India at Govt. Degree College, (GDC) Surankote, Poonch from Sept 23-25 September 2025 in coordination with District Administration Poonch.

The Exhibition showcases various Centrally Sponsored Schemes through display panels. Selfie corner, Seminar (Expert Lectures on Centrally Sponsored



Organisers along with participating students during the programme.

Schemes), open quiz, cultural programmes and 'New India Samachar' magazine of Govt of India will be the main attraction for the youth. People are requested to visit the exhibition (free entry) which helps them in knowing various schemes and their benefits and avail schemes.

In order to mobilize masses to visit Multimedia Exhibition a pre-publicity event was organized at Govt. Degree College, Surankote. Vijay Mattoo, I/c CBC Poonch in his address urged the Students to spread the message among common masses regarding the event.

In a drawing competition about 30 students from GDC Surankote participated under the supervision of Dr. Mohd. Ashfaq Mughal HOD Department of Geography. Winners and participants of the competitions will be honoured by CBC, Rajouri in the main event.

POJK DPs hold high-level meeting to push for ST-2 Status; unity and resolve take center stage



POJK DPs during the meeting.

unanimously pledged that they would not rest until their primary goal - recognition and implementation of ST-2 status - is achieved.

The atmosphere of the meeting was described as motivat-

ing, resolute, and inspiring, reflecting a strong sense of unity and shared purpose. Discussions concluded on a highly positive note, with all participants agreeing to maintain solidarity and oneness in

the fight for justice and due representation.

Prominent figures who attended the meeting included Brigadier Harcharan Singh,

Col. RK Sharma, Balvinder Singh, Ashok Khajuria, Shashi Kant Khajuria, Bhasker Sharma, Amit Sharma, Rohit Khajuria, Prateek Sharma, Puneet Sharma, Anmol Raina, Piyush Sharma, Dr Prince Raina, Naresh Sharma, Tushar Sharma, Priyakant Sharma, Pankaj Sharma and Pt RC Sharma (Journalist, RTI & Peace Activist), among other notable dignitaries and community members.

The participants emphasized that such dialogues and collaborative platforms must continue regularly to channel collective wisdom and strategic action for the betterment of the POJK DP community and future generations.

Shiv Sena honours SMVDSB CEO for pilgrimage arrangements



■ STATE TIMES NEWS
KATRA: Shiv Sena (UBT) State Chief Manish Sahni honored Sachin Kumar Vaishya (IAS), CEO of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), with a memento in recognition of the excellent arrangements made for the pilgrimage. Sahni noted that a major landslide on August 26

had severely damaged the pilgrimage route. He praised the Shrine Board for promptly restoring access, ensuring that the pilgrimage could proceed smoothly before the biggest religious festival, while fully respecting Hindu religious sentiments. Sahni commended Vaishya and his entire team for their dedicated efforts.

Constable recruitment: DM imposes restrictions around M.A. Stadium

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The District Magistrate Jammu has imposed restrictions around M.A. Stadium under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) to facilitate Physical test for the recruitment of Constables. The test is being held from September 24 to October 15, 2025, starting daily from 06:30 AM. As per the order issued by District Magistrate, the assembly of five or more persons within a 100-metre radius of the stadium will remain prohibited from 05:00 AM to 06:00 PM throughout the examination period. The restrictions will not apply to authorised personnel. The order further states that any person found violating the order will face action under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

BLSKS organizes 2 days

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
BILLAWAR: To promote and preserve the traditional Dugar culture of Jammu & Kashmir and celebrate Sharad Navratra Festival 2025 with special emphasis on Swachh Bharat (Clean India Green India), Bhartiya Lok Sangeet Kala Sansthan (BLSKS), Jammu, organized a two-day "Maa Sukrala Sanskriti Mahotsav 2025" at Govt. High School, Sukrala Devi, Billawar on 22nd September 2025. The

event was held under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in coordination with various departments of J&K UT and Shri Mata Sukrala Devi Shrine Board.

Chief Guest, MLA Billawar Satish Kumar Sharma, inaugurated the festival by lighting the traditional lamp, joined by Pandit Ram Parshad Shastri, Sh. Jagdish Chander, Sh. Vijay Sharma, Surinder Kumar, Lokesh Sumbria, Anil Kumar, and other dignitaries.

Artists presented classical dance "Om Sankalpamastu" and Sanskrit shlokas from Yajurveda. Navratra episodes were showcased, highlighting the spiritual significance of the holy Sukrala Devi Temple, visited by lakhs of devotees from across India and abroad. The festival emphasized the temple's

"Maa Sukrala Sanskriti Mohostav 2025"



MLA Billawar Satish Kumar Sharma and others lighting the ceremonial lamp.

rich heritage and cultural importance. Vinay Khosla, ADC Billawar, presided over the function. Chief Guest Satish Kumar Sharma expressed joy at organizing the Mahotsav at the sacred Sukrala Devi Shrine, dedicated to goddess Mal Devi - an incarnation of Sharda Devi. He elaborated on the mythological background of the shrine, where the goddess is enshrined in a Shila form seated on a

brass lion with a silver-mounted head, with an image of Mahishasur Mardini depicted behind. V.K. Magotra, Managing Director, BLSKS, welcomed the guests and highlighted the organization's efforts in reviving traditional folk arts and raising awareness about government welfare schemes. Over 30-40 artists in traditional attire participated, calling upon the youth to uphold the sanctity and

environment of Sukrala. The first day also focused on cleanliness drives within Billawar with the involvement of students and local youth.

Dr. M.L. Dogra, in his keynote address, shared the history of the Sukrala Mata temple, including Pujari Shiv Nandan's prophecy and the legend of Madho Singh of Chamba. A pledge was taken by students and officials to maintain cleanliness. BLSKS also organized a *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* awareness session and Swachh Bharat programs at local schools.

Folk performances included Geetru & Kudru by Sangam Tru Art, Dandars by Deepak Kumar & Party, and Karkan & Baran by Raja Manhas, among others. M.L. Dogra, Chairman BLSKS, presented the vote of thanks, lauding all stakeholders for their support in making the event a grand success.

Interlocutory orders in UAPA cases not open to appeal under NIA Act: DB

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has ruled that interlocutory orders passed under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) cannot be challenged under Section 21 of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act. The Court dismissed an appeal filed by two accused in a terror-related case who had sought release of their seized vehicle.

The matter dates back to November 27, 2023, when police at Srigufwara, along with Army's 3 RR unit, intercepted two men during a naka at Mehand-Satkipora Crossing. The accused - Yasir Ahmad Bhat of Jablipora and Mehraj-ud-Din Dar of Sirhama, Bijbehara - were allegedly found carrying 90 live AK-47 rounds and a live hand grenade. Investigators claimed the

duo had links with the banned terror outfit Lashkar-e-Toiba (TRF) and used a load carrier (JK03L/4982) for movement linked to terror activities. The vehicle was subsequently seized.

The accused argued that the vehicle was purchased on loan and was the family's sole source of income. Their application before the Special UAPA Court at Anantnag was dismissed in January 2025, prompting an appeal before the High Court.

A Division Bench of Justice Sindhu Sharma and Justice Shahzad Azeem, while pronouncing judgment reserved on September 8, held that Section 25 of the UAPA provides a complete statutory mechanism for seizure, confirmation, and appeal through the Designated Authority and Special Court.

The Court observed that the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, acting as Designated Authority, has already issued notice to the registered owner and proceedings are pending. An order rejecting release of a seized vehicle is interlocutory in nature and not open to appeal under Section 21 of the NIA Act. "Entertaining such appeals would amount to usurping the powers of the Designated Authority," the Bench remarked, stressing that remedies exist within the UAPA framework.

The High Court dismissed the appeal and vacated all interim directions, clarifying that the appellants may pursue their case before the Designated Authority and, if necessary, approach the Special Court and later the High Court under Section 28 of the UAPA.

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