

Ladakh's peace, brotherhood will not be allowed to be disturbed: LG Kavinder

Reassures UT Admin's commitment to protect Ladakh people's rights & cultural identity

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

LEH: The Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta, on Sunday chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the prevailing security situation in Leh.

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Director General of Police Dr. S.D. Singh Jamwal, Rajesh Kumar, Additional Director General, CRPF, and senior officers of the Army and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

The officers briefed the Lt Governor on the latest developments, preparedness measures, and coordination among agencies to maintain peace and order in the Union Territory.

During the meeting, the Lt Governor underscored the



LG Ladakh, Kavinder Gupta chairing a high-level review meeting.

paramount importance of maintaining law and order, reiterating that the administration will not tolerate any attempt to disturb the peace, harmony, and stability of Ladakh.

He issued a strong and clear message to anti-social and disruptive elements, warning them that strict

action will be taken against anyone found trying to incite violence or create unrest. At the same time, the Lt Governor reassured the people of Ladakh of the administration's complete commitment to safeguarding their rights, aspirations, and cultural identity.

He appealed to the citizens

to remain calm, cooperate with the authorities, and continue upholding Ladakh's age-old traditions of peace, brotherhood, and mutual respect.

"Ladakh belongs to its people, and the government stands firmly with the locals in ensuring their safety, security, and prosperity.

Together, we will not allow any divisive force to derail the peace and development of this region," he affirmed.

The Lieutenant Governor also directed security agencies to maintain heightened vigilance, strengthen coordination, and ensure swift response to any emerging challenges. He further stressed that the administration's priority is to protect the interests of the people while ensuring an environment conducive to growth and harmony.



Dr Jitendra urges focus on public welfare, strict action against illegal mining

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR/RAMBAN: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh chaired the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meetings in Udhampur and Ramban on Sunday, emphasizing strict enforcement against illegal mining, effective implementation of welfare schemes, and strengthening public infrastructure.

In Udhampur, Dr Singh took a serious view of illegal mining in the district, directing authorities to report all cases in non-allotted areas to law enforcement agencies for strict and exemplary action.

During the meeting, he handed over an approval letter sanctioning Rs 14 crore from his MP fund for the procurement of an ambulance for Government Medical College Udhampur.

Highlighting the importance of public outreach, the Minister urged local representatives and district administration to conduct awareness programmes on



Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh chairing DISHA meeting of district Udhampur.

welfare schemes like PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, which provides subsidies of up to 40% for rooftop solar panels, making renewable energy more accessible.

He also called for a participatory approach to development, engaging Panchayati Raj Institutions, DDC members, and local representatives, and suggested promoting the local milch product 'Kaladi' under the One District One Product (ODOP) initiative to support startups and livelihoods.

Deputy Commissioner Saloni Rai reported significant growth in Centrally-Sponsored Schemes,

updates on PMGSY road maintenance, and progress under Jal Jeevan Mission, with 160 schemes sanctioned in the district, 13 of which are completed. Strict directions have also been issued to curb private practice by resident doctors at GMC Udhampur.

In Ramban, Dr Singh lauded the district administration for completing 100% relief work on flood-damaged houses. He highlighted Ramban's achievements in healthcare, including full saturation under PM-JAY and screening of all patients for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), announcing the upcoming launch of PM-JAY 2.0.

The Minister also provided an ambulance under MPLAD funds and emphasized the recruitment of contractual medical staff to address personnel shortages. He stressed the need for effective monitoring of welfare schemes, ensuring uninterrupted electricity and water supply, and improving road connectivity in remote areas.

Both meetings were attended by MLAs, DDC Chairpersons, Deputy Commissioners, senior civil and police officers, and DISHA Committee members, reflecting a coordinated effort towards holistic development and citizen welfare in Udhampur and Ramban districts.

AHD Jammu organises dog vaccination camp

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Animal Husbandry Department Jammu marks the World Rabies prevention Day, 2025 on Sunday with a series of events and awareness campaigns organized across all the districts of Jammu division, under this year's theme: "Act Now-You, Me, Community".

The observance aimed to highlight the urgent need for collective action in the fight against Rabies-a 100 percent preventable, yet fatal disease.

Director Animal Husbandry Jammu, Dr. Sanjay Gupta inaugurated the main event at Central Veterinary Hospital, Talab Tillo and addressed a large gathering of veterinary professionals, students, local residents, pet owners and other stakeholders.



Director Animal Husbandry Jammu, Dr. Sanjay Gupta after inaugurating Camp at Central Veterinary Hospital.

In his address, the Director said that World Rabies Prevention Day is observed annually on 28th September to mark the death anniversary of Louis Pasteur, the French Microbiologist, who developed the first human anti rabies vaccination.

The Director emphasized the importance of commu-

nity awareness, the critical role of regular vaccinations, responsible pet ownership and seeking timely medical care in case of dog bite, for eliminating dog-mediated human rabies deaths by year 2030. "This year's theme reminds us that change starts with individual responsibility but must grow through community

participation," he added.

On the occasion, the department organized a free dog vaccination camp at Central Veterinary Hospital, Talab Tillo, Jammu for both pets as well as stray dogs aimed at breaking the transmission chain of the viral disease.

The event also served as a platform to recognize the efforts of veterinary doctors and staff who play a crucial role in rabies-control activities.

Surgeon CVH, Talab Tillo, Dr. Shazia, Radiologist CVH, Talab Tillo, Dr. Sher Singh, Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, Dr. Sandeep, Dr. Manmeet, Dr. Jameel, Dr. Sunan, other staff of CVH, Talab Tillo besides pet owners and other stakeholders were present in large numbers on the occasion.

IIPA & Forest Department organise seminar on Climate Change



Dr. Rajeshwar Singh Jasrotia, IFS (Retd.), former Chief Conservator of Forests speaking at a seminar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), J&K Regional Branch, in collaboration with the J&K Forest Department, organized a thought-provoking seminar on "Climate Change: Challenges, Mitigation and Adaptation". Held last evening, the seminar marked the first of its kind in the region, bringing together policymakers, experts, and academics to deliberate on the growing climate crisis and the urgent need for sustainable solutions.

The event was graced by B.R.

Sharma, Chairman IIPA J&K Regional Branch, as Chief Guest, and Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron of IIPA J&K, who presided over the function.

Vasu Yadav, Chairman Pollution Control Board and Director Environment & Remote Sensing, and Dr. Rajeshwar Singh Jasrotia, IFS (Retd.), former Chief Conservator of Forests, were the key speakers. Vasu Yadav, in his presentation, emphasized that climate change is not a new phenomenon, tracing its reference back to ancient scriptures like the Ramayana and

Mahabharata. He stressed the need to accept change as inevitable, given socio-economic development, while urging strong measures to conserve green cover and manage land, waste, and pollution scientifically. He highlighted the increasing intensity of western disturbances and freak weather events, including a cloudburst in Kathua, an unprecedented occurrence for the region.

Dr. Jasrotia elaborated on global climatic aberrations including erratic rainfall, intense heat waves, rising sea levels, and receding glaciers. He

underlined the rise in greenhouse gas emissions and their impact on ecosystems, biodiversity, and public health. He called for urgent action, including decarbonisation, adoption of renewable energy, afforestation, and adherence to the Paris Agreement and India's INDC commitments. B.R. Sharma, in his address, framed climate change as a challenge beyond science - one rooted in ethics, spirituality, and civilisation.

Quoting ancient Indian texts and Ban Ki-moon, he described Earth as a shared household, advocating a shift to sustain-

able lifestyles, climate-resilient infrastructure, and conservation-based development.

He invoked Gandhiji's words, "The earth provides enough for everyone's need, but not for everyone's greed."

Dr. Ashok Bhan commended the speakers' diverse perspectives and discussed the J&K Forest

(Conservation Amendment) Act 2023, noting its development-environment trade-off. He warned of the long-term consequences of ecological degradation, urging balanced policy decisions.

The seminar witnessed participation from officers of the Forest, Agriculture, and Horticulture Departments, pensioners' associations, students, and scholars from University of Jammu and Central University of Jammu.

Prof. Alka Sharma welcomed the guests, Er. M.M. Gupta delivered the vote of thanks, and Prof. Komal Nagar conducted the proceedings.

Gaurav calls on LG Sinha, urges tourism boost in Jammu, hails reopening of 12 tourist spots

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: BJP J&K Spokesperson Gaurav Gupta called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and lauded the administration's recent decision to reopen 12 major tourist destinations across the Union Territory, including five key attractions in the Jammu region.

Terming it a "visionary and people-centric initiative," Gupta said the move would rejuvenate tourism prospects and boost the region's economy.

Calling Jammu a "treasure house of history, spirituality, and natural beauty," Gupta urged the government to accelerate projects at Basohli, Sudmahadev, Purmandal, and Surinsar; while also tapping hidden gems such as Panchari, Mantalai, Bani-Sarthal Valley, Chinta Valley in Bhandarval, Jai Valley, Seoj Meadow, Ramnagar Fort, and the picturesque trails of Kishtwar and Poonch. He emphasized that focused promotion of these destinations could make Jammu a premier hub for heritage, adventure, and spiritual tourism in North India.

Gupta also hailed the Tawi Riverfront Project as a landmark in urban planning and disaster management. He appreciated LG Manoj Sinha's leadership for ensuring timely execution of the project, which proved crucial during the recent floods. "Had the riverfront not been developed, localities like Warehouse, Gandhi Nagar, Jewel Chowk, Talab Tillo, Canal Road, and adjoining areas would have faced unimaginable destruction. Instead, it acted as a robust shield, saving countless lives and livelihoods. This is a historic achievement made possible only because of the LG's vision and constant monitoring," Gupta said.

He noted that Phase I of the riverfront, from



the Barrage to Birkam Chowk, is nearing completion, bringing resilience, recreation, and commercial opportunities to the city. However, he stressed the urgent need to begin Phase II - from Birkam Chowk Bridge to upstream of Gujjar Nagar Bridge - to protect vulnerable areas such as Gujjar Nagar, the Jogi Gate Cremation Ground, and Jammu University. "Completion of Phase II will not only secure the city against future floods but also redefine Jammu's identity by merging safety with sustainable urban growth," he added.

"With decisive action and focused promotion, Jammu can truly emerge as North India's premier hub for heritage, adventure, and spiritual tourism," Gupta asserted.

LG Manoj Sinha patiently heard the issues raised, appreciated Gaurav Gupta's suggestions, and assured him that the concerns, particularly the completion of Tawi Riverfront Project, will be considered on priority.

JCMS organises 'Mahajan Milan', celebrates 159th Birth Anniversary of Lala Hans Raj Mahajan

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a vibrant and heartfelt tribute, the Jammu Central Mahajan Sabha (JCMS) organized a grand "Mahajan Milan" at Mahajan Bhawan, Shalamar Road, Jammu, to mark the 159th birth anniversary of the social reformer, Sher-e-Duggar, Lala Hans Raj Mahajan.

The event saw an overwhelming turnout from across the Mahajan community, celebrating his enduring legacy and contributions to society.

Lt. Governor of Ladakh UT, Kavinder Gupta, was slated to grace the occasion as the Chief Guest but could not attend due to unavoidable circumstances.

However, he sent a warm message from his office in Leh, expressing his felicitations for the successful organization of the event and congratulating all the distinguished personalities of the Mahajan Biradari honored for their exemplary work in various fields.

The function was presided over by Ramesh Chander Gupta, President of JCMS. Jungi Lal Mahajan, MLA



JCMS members felicitating Senior Journalist, Tarika Mahajan during a programme.

Mukerian (Punjab) and President of the Akhil Bharatiya Mahajan Shiromani Sabha (ABMSS), graced the event as the Chief Guest.

Among the Guest of Honour was T.R. Gupta, former ABMSS President and recipient of the prestigious Mahajan Rattan title. The gathering also included prominent community leaders such as Yash Paul Gupta (Chief Patron), Rattan Lai Gupta (Ex-MLC), Arun Gupta (President, CCI), and other dignitaries from social and business circles.

The event witnessed active participation from Presidents and Secretaries of various

Mahajan Sabhas and Biradaris, including senior office bearers of ABMSS.

Several distinguished individuals leading departments and organizations within the community were felicitated with trophies and shawls in recognition of their outstanding contributions. Honorees included Senior Journalist, Tarika Mahajan, Dr. Ashutosh Gupta (Principal GMC), Rakesh Gupta (Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti), Rajesh (Executive Engineer, JMC), Dr. Sanjay Gupta (Director Animal Husbandry), Vikas Gupta (DIG Anti-corruption),

among others. Veterans who have dedicated their lives to the service of the Mahajan community were also honored with shawls and mementos as a mark of respect and gratitude.

The event's keynote address and closing remarks were delivered by Pratap Gupta, Zonal Secretary of ABMSS and Senior Vice President of JCMS. The proceedings were anchored by Sanjay Mahajan, General Secretary of JCMS, supported by Sudha Gupta. Active office bearers who played key roles included Gupta Mam, Vipin Gupta, Dr. Mritunjva Gupta (Vice Presidents), Dr. Mohan Lai Gupta, Prabhu Dayal Gupta, Arun Kumar Gupta, C.P. Gupta, Ram Sarup Gupta, Amar Chand Gupta, Ashwani Gupta, Rajeev Gupta (Parchar Mantri), Vijay Gupta, Darshan Gupta, and Simal Gupta.

The Ward Presidents were commended for their vital role in ensuring delegate participation and smooth coordination.

The grand "Mahajan Milan" not only paid homage to the visionary Sher-e-Duggar but

also reaffirmed the Mahajan community's commitment to unity, values, and a progressive future.

Umang Vatika Crèche inaugurated at AIIMS Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: AIIMS Jammu inaugurated its newly established Umang Vatika Crèche, a dedicated and thoughtfully designed space for the children of AIIMS faculty and staff. The crèche aims to provide a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment for children, ensuring holistic development and quality childcare.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Ayushi Sudan, Deputy Commissioner, Samba, as the Chief Guest. She appreciated the initiative of Prof (Dr) Shakti Kumar Gupta, ED & CEO, AIIMS Jammu for setting up a modern crèche facility within the campus, which would greatly support working parents and contribute to a more inclusive and family-friendly institutional environment. She said this



facility will enable AIIMS fraternity to balance their professional responsibilities with parental duties.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. (Dr.) Shakti Kumar Gupta, Executive Director & CEO, AIIMS Jammu, emphasized the importance of creating such supportive ecosystems for employees, especially women so that they can con-

tribute more effectively, without having any concern.

He said that Umang Vatika stands as a testament to AIIMS Jammu's dedication to fostering a progressive, caring, and supportive institutional culture.

Prof Shakti highlighted the role of crèche committee members -Dr. Samriti Gupta, Chairperson, Dr. Reetika

Menia, Member Secretary, Dr. Priya V.S, Dr Pragnay Parija, Dr. Neha Rathore, Dr. Harleen, Jasveer and Seema in the establishment of such an instrumental facility.

A ceremonial ribbon cutting followed by cake cutting marked the joyous opening of the crèche. The bright, child-friendly space has been equipped with modern amenities to ensure safety, cleanliness, comfort, and learning through play.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Samriti Gupta, Chairperson of the Crèche Committee, who expressed gratitude to all dignitaries, committee members, parents, and staff for their enthusiastic participation and support in the establishment of crèche facility at AIIMS Jammu.