

Police destroys narcotics worth over Rs 8 cr in Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: District Police Jammu continuing it's holistic actions drug men-
ace carried out destruction of seized Norcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances and destroyed huge quantity of seized Drugs under the directions of Courts.
It pertinent to mention here that in pursuance to directions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, "2953 kgs, 671 gms" Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the form Poppy straw seized in various cases by District Police Jammu



Police officials destroying seized Norcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in Jammu.

were destroyed/disposed off by the District Level Drug Destruction Committee at Anmol HealthCare Destruction Plant at Rakh Rada Vijaypur in District Samba in accordance with laid down guidelines for the

purpose under," official said.
District Level Drug Destruction Committee ensured destruction of Narcotic drugs seized under Section 52-A of NDPS Act in presence of Magistrate.
The process of destroying the contraband was carried out at Vijaypur Samba, Anmol HealthCare strictly following legal protocol and environmental protection standards, official said adding that the discarded contraband was seized in various criminal cases and included 2954 Kilograms and 671 grams of Poppy Straw.

The net worth of drugs destroyed amounts to the tune of Rs 8.0271 crores approximately.
Jammu Police reiterates its unwavering commitment to eradicate the menace of drugs and promote a drug-free society and also appealed to the citizens to support this mission by reporting any drug-related activity to the nearest police station.
Jammu Police remains committed to eradicate the drug menace and urges the public to report suspicious activities. Informant confidentiality will be ensured, fostering a safer and drug-free society.



Sham hits out at NC Govt for ineffective handling of flood devastation in Jammu



MLA, Sham Lal Sharma at public grievances camp.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Expressing strong resentment, Senior BJP leader and MLA, Sham Lal Sharma came down heavily on the Omar Abdullah-led NC government for its irresponsible and ineffective handling of the flood devastation in Jammu. Sham Lal Sharma was listening to the public issues, while he held a Public Grievances Camp at the party headquarters, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. Sharma said that the government's lack of preparedness and the sluggish approach of concerned departments had worsened the hardships of the public. He pointed out that essential services like water and electricity were completely mismanaged during this crisis. "The absence of a

backup plan to meet the urgent requirements of the people has thrown the lives of Jammu residents out of gear," he remarked.
A large number of deputations from Shivallipuram, Sharika Vihar Roop Nagar, Lower Janipur, Peer Khoo, Hira Nagar, Samba, Akhnor, Nagrota, Dhansal, Udhampur and several other areas visited the party headquarters to highlight their grievances. These included water and electricity restoration in flood-affected areas, damaged roads and lanes, non-functional handpumps, silt clearance, repair of street lights, and other pressing civic issues.
Addressing the gathering, Sham Lal Sharma said that while BJP's public representa-

tives have been working tirelessly since the beginning of the calamity to stand with the people, the NC government has exhibited a non-serious and indifferent attitude. He also blamed the mismanagement and impractical approaches of departments responsible for public utilities, holding them accountable for multiplying the people's sufferings. The proceedings of the camp were coordinated by Er. Dil Bahadur Jamwal, Party Incharge for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, who particularly stressed the need to resolve the water scarcity issue on priority.

IIM Jammu rises to 35th position in NIRF 2025

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Management Jammu proudly celebrates its achievement of securing the 35th position (Indian Rankings: Management) in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2025 released earlier today on 4th Sept 2025 by the Union Minister of Education, Government of India, Dharmendra Pradhan at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, marking a significant leap forward in its journey of academic excellence and global recognition.
With a notable leap from 42nd in the NIRF Rankings 2024 to 35th in NIRF Rankings 2025, this rise of seven ranks further underscores the Institute's steadfast commitment to academic excellence, pioneering research, and innovation-driven learning.
On this momentous occasion, Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, whose vision for a New Emerging India continues to inspire institutions to reach global standards of excellence.
He extended his gratitude to the Union Minister of Education, Dharmendra Pradhan, for his transformative policies that have created an enabling ecosystem for higher education and innovation.
He also acknowledged the steadfast support of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, and the mentorship of Padmashri Dr. Milind P. Kamble, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Jammu, and all the Board Members, whose guidance has been central to strengthening the Institute's foundation.
He also commended the tireless dedication of the faculty, officers, staff, students, and alumni of IIM Jammu, whose collective commitment has been pivotal in achieving this recognition.
He further highlighted that this year, the Institute has

also secured two prestigious international accreditations, the BGA Institutional Accreditation and the EFMD Programme Accreditation for its MBA programme.
Attaining both within a single year makes IIM Jammu the only second-and third-generation IIM to achieve such global recognition, firmly placing it among the top five IIMs in the country.
He emphasized that these accomplishments are not merely institutional milestones but also contributions to the broader academic fraternity of IIMs and management education in India.
He mentioned that by integrating impactful research, innovation-driven pedagogy, state-of-the-art infrastructure, expert faculty, a forward-looking approach, and international quality benchmarks, IIM Jammu continues to foster a culture of rigor, inclusivity, and global relevance, enriching the intellectual landscape of Indian management education.
Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Faculty and Research, IIM Jammu, highlighted that this milestone in the NIRF Rankings 2025 is the outcome of sustained efforts to integrate impactful research with high-quality teaching. He reaffirmed the Institute's commitment to strengthening its research ecosystem with global relevance.
Prof. Nitin Upadhyay, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu, stated that the upward movement in the NIRF rankings 2025 reaffirms IIM Jammu's academic strength and commitment to excellence in curriculum, pedagogy, and student development. He emphasized the Institute's determination to set new benchmarks in management education.
With renewed determination, IIM Jammu which is entering into its tenth year looks ahead to scaling greater heights, strengthening its international presence, and contributing to the national missions of Atmanirbhar Bharat, Skill India, and Viksit Bharat @2047.

Yudhvir, DC Jammu distribute relief to flood-affected families under LG's guidance

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: In a significant humanitarian gesture, MLA Yudhvir Sethi along with Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, today distributed relief material among flood-affected families under the guidance of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha.



MLA Yudhvir Sethi with DC Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas distributing relief among flood-affected families.

The relief distribution drive, held in the presence of officials from J&K Bank, saw essential items such as blankets, mattresses, and water coolers being handed over to the families affected by recent floods.
The initiative is part of the Lieutenant Governor's ongoing commitment to stand with people during difficult times and ensure timely support for those in distress.
Expressing heartfelt gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor, Yudhvir Sethi said, "I sincerely appreciate Lieutenant Governor Manoj

Sinha, under whose guidance relief was distributed today among the flood-affected families. This assistance will bring great relief to the suffering families."
Speaking further, Sethi added, "Public service and standing with people in every difficult hour has always been my commitment. Today's relief distribution is not just about extending material support but also about showing solidarity with families who have suffered due to natural calami-

ties. The government under the leadership of LG Manoj Sinha is ensuring that no family is left without assistance."
Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, while interacting with the beneficiaries, assured them of the administration's continued support.
He said the district administration is working to assess damages and extend timely aid.
"Our priority remains rehabilitation and relief. Every

effort is being made to minimize the suffering of affected families," he said.
Officials from J&K Bank, who were also present on the occasion, highlighted the Bank's role in community welfare. They assured that besides providing financial assistance where required, the bank remains committed to participating in relief measures to support local communities in challenging times.
Beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to the Lieutenant Governor, MLA Yudhvir Sethi, and the district administration for extending timely help.
Many families said that such assistance would provide them with much-needed comfort as they rebuild their lives after the devastation caused by floods.
Yudhvir Sethi emphasized that this relief effort is a reflection of the people-first approach of the LG Manoj

Sinha.
"The vision of LG Manoj Sinha is clear - governance must reach the doorstep of every citizen, particularly in times of crisis. Distributing blankets, mattresses, and water coolers may look like small steps, but for a family struggling in the aftermath of floods, it is a source of hope and reassurance," he said.
He further reiterated his resolve to continue serving the people of Jammu with dedication. "Public service and being with people in every difficult hour is my pledge," he reaffirmed.
The relief distribution drive marked yet another instance of the administration's proactive approach in extending welfare measures, demonstrating the government's commitment to stand firmly with the people of Jammu and Kashmir during testing times.

BJP tears into NC-led J&K Govt over flood mismanagement, encroachment nexus

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday launched a scathing attack on the National Conference (NC)-led Jammu and Kashmir government, accusing it of gross negligence in handling the recent floods and failing to learn lessons from the devastation of 2014.



BJP spokesperson Dr. Tahir Chowdhary talking to reporters.

At a joint press conference in Jammu, senior BJP leaders and spokespersons - Dr. Tahir Chowdhary, Rajni Sethi, and Zorawar Singh Jamwal - alleged that widespread encroachments, unregulated construction, and administrative apathy were the root causes behind the large-scale flooding that has left thousands homeless across the Union Territory.
Dr. Chowdhary, BJP spokesperson and leader, said the tragedy was not merely an outcome of heavy rains but also of years of unchecked land

grabbing and mismanagement.
"Entire neighbourhoods were submerged on August 26. Families lost homes, belongings, and even loved ones. This destruction is directly linked to the way natural waterways have been encroached upon. Drains have been converted into narrow lanes, shopping malls and houses have been constructed on water bodies, and when nature reclaims its path, the result is catastrophic," he

said.
He held the NC-led government responsible for turning a blind eye to illegal constructions. "Encroachers take years to grab land, but nature only takes seconds to take it back. Unless strict, permanent action is taken against the land mafia, this cycle will keep repeating," he warned.
Chowdhary also highlighted the unchecked use of polythene as a factor in blocking drains.

"Municipal drives target small shopkeepers, but no factory producing polythene has ever been shut down. If the government is serious, it must strike at the source," he said.
Rajni Sethi accused the NC government of indulging in optics instead of providing relief.
"For the past 10 months of this government, people have seen nothing but failure. The Chief Minister seems more interested in photostunts and sympathy stunts than in governance. When people in Jammu are struggling without food, shelter, or basic amenities, the government is nowhere to be seen," she said.
Sethi pointed out that BJP legislators had contributed from their constituency development funds, while NC lawmakers remained "missing in action." "Is governance reduced to giving ₹10 crore and washing hands off responsibility? What about long-term measures? Why

is the focus only on Kashmir's Jhelum, while Jammu's flooded areas are ignored?" she asked.
She said it was left to neighbourhood welfare committees and local volunteers to provide food and shelter to affected families. "This exposes the total failure of the Omar Abdullah government in both preparedness and response," she remarked.
Zorawar Singh Jamwal, also a BJP spokesperson, said the NC's governance record reflected a consistent bias against Jammu.
"The governments led by Kashmir based parties here have shown step-motherly treatment towards Jammu. Even today, relief assessments are sluggish, and victims are left in despair. If this government wants to restrict itself to photostunts, then it should admit its failure and step aside," Jamwal asserted.
He accused the government of shielding encroachers and land grabbers who, he claimed, operated in collusion with "elements within the administration."
"Ordinary families are the victims today, not the land mafia that pocketed money

by selling plots on encroached land. The revenue department and administrative machinery know exactly who is responsible, yet no action has been taken," he said.
Jamwal added that BJP lawmakers and MPs had already pledged funds symbolically to stand with the people.
"The BJP does not want to see the people of Jammu and Kashmir suffer further. Our workers have reached out across communities to provide relief, while the government has gone missing," he said.
The BJP leaders warned that weather forecasts of more rain in coming days could worsen the crisis.
"This is a wake-up call. If the administration does not immediately assess damage, compensate victims, and remove encroachments, we may be staring at an even bigger tragedy," they said.
The BJP leaders said their party would continue to raise the voices of ordinary citizens, demanding accountability from the government.
"Jammu and Kashmir needs governance, not gimmicks," they said.

T R Gupta Trust distributes relief to flood victims



T R Gupta Trust members distributing relief to flood victims in Jammu.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The T R Gupta Charitable Trust on Friday organised a relief camp at Rajeev Colony and distributed relief to over a hundred flood victims.
The Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas specially visited the Relief Camp and distributed these packets to couple of flood victims along with Trustees, Dr. Ashok Gupta, Naresh Gupta, Rajinder Motial and Kailash Langar. MLA Jammu East, Yudhvir Sethi was also present on the occa-

sion. All belongings of these flood victims have been washed away in the floods that rocked the eastern bank of river Tawi.
Each packet of utensil contained four plates, steel katories, glasses, one pressure cooker, one Patella with lid, chakla belan, karehee and tabba.
These items were identified by the district administration for them to enable them to cook food themselves. Ration has already been provided to them by the administration.
Dr Ashok Gupta apprised

the Dy Commissioner about the charitable activities the Trust has been undertaking in Jammu & other districts under the instructions of the Chairman of the Trust, a nonagenarian T R Gupta, a well-known philanthropist of Jammu.
The Trust has been coming to the help of needy people including for specialized treatment, marriage of daughters and uniforms, sweaters, stationery items to the poor and needed school students.
A multispecialty polyclinic

has been established at Marble market where treatment and free medicines are provided.
The Dy Commissioner appreciated the helping hand of the charitable trusts and civil society which has lessened the pain and agony of flood victims.
Additional Dy Commissioner, Jammu, Anusya Jamwal who guided the Trustees for providing items of the victims need, was also present along with Tehsildar Bahu Raju Sambyal and other revenue officials.

Pilgrimage to Mata Vaishno Devi suspended for 11th consecutive day

■ STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi remained suspended for the 11th consecutive day on Friday.
The yatra was suspended after a landslide on August 26 claimed 34 lives and left 20 others injured. Though the weather has improved significantly with the sun shining brightly after ten days of heavy rains, flash floods, and landslides, the authorities are yet to take a call on resuming the yatra.
"Yatra is still suspended. This is due to the decision taken by authorities last week, keeping in view the safety of pilgrims," an official said.
The decision to resume the yatra will be taken at an appropriate time after

assessing all aspects, the official added.
The suspension is the longest since the COVID-19 restrictions, with authorities prioritising pilgrim safety and conducting restoration work on the damaged pilgrimage track and commercial structures in Katra.
The landslide at Adhkuwari in the Trikuta hills of the Katra belt on August 26 killed 34 pilgrims and injured 20 others. The yatra was suspended the same day until further orders.
Meanwhile, local train services, which were started to facilitate the movement of locals and stranded passengers between Jammu and Katra, the base camp of the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, remained suspended.