

BJP to hold unity marches, seminars on 150th Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Kashmir

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SRINAGAR: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Jammu & Kashmir will organize a host of programmes including unity marches, seminars, debates, nukkad natakas etc. to emphasize the values of unity, nationalism, and integrity championed by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.

Baldev Singh Billawaria, General Secretary, BJP Jammu & Kashmir, accompanied by Sajid You-suf Shah, Co-Incharge BJP Media J&K, & Salinder Singh, BJP Office Secretary Kashmir, was addressing a press conference at party office in Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar, in commemoration of the 150th birth anniversary of the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

While paying rich tributes to Sardar Patel, Baldev



Singh Billawaria reiterated the relevance of his legacy in contemporary India and announced a series of events to mark the occasion, including a "Unity March" (Ekta Yatra) across various districts of Jammu & Kashmir, involving youth, party workers, and civil society members.

"Sardar Patel laid the foundation of a united India by integrating more

than 560 princely states. His vision and courage built the India we know today. It is our duty to carry forward his legacy of unity and national integration," said Baldev Singh Billawaria.

He highlighted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the nation has reinvigorated the legacy of Sardar Patel, notably through the

establishment of the Statue of Unity, the tallest statue in the world.

Billawaria added that Jammu & Kashmir has witnessed a historic transformation in the last few years. He said that the spirit of Sardar Patel lives on in our efforts to ensure development, peace, and integration of every region and community.

Speaking on the upcoming "Unity March", Baldev Billawaria said that BJP would mobilize party workers across urban and rural belts to spread the message of national unity and social harmony. He emphasized the importance of using media and digital platforms to share Patel's values with the younger generation. He also reiterated the commitment of the BJP cadre to uphold national unity and serve the people with dedication and transparency.

Three-day AI, robotics bootcamp concludes at IoT KU

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SRINAGAR: The University of Kashmir (KU) successfully concluded its three-day bootcamp on "AI and Robotics: Designing Futures, Building Pathways" at the Institute of Technology (IoT) Zakura Campus.

The camp, which was organised by the Centre for Design Your Own Degree (CDYD), (IoT), Zakura Campus, aimed to equip students with emerging technological skills and hands-on experience in artificial intelligence and robotics.

The bootcamp featured practical sessions on AI prototyping, mini AI projects, and team-based problem solving, aimed at nurturing innovation, teamwork, and critical thinking.

Speaking at the valedictory session, Vice-Chancellor, KU, Prof. Nilofer Khan, said that such bootcamps are essential in preparing students for the rapidly changing technological landscape.

Director, IoT Zakura Campus KU Prof. Tariq Banday, said that the boot-



"We are committed to nurturing young minds with the skills, creativity, and confidence required to lead in the era of artificial intelligence and automation," she said, commending the organisers for creating a collaborative learning platform.

In his remarks, Registrar, KU, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, said that such programmes encourage innovation and multidisciplinary engagement among students, which are vital for the region's technological advancement.

Director, IoT Zakura Campus KU Prof. Tariq Banday, said that the boot-

camp reflects the University's growing focus on emerging technologies and its mission to build an innovation-driven ecosystem. Earlier, in her welcome address, Prof. Syeda Afshana, Coordinator, CDYD, IoT Zakura Campus, highlighted that the workshop aimed to introduce students to the fundamentals of AI and robotics through experiential learning and collaborative problem-solving.

The camp featured expert-led sessions and interactive demonstrations designed to bridge the gap between emerging technologies and practical applica-

tions.

Students from the Zakura Campus KU, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Amar Singh College, and Islamia College of Science and Commerce Srinagar participated in the bootcamp. They shared their learning experiences and key takeaways during the valedictory session, while expressing satisfaction over the opportunity to gain practical exposure to emerging technologies.

The event proceedings were conducted by Dr. Basit Abubakar, faculty at CDYD, IoT Zakura Campus KU.

NC welcomes restoration of Darbar Move, calls it a step towards regional unity

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SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir National Conference Provincial President Kashmir Showkat Mir Friday warmly welcomed the decision to restore the Darbar Move, calling it a significant step toward reinforcing the historic bond between the regions of Jammu and Kashmir. He said the revival of this age-old administrative tradition will not only revitalize economic activity in Jammu during the winter months but also help bridge the emotional and regional gap between the two provinces. "The

Darbar Move was never just about shifting files. It was about building trust and connection between the people of Jammu and Kashmir. It ensured that both regions received equal administrative attention and engagement," he said. He highlighted that the restoration of the practice by Omar Abdullah led elected govt would revive business, hospitality, and tourism sectors in Jammu, providing a much-needed economic boost during the lean season. "The Darbar Move symbolized unity in diversity, a legacy that brought people of both regions closer through shared

governance and mutual engagement. Its restoration is a welcome move that will foster inclusivity and regional harmony," he said.

Mir urged the administration to ensure that the revival is implemented with proper planning and consideration for environmental and infrastructural concerns, ensuring it benefits the people without undue logistical strain. He reiterated the party's commitment to policies and traditions that uphold the composite culture, economic balance, and political inclusivity of all regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

DLIC meet on Mission YUVA held at Ganderbal, 53 fresh cases approved

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore today chaired a meeting of district level implementation committee (DLIC) here to examine and approve cases received under the Mission YUVA (Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyan) scheme for financial assistance and entrepreneurial support to beneficiaries in the district. At the outset, DC emphasized the importance of mission YUVA in promoting entrepreneurship, skill development, and self-employment among youth.

Cultural Unit Kashmir, DIPR organises Nasha Mukta Abhiyan awareness programme at GGHS Batamaloo

SRINAGAR: The Cultural Unit Kashmir of the Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) today organised an awareness programme under the Nasha Mukta Abhiyan campaign at Government Girls High School (GGHS), Batamaloo Srinagar.

On the occasion, artists of the Cultural Unit presented a thought-provoking skit highlighting the ill effects of drug abuse and its drastic consequences on individuals and society. The performance aimed to spread awareness among students about the importance of living a healthy and drug-free life.

Headmistress of the institution, Nusrat Ara, lauded the efforts of Cultural Unit Kashmir, DIPR, for organising such impactful and socially relevant programmes that sensitize the youth towards crucial social issues.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from the staff and students of GGHS Batamaloo, who appreciated the initiative and pledged their support towards a drug-free society.

Adjudicating Officer Handwara imposes fine of Rs 55000 on erring FBOs under FS&SA

KUPWARA: Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC), Handwara, Javed Naseem Masoodi who is also Adjudicating officer Handwara today imposed a fine of Rs 55,000 on various erring Food Business operators (FBOs) for violations of various provisions of Food Safety and Standard Act (FS&SA) 2006. The fine was imposed on the erring traders (for miss branded and sub standard food) during the proceeding of cases related to the FS&SA Act 2006 which were listed before the Adjudicating.

NIT Srinagar celebrates IEEE Day with focus on innovation, research, and collaboration

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SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar celebrated IEEE Day 2025 with great enthusiasm and academic spirit. The event was organized by the IEEE AP-S/CRFID Chapter, Delhi Section, in association with the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE), NIT Srinagar, to commemorate global innovation, collaboration, and engineering excellence.

The celebration was held under the leadership of Dr. Mahesh P. Abegaonkar, IIT Delhi, Chair, IEEE AP-S/CRFID Delhi Chapter, and Dr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor, NIT Srinagar, and Executive Committee Member, IEEE AP-S/CRFID Delhi Chapter.

The event featured an enlightening talk by Dr. Sheikh Javaid Ahmad, Associate Professor, University of Kashmir, who shared valuable insights on research and innovation in the fields of RF and Microwave Engineering.

Dr. Sheikh Javaid's lecture inspired students and researchers to explore emerging opportunities in high-frequency systems and communication technologies.



Two Ph.D. scholars from NIT Srinagar, Ms. Jasmine Jan and Mr. Basharat Ali presented their outstanding research work in the area of antenna design and development. Their presentations reflected the depth of research and innovation being pursued by the institute's ECE Department.

The program was also attended by Dr. G. R. Beigh, Head, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, who congratulated the organizers and participants for making the event a success.

He highlighted the importance of IEEE in nurturing innovation and global collaboration among engineers and researchers. Dr.

Aijaz Ahmad Mir, Head, Training and Placement Center, also graced the occasion along with several faculty members and students, emphasizing the importance of industry-academia interaction in shaping future-ready engineers.

Expressing his appreciation, Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. Binod Kumar Kanaujia, congratulated the organizers and participants for successfully hosting IEEE Day 2025.

"IEEE Day symbolizes the power of ideas and the impact of technology in driving positive change. Such events encourage our students and faculty to collaborate globally and pursue excellence in research

and innovation," he said.

Prof. Kanaujia also appreciated the IEEE Delhi Section for its continued collaboration with NIT Srinagar, calling it a meaningful step toward strengthening academic and research partnerships.

Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Atikur Rahman, extended his greetings to the entire organizing team and participants.

"The celebration of IEEE Day at NIT Srinagar reflects our institute's growing engagement with global scientific communities. It provides our students an invaluable platform to interact, innovate, and contribute to technological advancement," he added.

Dr. Farooq, Omar Abdullah condole demise of Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President & Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Friday expressed profound grief over the demise of former J&K Minister Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak. Recalling his immense contributions to public life, the duo said his passing is a significant loss to the political and social fabric of Jammu and Kashmir. They prayed for peace to his departed soul and fortitude to the bereaved family during this difficult period. Among others Party's General Secretary Haji Ali Muhammad Sagar, Treasurer Shammil Oberoi, Advisor to HCM Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Spokesperson Tanvir Sadiq have also extended deepest condolences and sympathies with the bereaved household. Provincial President Jammu Rattan Lal Gupta also expressed deep sorrow over the loss and extended his condolences to the bereaved family. He said Thakur Gulchain Singh Charak's legacy as a dedicated public servant and seasoned leader would be remembered for years to come, especially for his commitment to the welfare of the people of Jammu.

CIPMC Srinagar holds Farmers Field Day at Reshipora, Shopian

SHOPIAN: The Central Integrated Pest Management Centre (CIPMC), Srinagar, under the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage, Faridabad, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, conducted a Farmers Field Day programme at Village Reshipora, Zainapora, Shopian.

This event marked the conclusion of the ongoing Farmers Field School (FFS) programme in the area.

Assistant Plant Protection Officer (PP), Dr. Haroon Rashid Hakla, led the programme and distributed Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Kits among the participating farmers in presence of Horticulture Development Officer (HDO), Zainapora.

During his address, Dr. Hakla gave an overview of the FFS programme, highlighting its role in promoting eco-friendly pest management practices and empowering farmers with scientific knowledge to reduce dependency on chemical pesticides.

HDO, Zainapora commended the Central Government's continuous support and proactive role in taking such impactful programmes to the grassroots level. He extended his gratitude to the CIPMC team for their dedication and successful implementation of the FFS initiative in the village.

Farmers of Reshipora expressed their appreciation for the government's efforts and the practical benefits received through the FFS programme. They acknowledged the value of IPM practices and the importance of such field-level training initiatives in enhancing sustainable agriculture.

The event concluded with a collective commitment to adopt IPM methods for safer and more productive farming.

Judicial Academy Srinagar organizes orientation programme on "Medical Forensics & Medico-Legal Aspects in Trial"

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SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Judicial Academy, Srinagar, organized a One Day Special Orientation Programme on "Medical Forensics & Medico-Legal Aspects in Trial; Different Dimensions of Cyber Crimes and Electronic Evidence".

The programme was organized under the patronage of Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Judicial Academy), Justice Arun Palli and under the guidance of the Chairperson and Members of the Governing Committee of the Academy, for Judicial Officers of the District Judiciary of Kashmir Province including UT of Ladakh, Public Prosecutors, Additional Public Prosecutors, Assistant Public Prosecutors, and Investigating Officers of Kashmir Province.

The programme commenced with introductory remarks by Director, J&K Judicial Academy, Sonia Gupta, who outlined the objectives of the orientation programme. She emphasized that in the age of digital transformation

and advancing forensic technologies, the judiciary and prosecution must stay equipped with evolving scientific, medical, and technological developments that critically shape the administration of criminal justice.

Speaking on the occasion, Senior Assistant Professor, School of Law, University of Kashmir, Dr. Mir Junaid Alam focused on the theme "Demystifying the Information Technology Act, 2000 with Reference to Cyber Crimes viz. Issues, Challenges and Way Forward."

He discussed the legal and procedural complexities arising from cyber offences, data breaches, and online frauds. He also highlighted the gaps between technology and enforcement and emphasized the need for judicial officers and investigators to enhance their understanding of digital footprints, data preservation, and admissibility of electronic records.

In his address, he also underscored the importance of judicial sensitivity to privacy, digital rights, and due process in cases involving cybercrime.

Senior Assistant Profes-

sor, Centre for Distance and Online Education, University of Kashmir, Dr. Aneeda Jan deliberated on "Medical Forensic Law: Constitutional Perspective and Role of Judiciary" and "Impact of Technology on Forensic Evidence. She elaborated on the intricate relationship between law and forensic medicine, underscoring the critical role of medical evidence in the dispensation of justice.

Further, she spoke on the constitutional and ethical dimensions of forensic investigation, highlighting the responsibility of courts to ensure the integrity, authenticity, and admissibility of forensic materials.

Discussing technological advances, she pointed out how digital imaging, DNA analysis, and AI-based diagnostic tools are transforming medico-legal practices and judicial evaluation of evidence. Registrar Vigilance, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Rajeev Gupta addressed on the topic "Electronic Evidence: Definitions and Characteristics". He outlined the essential requirements for the admissibility of electronic evidence.

He also discussed ju-

dicial precedents governing electronic records, the authenticity of digital signatures, and challenges in verifying metadata and data chain integrity. He stressed that the digital age demands a deeper understanding of technological processes to prevent miscarriage of justice due to procedural lapses in electronic documentation and certification.

The programme concluded with an interactive session and feedback, during which participants shared insights and discussed practical challenges faced in handling medico-legal cases and cyber-crime trials. The deliberations reinforced the need for continued judicial and prosecutorial training to ensure that the justice delivery system keeps pace with advancements in forensic science and technology.

The event reflected the Academy's commitment to fostering interdisciplinary knowledge among judicial and legal officers, enabling them to uphold procedural fairness, scientific accuracy, and technological competence in the dispensation of justice.