

JAMMU

@crpf_srinagar
Beyond the call of duty!
To mark the 87th CRPF Day, battalions of Srinagar Sector across Srinagar, Budgam and Ganderbal districts of Central Kashmir organized mega blood donation camps. CRPF stands committed to humanity through selfless service.



@OfficeOFLGJandK
Today, addressed the National Conference on Cold Water Fisheries at Srinagar. Highlighted remarkable surge in fish production in the UT and infrastructure upgrades since 2020, reaffirming our resolve to empower fish farmers and propel them toward lasting prosperity.



HELICOPTER SQUADRON
Indian Navy commissioned its first Helicopter Squadron in Goa on this day in 1969.



FLOOD AID APPROVED
Centre released Rs 330.34 crore additional aid for J&K flood relief. Funds target infrastructure repair in flood-hit areas like Jammu-Srinagar highway.

330



STOP
This is one of the most important and prominent Road Sign. This sign indicates that Driver should immediately stop. Usually Police, traffic and toll authorities use this signs at check posts.



Traffic Signs

Stolen gold worth Rs 26.75 L recovered; accused arrested

JAMMU: Jammu Police, south zone, successfully solved two theft cases reported on consecutive days at Police Station Bagh-e-Bahu. The accused were arrested, and stolen gold and silver ornaments worth Rs. 26,75,000 were recovered. The operation was conducted under the overall supervision of SSP Jammu, with close guidance from SP City South, SDPO City East, and the SHO of PS Bagh-e-Bahu, reflecting effective coordination, vigilance, and strategic policing.

Following this swift action, two theft incidents took place on 14th and 15th February 2026 within the jurisdiction of Police Station Bagh-e-Bahu, resulting in the registration of two separate cases, FIR No. 13/2026 and FIR No. 14/2026 under Sections 331(3)/305 BNS.

During the investigation, the police conducted thorough crime scene inspections, sought assistance from the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), and analyzed CCTV footage from cameras installed in the vicinity. By carefully tracing the movements of the suspect captured on the footage and carrying out extensive local enquiries, the police were able to identify and apprehend Mohd. Shabir S/o Gul Mohd R/o Kilyal, Billawar, residing in the Qasim Nagar area.

Rana inspects desilting of canals; emphasizes timely completion

JAMMU: Minister for Jal Shakti, Javed Ahmed Rana, on Saturday conducted a detailed inspection of the irrigation canal network from Belicharana to Suchetgarh to review the progress on ongoing desilting works and assess preparedness of the irrigation infrastructure ahead of the ensuing agricultural season.

During the visit, the Minister inspected various stretches of the canal system, including the distribution network and key syphons to evaluate the pace and quality of desilting operations.

The inspection was undertaken ahead of the scheduled recharging of canals with the objective of ensuring uninterrupted water supply to tail-end areas during the forthcoming irrigation season.

The Minister was accompanied by MLA, Dr. Gharu Ram Bhagat, Chief Engineer, Irrigation and Flood Control, Manoj Gupta, SDM R.S. Pura, Anuradha Thakur and other officers from the district administration and Irrigation and Flood Control Department.

With the irrigation and cropping seasons approaching, the Irrigation and Flood Control Department has intensified preparations to ensure that canals are thoroughly desilted and restored for smooth and efficient water flow.

Justice Sanjeev inaugurates first National Lok Adalat

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Continuing its endeavour to fulfil the constitutional commitment of providing swift, cost-effective, and efficient dispute resolution to the masses in general and the litigant public in particular, the J&K Legal Services Authority under the patronage of Justice Arun Palli, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh (Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority), the dynamic leadership of Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority and the able guidance of Justice Sanjay Dhar, Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee organized the first National Lok Adalat for the year 2026 across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir, to promote amicable settlements in a wide range of cases, including MACT claims, matrimonial disputes, cheque bounce cases under the Negotiable Instruments Act, money recovery, commercial disputes, and compoundable criminal offences.

To ensure maximum participation and effective disposal of cases, pre-Lok Adalat sittings and pre-counselling sessions were conducted



well in advance across the districts of the Union Territory, encouraging parties to explore amicable settlement of their disputes. Several awareness programmes, meetings and sensitization sessions were also conducted by the Legal Services Institutions to promote the concept and importance of Lok Adalats among litigants and stakeholders.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority inaugurated the 1st National Lok Adalat at District Court Complex, Jammu. Upon his arrival, the Executive Chairman was received by R. N. Wattal, Principal District & Sessions Judge (Chairperson, DLSA) Jammu, Shazia Tabasum, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority, Smt. Maleeka Sharma, Secretary, DLSA Jammu along with other

Judicial Officers of the District Judiciary.

During his visit, the Executive Chairman inspected various benches constituted for the Lok Adalat and interacted with the Presiding Officers, members of the benches, Advocates and litigants, appreciating the arrangements made for the smooth and effective conduct of the Lok Adalat. Several disputes were amicably settled on the spot with the active intervention of the benches. MACT compensation cheques were also distributed among eligible beneficiaries, providing timely relief to the claimants.

As per the information received from various Legal Services Institutions working in different districts across the UT of J&K, out of total 76,707 cases taken up by 194 Benches in the day long

National Lok Adalat, 67,993 cases were amicably settled and disposed off involving an amount of Rs.55,86,33,017 as compensation/settlement amount in cases like Motor Accident Claims, civil, criminal, labour disputes, Electricity and Water Bills, Land Acquisition, Family matters, cheque dishonor and Bank Recovery and others.

While interacting, Justice Sanjeev Kumar appreciated the efforts of Judicial Officers, Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities, Advocates, Legal Aid Defense Counsels (LADCs), Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs), court staff and all stakeholders for their wholehearted participation in the successful conduct of the 1st National Lok Adalat of the year 2026.

Highlighting the importance of Lok Adalats, the Executive Chairman stated that Lok Adalats serve as an effective mechanism for alternative dispute resolution by enabling parties to settle disputes amicably in a speedy and cost-effective manner, thereby reducing pendency of cases and strengthening the justice delivery system. He urged the litigant public to take maximum advantage of such initiatives and resolve their disputes

Dr Minhas discusses plan for power supply maintenance



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Dr Rakesh Minhas on Saturday chaired a meeting to review the preparedness and operational readiness of power supply during the summer season.

The meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner Sher Singh; Additional Deputy Commissioners Vidhu Shekhar and Anusuya Jamwal and Chief Planning Officer Ajaypal Singh.

Superintendent Engineer Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDC), Sub Divisional Magistrates, Executive Engineers and other concerned officers attended the meeting.

The meeting undertook a comprehensive review of anticipated challenges during the summer season, with particular focus on fault-prone infrastructure, areas susceptible to recurring power disruptions and

infrastructure requiring preemptive maintenance and repair.

The SDMs informed the chair of the ground situation in their respective jurisdictions, following which an in-depth discussion was held on drawing up a proactive and forward-looking action plan to ensure regular power supply across the district. Issues pertaining to smart metering rollout and the management of scheduled power outages were also deliberated upon.

"The JPDC must maintain active and continuous coordination with the concerned SDMs for prompt identification, redressal and mitigation of power-related grievances at the grassroots level," the DC stressed. He further directed to implement scheduled power cuts only after due public intimation through all available communication channels, ensuring that the public is not inconvenienced due to lack of prior information.

'Health for All' is collective mission, resolve: Pathania

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

UDHAMPUR: The 27th Annual Health Mela, organised by the Shree Durga Dass Memorial Charitable Society at Thial, was inaugurated on Saturday by Ranbir Singh Pathania, MLA Udhampur East, Commissioner Udhampur, amidst a large gathering of medical professionals, PRIs, civil society members, and local residents.

Addressing the gathering, Pathania appreciated the commendable role played by voluntary organizations in supplementing government efforts in the healthcare sector, particularly in far-flung and rural areas. He said that "Health for All" remains a cherished mission and guiding vision of the government led by Narendra Modi, and several transformative initiatives have been undertaken to strengthen the healthcare ecosystem across Jammu and Kashmir.

He highlighted that the government has ensured 100 percent coverage under the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme, enabling economically weaker sections to access quality healthcare without financial burden. He further pointed out that the establishment of two premier institutes like All India Institute of Medical Sciences in the region, along with the setting up of multiple new medical colleges and the expansion of advanced medical facilities, has significantly strengthened healthcare delivery. Pathania emphasized that advanced diagnostic and treatment facilities have been made available through these Melas in peripheral and rural areas, thereby bridging the gap between



urban and rural healthcare. He noted that initiatives such as this Health Mela bring specialized medical services directly to the people and play a crucial role in promoting health awareness, preventive care, and early diagnosis. During the mela, a wide range of diagnostic and medical services were made available to the public, including ultrasound examinations, mammography screening, blood investigations, and consultations in specialized fields such as gynecology, orthopedics, Ayush, Eye, ENT, Surgery and pulmonology. Such specialized medical interventions and therapeutic services being made available in a remote area like Thial were widely appreciated by the local populace.

Pathania lauded the efforts of the organizing society and the team of doctors and medical professionals who devoted their time and expertise to serve the people.

BJP slams Govt for 'biased' allocation of medical posts

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders strongly criticized the National Conference-led Government for what they termed as a "blatantly biased and unjustified" decision regarding the creation and distribution of posts in medical institutions across Jammu and Kashmir.

A press conference was jointly addressed by MLA Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma, MLA Samba Surjit Singh Salathia, MLA Bahu Ch. Vikram Randhawa, and MLA Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi, at the BJP Headquarters in Trikuta Nagar, Jammu. BJP Media Incharge Dr. Pardeep Mahotra was also present on the occasion.

Addressing the media, Sham Lal Sharma launched a scathing attack on the NC government, stating that the recent decision taken in a cabinet meeting regarding the creation of posts has once again exposed the discriminatory mindset of the regime towards the Jammu region.

Sharma said that a total

of 136 posts were created by the government, out of which 90 posts (including 17 Professors and 73 Associate Professors) were allotted to Kashmir, while only 46 (including 10 Professors and 36 Associate Professors) were given to Jammu, which clearly reflects a biased approach and amounts to snatching the rightful share of the people of Jammu. He said that the NC Government has flouted all established norms, rules and criteria while making this allocation. Referring to the 2011 Census, Sharma stated that according to it (although there may be some irregularities), the current distribution of posts is completely disproportionate and unacceptable.

Sharma further pointed out that no rational criteria such as the actual work done by institutions, IPD and OPD patient load, or healthcare requirements were taken into account while making the allocation. "Allotting 90 posts to Kashmir and only 46 to Jammu medical institutions is beyond any logical or administrative justification," he

asserted. Highlighting the neglect of Jammu's healthcare infrastructure, Sharma said that several proposals for recruitment of manpower in Jammu-based hospitals are lying unattended for years. He cited the example of the Bone and Joint Hospital in Jammu, where a requirement of 299 posts was projected, but the hospital continues to function merely on internal arrangements due to non-approval of posts.

He further said that in GMC Jammu, the Department of Neonatology requires 17 posts, while the Emergency Medicine Department requires 61 posts, but these crucial requirements remain ignored. Sharma also reminded that during the Administrative Council decisions under the LG's administration, 196 posts were sanctioned for the State Cancer Institute and 237 posts were approved for the 200-bedded Maternity Hospital at Gandhi Nagar, but these decisions are yet to be implemented on the ground.

Mufti welcomes revocation of NSA against Wangchuk

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday welcomed the Centre's decision to revoke the detention of Ladakhi activist Sonam Wangchuk under the National Security Act (NSA), saying the stringent law should never have been invoked against the environmentalist.

The former chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir also welcomed the Supreme Court's decision to grant bail to separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah.

"The NSA should not have been invoked against Sonam Wangchuk in the first place. He has done so much for the environment. Also, he was a fan of the BJP, this should not have happened to him," Mufti

told reporters here. "Thankfully, he has got his right. However, there are many more people who are lodged in jails under UAPA and do not have the wherewithal to fight legal battles. Many of them are languishing in jail for years without a trial," she said.

The Centre on Saturday said it has revoked with immediate effect the detention of Wangchuk under the NSA, nearly six months after he was arrested following violent protests in Leh that left four dead.

The decision, which the Centre said was to foster peace in Ladakh, comes days after the Supreme Court on Tuesday adjourned the hearing on a plea filed by the activist's wife, Gitanjali J Angmo, challenging his detention to March 17.

The NSA empowers the Centre and states to detain individuals to prevent them from acting in a manner "prejudicial to the defence of India". The maximum detention period is 12 months, though it can be revoked earlier.

It can be invoked by the local administration and has to be ratified by a board headed by a former high court judge. Because it is preventive detention and not arrest, there is no legal obligation to present the detainee before a court of law.

Mufti said a meeting of party leaders held earlier in the day discussed the situation in Kashmir in light of recent protests supporting Iran. She claimed that many people had been in jail for nearly two weeks for participating in peaceful

J-K emerging torchbearer of India's growth: Dr Jitendra

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, and MoS PMO, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Saturday laid the foundation stone of a major Multi National Company pharmaceutical manufacturing facility at Village Gadadhar in district Kathua.

The project, with investment of over Rs 600 to 700 crore, is being set up by Orchid Pharma with facilitation from Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), under the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the investment of around 600 crore rupees, being made under the Government of India's Production Linked Incentive Scheme, reflects growing confidence in the industrial and innovation potential of the Jammu & Kashmir re-



gion.

He said the facility is expected to generate direct employment for nearly 400 people, while creating an equal number of indirect employment opportunities for suppliers, logistics providers and other allied sectors.

The Minister highlighted that with its growing industrial infrastructure Kathua has the potential to emerge as a significant pharmaceu-

tical manufacturing hub on India's pharma export map.

Dr. Jitendra Singh described the project as a major breakthrough for the pharmaceutical sector in the region, noting that the facility will manufacture the critical antibiotic intermediate Amino Cephalosporanic Acid (ACA), a key component in the production of cephalosporin antibiotics. At present, India depends almost entirely on imports of this

intermediate from China, which creates vulnerabilities in supply security, pricing stability and healthcare access. The Minister said, the Kathua facility would significantly strengthen India's strategic capabilities in pharmaceutical manufacturing and reduce import dependence on critical intermediates. "Antibiotics are foundational to modern healthcare, and the pandemic showed how dependence on a single geography for essential inputs can quickly become a national vulnerability."

Highlighting the broader policy vision, Dr. Jitendra Singh said the initiative reflects the vision of the PM Narendra Modi to make India self-reliant in critical healthcare technologies and pharmaceutical supply chains. He also referred to the newly announced ₹10,000 crore Biopharma Shakti initiative in the Union Budget aimed at strengthening India's biotechnology and biopharmaceutical ecosystem.