

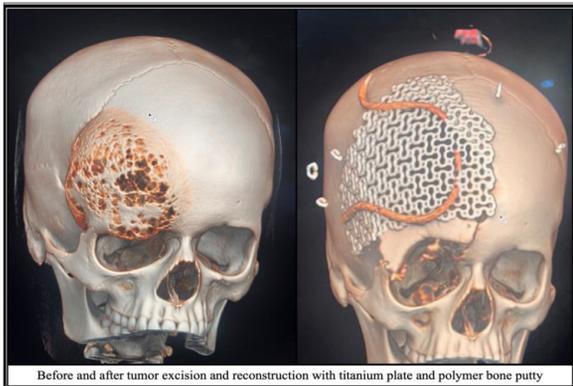
# AIIMS marks new achievement in reconstructive Neurosurgery

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**SAMBA:** The Neurosurgery Department at AIIMS Jammu has marked a new achievement by successfully executing a highly intricate reconstructive surgery on a 15-year-old girl from Pathankot, who was suffering from a rare bony tumour affecting her forehead and eye socket.

The young patient was diagnosed with an aneurysmal bone cyst, a benign yet aggressive tumour that resulted in a noticeable facial deformity and a gradual loss of vision. This condition had a significant impact on her self-esteem, even preventing her from attending school. The case was particularly challenging due to the tumour's tendency to bleed heavily, and in this instance, it was also invading the brain and receiving a part of its blood supply from the healthy brain.

The surgery, which involved weeks of meticulous planning, was conducted by Dr. Kanav Gupta and Dr. Shaurya Darbari, Assistant Professors in the Neurosurgery Department, with support from the anaesthesia team led by Dr. Raksha Kundal, Associate Professor, and



Before and after tumor excision and reconstruction with titanium plate and polymer bone putty

Dr. Aleesha, Assistant Professor (Department of Anaesthesia)

During the procedure, several advanced technologies were utilized. Intraoperative navigation assisted the surgeons in accurately identifying the tumour's deep extensions around the eye socket. A cell saver system was employed to collect, purify, and re-infuse the patient's own blood, eliminating the need for extensive blood transfusions. After the complete removal of the tumour, the bony

defect was reconstructed using a titanium graft. The eyebrow area, essential for cosmetic appearance, was carefully reconstructed using a quick-setting polymer bone putty, moulded during the operation to match the natural shape and contour of the opposite eyebrow.

The young girl has made a good recovery and is now ready to be discharged with restored facial symmetry and vision a transformative change for her and

her family.

Reflecting on the achievement, Dr. Shaurya Darbari, Officiating Head of the Department of Neurosurgery, stated:

"This case underscores the progress our department has made since its establishment just seven months ago. We have been tackling highly challenging cases many deemed inoperable elsewhere and have already performed over 120 neurosurgeries.

Patients from Jammu, Kashmir, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh are now coming here for advanced neurosurgical care. The pace of growth and innovation has been very encouraging."

Prof. (Dr) D.N. Sharma, Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu, expressed pride in the accomplishment, saying:

"The success of the neurosurgery team is a source of great pride for the entire institute. Until recently, patients from this region had to travel long distances to AIIMS New Delhi or PGIMER Chandigarh for complex brain and spinal surgeries, often facing long waiting periods. That expertise is now available right here in Jammu and this achievement

# DIG Sarah Rizvi reviews security for Navratra



EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** In view of the forthcoming Navratra Festival, Sarah Rizvi, IPS, DIG Udhampur-Reasi Range, chaired a joint security review meeting at Katra to assess and strengthen preparedness for the smooth and peaceful conduct of the holy festival.

The meeting was attended by SSP Reasi, Commanding Officer CRPF 6th Battalion, SP Katra,

SDPO Katra, DySP Bhawan, and officers from the Army, Intelligence Bureau, CID, Railways, Traffic Police and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board.

During the meeting, SSP Reasi presented a comprehensive security grid plan for Katra town and briefed on arrangements for Katra Town, yatra route and the Shrine.

The DIG emphasized that ensuring foolproof security for pilgrims during the holy festival remains the foremost priority.

Key directions issued included the establishment of random checkpoints to intensify vehicle checking and round-the-clock joint long-range patrolling by J&K Police and CRPF. Additional measures such as enhanced foot patrolling, deployment on high ridges, activation of VDGs and continuous area domination exercises and

launch of LRPs were also stressed.

Special focus was laid on crowd management to ensure the safety of pilgrims to prevent any untoward incident of sabotage including stampedes.

## NOTICE

I, Sumit Koushal S/o Mukesh Koushal R/o Ward No 8, Teli Basti, Bari Brahmana Distt Samba, J&K have lost the Death Certificate (Shamshan Ghat S. No 328). Missing report in this case stands registered at concerned Police Station. Now, I am applying for issuance of duplicate Death Certificate. Objection, if any, conveyed to concerned authorities within seven days of this publication.

## TENDER NOTICE FOR COBBLER SHOP SERVING AT FIRE AND FURY SHOPPING COMPLEX, LEH

1. Tender/Quotation are invited from prospective bidders for provision of cobbler shop service at fire and fury shopping complex, Leh. Priority will be given as below:-

S. No	Cat	Priority
1	Ex-Servicemen	I

2. Detailed terms and condition to be obtained from 61 FMSD, Leh (Mob No-8146492993, Email- [fmsdc061@gmail.com](mailto:fmsdc061@gmail.com)) before submission of tender/quotation.  
3. Interested bidders may submit quotation on their letter head by 1700 hrs by 02 Apr 2026 alongwith a bank Guarantee/Bank Draft/Postal order Rs of 5000/- (Refundable) to the fwg address:-

OC, 61 FMSD  
PIN-900465  
C/o 56 APO

**M/s Woodcarving & Carpantry Union Co-Operative Ltd.**  
Leh UT - Ladakh 194101 India Regd. No: RCS/UTL-2022-23/SR-129  
Mob. No. +91-9622993950

Ref. No. WCC-UD/07/GPI/26 Dated: 15-03-2026

### To whom it may concern

#### URGENT NOTICE FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

All members of Woodcarving and Carpentry Cooperative Pvt. Ltd. are hereby informed that it is mandatory to renew their membership for the current term.

Members are requested to kindly complete the membership renewal process on or before 31st March 2026.

Members who fail to renew their membership within the stipulated time will automatically be removed from the membership register of the Cooperative Society, as per the rules and regulations governing the society.

Therefore, all concerned members are requested to treat this notice as urgent and ensure timely compliance.

For further information or assistance regarding the renewal process, members may contact the office of the Cooperative Society during working hours.

By Order

President

Woodcarving and Carpentry Cooperative Pvt. Ltd.  
Leh, Union Territory of Ladakh

## The Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION DIVISION LEH

(E-mail Id: [xenedlehg@gmail.com](mailto:xenedlehg@gmail.com) Tele No: 01982-264324)

### e-Tender Notice

**e-NIT No: 157 of ED Leh of 2025-26 Dated: - 17-03-2026.**

For & on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT Ladakh, Executive Engineer Electric Distribution Division Leh invites online e-bids from Registered Electrical Contractors fulfilling the eligibility and qualification requirements specified in this bidding document for as per below mentioned details:

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	Earnest Money amount	Cost of tender Document (in Rs)
1	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning for 3-phase LT line Extension for New SDM and Tehsiladar office at Kharu on full turnkey basis for the year 2025-26.	4.03Lac	0.08Lac	Rs. 300/- (Online payment transfer)
Publish Date & Time		17/03/2026 ; 18:00 Hrs		
Start Date & time of downloading of bidding documents		17/03/2026 ; 18:00 Hrs		
E-Bid Submission start date & time		18/03/2026 ; 10:00 Hrs		
E-Bid Submission end date & time		24/03/2026 ; 14:00 Hrs		
Technical Bid opening date & time. The bid will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Distribution Division Leh.		25/03/2026 ; 14:00 Hrs		
Financial bid Opening date& time		Shall be communicated to the technically qualified bidders.		
Submission of hard copy in the O/o Executive Engineer, Electric Distribution Division Leh.		Shall be submitted by L1 before allotment of works.		
AAA Status		In anticipation of funds and Administrative Approval		
Funds Status		In anticipation of funds and Administrative Approval		

The tenders will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, Electric Distribution Division Leh. The detailed tender document is available at website <https://tenders.ladakh.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-bid document and submit their e-bid online as detailed in bid document.

No: EDD/T-24/6521-26  
Dated: 17-03-2026

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Electric Distribution Division, Leh

## 3 Bovine smuggling bids foiled; 23 cattle rescued

**JAMMU:** Continuing its intensified drive under Operation Kamdhenu, Jammu (Rural) Police achieved major success by foiling three bovine smuggling attempts in the jurisdiction of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and Police Station Nagrota, rescuing a total of 23 bovine animals. In the first incident, during routine vehicle checking at Naka Point Panjal, a police team of Police Station Jhajjar Kotli intercepted a Mahindra Bolero Load Carrier (JK06B-2558). On noticing the naka, the driver fled from the spot. During checking, 03 bovines were found. The animals were rescued and the vehicle seized.

In this regard, FIR No. 32/2026 under Section 223 BNS and Section 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli. In another incident at the same naka point, a police team intercepted a Mahindra Load Carrier (JK02CN-0704) The driver fled from the spot after noticing police presence. During checking, 04 bovines were found loaded in violation of legal provisions. The animals were rescued and the vehicle seized.

Accordingly, FIR No. 33/2026 under Section 223 BNS and Section 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli. In a third incident, during the intervening night, a police party of PP Sidhra foiled another bovine smuggling attempt and intercepted a Truck (JK19A-7806). The driver managed to escape under the cover of darkness. During checking, 16 bovines were found loaded, animals were rescued and the vehicle seized. In this regard, FIR No. 75/2026 under Section 223 BNS and Section 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Nagrota. Investigation in all cases is underway.

## Absconder apprehended after 4 decades

**JAMMU:** In a breakthrough, Jammu Police apprehended an absconder who had been evading arrest for nearly four decades in a case registered at Police Station Nowabad.

The accused, Sham Lal S/O Chuchi Ram Bhagat R/O Baran Masjid Mohalla, Tehsil Bhalwal, was wanted in FIR No. 127/1985 U/S 279/427 RPC and had remained at large since 1985. Acting on specific inputs, a dedicated police team launched sustained efforts and successfully traced the whereabouts of the absconder. He was subsequently arrested and taken into custody. The accused was produced before the Court of Sub Judge JMTC Jammu for further legal proceedings. The arrest was effected by PSI Arjun Choudhary under the close supervision of Inspector Vikas Hans, SHO PS Nowabad, DySP Headquarters Jammu and overall supervision of SP City North. Jammu Police reiterates its firm commitment to tracking down long-pending offenders and ensuring that justice is delivered, irrespective of the time elapsed.

## Alert ticket staff nab two thieves; device returned

**JAMMU:** Northern Railway's Jammu Division remains ever-ready to serve and assist its passengers. In this spirit, the division's employees undertake numerous commendable initiatives—ranging from providing amenities to ensuring security—all in the best interest of the passengers. Adding another chapter to this series of praiseworthy deeds, and acting under the directives of Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Uchit Singhal, the ticket checking staff of the Jammu Division has demonstrated exemplary performance while on duty. Foremost among these incidents, on March 17, Shri Sandeep Kumar—a member of the ticket checking staff based at the Pathankot headquarters—apprehended two mobile thieves near Narwana station while they were attempting to steal a passenger's mobile phone in Coach S-1 of Train No. 14035 (Dhauladhar Express). Taking immediate action, he handed the culprits over to the on-duty Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel present on the train for further legal proceedings. Following this incident, the passenger expressed deep gratitude to the ticket checking staff and highly lauded their act of bravery.

Meanwhile, turning to an incident involving another train, the ticket checking staff aboard Train No. 14803 successfully located and safely returned a mobile phone belonging to a passenger traveling on Seat No. 4 of Coach B-2. Upon recovering his mobile phone, the passenger extended his sincere thanks to the ticket checking staff.

Currently, under the able guidance of the Divisional Railway Manager and the Senior Divisional Commercial Manager (Jammu), the employees of the Commercial Department are playing a leading role not only in revenue generation but also in ensuring passenger safety and security.

## Chaitra Navratri to begin on Mar 19: Mahant Rohit Shastri

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** The Hindu New Year traditionally begins with the Pratipada (first day) of the Shukla Paksha of the Chaitra month. However, there has been some confusion regarding the exact date of the festival this year. The Pratipada Tithi will begin at 6:53 AM on 19 March and will end at 4:53 AM on 20 March. Since the Pratipada will start after sunrise on 19 March and end before sunrise on 20 March, the tithi is considered Kshaya (shortened). According to scriptures, when the Pratipada Tithi is not present at sunrise on both days, the first day is considered the beginning of the new year. Therefore, Chaitra (Vasant) Navratri will be observed from 19 March to 27 March this year.

On Thursday, 26 March, both Durga Ashtami and Shri Ram Navami will be observed, while Durga Navami will be celebrated on Friday, 27 March. Since the birth of Lord Shri Ram is celebrated when the Navami Tithi prevails during midday, and this condition occurs on 26 March, Shri Ram Navami will be celebrated on that day. Maha Navami will be observed on 27 March, which will also mark the conclusion of the Navratri festival. This year Navratri



will be observed for the full nine days.

Mahant Rohit Shastri President of Shri Kailash jyotish avim Vedic sansthan Trust further informed that the auspicious time for Kalash Sthapana and lighting the sacred lamp on Thursday, 19 March 2026, will begin at 7:15 AM, and the entire day will remain auspicious. However, the following Shubh Choghadiya timings are considered especially favorable: 7:15 AM to 7:45 AM, 10:30 AM to 12:02 PM

Additionally, the Abhijit Muhurat will occur from 12:05 PM to 12:53 PM, which is also regarded as an excellent time for Kalash Sthapana.

The Navratri fast is observed from Pratipada to Navami of the Shukla Paksha of Chaitra month. During these nine days, devotees worship the nine forms of Goddess Durga—Shailputri, Brahmacharini, Chandraghanta, Kushm

anda, Skandamata, Katyayani, Kaalratri, Mahagauri and Siddhidatri. Devotees should perform the worship of Goddess Durga and recite the Durga Saptashati, either personally or through a learned priest.

Chaitra Navratri 2026 Schedule: 19 March – Pratipada – Worship of Maa Shailputri & Ghatasthapana; 20 March – Dwitiya – Worship of Maa Brahmacharini; 21 March – Tritiya – Worship of Maa Chandraghanta; 22 March – Chaturthi – Worship of Maa Kushmanda; 23 March – Panchami – Worship of Maa Skandamata; 24 March – Shashthi – Worship of Maa Katyayani; 25 March – Saptami – Worship of Maa Kaalratri; 26 March – Ashtami – Worship of Maa Mahagauri & Shri Ram Navami; 27 March – Navami – Worship of Maa Siddhidatri & Durga Navami. According to the Devi Bhagavate Purana: "Shashi-Surye Gajarudha, Shani-Bhaume Turangame Gurau Shukre Cha Dolayam, Budhe Nauka Prakeertita."

This means that if the first day of Navratri falls on Sunday or Monday, Goddess Durga arrives on an elephant. If it falls on Saturday or Tuesday, she arrives on a horse. If it falls on Thursday or Friday, she arrives on a palanquin (Doli), and if it falls on

Wednesday, she arrives on a boat.

Since Chaitra Navratri begins on Thursday, 19 March this year, the Goddess will arrive on a palanquin. According to traditional astrological beliefs, this may indicate global tensions, unrest, instability, and the possibility of diseases or hardships, which could affect public peace and prosperity.

However, the departure of the Goddess will take place on Friday, which signifies that she will depart on an elephant. This is considered auspicious and is believed to bring good rainfall, prosperity, and relief from difficulties.

Navratri is also considered a highly auspicious period for spiritual practices, meditation, and tantra sadhana. Household devotees also worship Goddess Durga during these days to awaken their inner spiritual power. It is believed that spiritual practices performed during Navratri do not go in vain. Charity and acts of kindness are also considered highly meritorious during this period.

Devotees should avoid tamasic foods and intoxicants such as alcohol during Navratri, as they can have negative effects not only on the body but also on one's spiritual progress.

## JU media students oriented towards objective, balanced political reporting

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** The Department of Journalism and Media Studies, University of Jammu, organised a special interaction 'Mastering Political Reporting Skills', wherein renowned journalist, Raj Kishor was keynote speaker.

The session aimed to familiarize the media students with the nuances of political reporting, its practical significance, and the contemporary challenges associated with it.

The interaction was organized in alignment with the visionary initiative of Vice Chancellor Prof. Umesh Rai, which emphasizes nurturing a strong professional outlook, ethical commitment in journalism, and the holistic development of students. The initiative sought to prepare students to become responsible and credible custodians of journalism in challenging times.

On the occasion, Prof. Garima Gupta highlighted the importance of political reporting and urged media students to remain socially aware and committed to responsible journalism. She noted that objective and fact-based reporting helps shape media students into effective storytellers who safeguard truth and counter the spread



of fake news, particularly in Political reporting.

The keynote speaker for the session encouraged students to develop a deeper understanding of contemporary issues and to embrace journalism as a powerful instrument for cultural preservation and national unity. "Political reporting is the oxygen of democracy. It goes beyond merely covering news; it plays a vital role in keeping those in power accountable and the public well informed," he said. During his address, Sh. Raj Kishore also discussed the current state of journalism and the challenges faced by journalists. He spoke about the pressures associated with political reporting, the rapid spread of misinformation and propaganda in the digital age, and the importance of maintaining credibility and ethical standards in news writing.

He advised students to remain conscious of their social responsibilities while reporting on sensitive

issues and to uphold the fundamental ethical principles of journalism.

Sharing his extensive experience and understanding of the political beat, he encouraged students to cultivate critical thinking and develop a deeper research-oriented approach so that they can produce journalism that aligns with professional values while strengthening national interest and public trust.

The programme also featured an engaging question-and-answer session where students discussed career prospects in the media industry, academic growth, and the challenges faced by young journalists in an increasingly competitive media landscape.

The interaction highlighted the department's continuing commitment to connecting students with experienced academicians and media practitioners, thereby bridging institutional learning with the realities of professional journalism.