

JKAACL features book release, hosts literary interaction

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages organized a literary programme featuring the release of two books authored by noted writer O. P. Sharma Vidyarthi at K.L. Saigal Hall Jammu today. The event witnessed the participation of eminent academicians, scholars and literary enthusiasts.

The programme was presided over by B. R. Sharma, Former Chief Secretary J&K while Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Former Chief Secretary Ladakh attended as the Chief Guest.

On the occasion, the books Golden Glee of Glades & Gardens and Wilderness Whispers and Woes by O. P. Sharma Vidyarthi were formally released by the dignitaries.

The programme began with a welcome address by Secretary JKAACL Harvinder Kour who highlighted the importance of literary dialogue and research in strengthening the cultural and intellectual environment of society. She reiterated the Academy's commitment to promoting literary activities and providing a



platform for writers and scholars. Speaking on the occasion, B. R. Sharma appreciated the literary contribution of the author and emphasized the importance of nurturing creative writing and intellectual discourse in society.

Dr. Pawan Kotwal shared his remarks on the books and lauded the author's effort in presenting reflections on nature, culture and human experiences through his writings. Principal Secretary, Department of Culture, B. M. Sharma, who attended as a special invitee, also addressed the gathering and spoke about the

author's literary journey and his valuable contribution to literature. Dean Faculty of Arts, Cluster University Jammu, Dr. Monika Sharma, who was the guest of honour appreciated the author's literary contribution and emphasized the importance of literature in preserving cultural values and encouraging critical literary engagement.

As part of the programme, two research scholars from Cluster University Jammu presented scholarly papers on the books. Shubam Sharma presented a paper on Golden Glee of Glades &

Gardens, discussing the thematic richness and literary nuances of the work, while Ravinder K. Rao presented a paper on Wilderness Whispers and Woes, highlighting the author's reflections on nature and environmental consciousness.

The author, O. P. Sharma Vidyarthi, also shared his thoughts on the creative inspiration behind the books, interacted with the audience and appreciated the Academy's efforts in promoting literature and cultural activities.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Additional Secretary, JKAACL Lal Chand.

JMC Comm inspects wards, assures prompt redressal of civic woes



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JAMMU: Commissioner, Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) Dr. Devansh Yadav today undertook an extensive inspection tour of Wards 26, 39 and 66, covering the areas of Top Sherkhania, Subash Nagar, Suryavanshi Nagar, Lower Roonagar and Muthi, to take firsthand stock of the civic issues and challenges being faced by the residents.

During the visit, Dr. Yadav interacted with locals, who apprised him of a range of pressing concerns affecting their day-to-day lives. Prominent among these were demand for a comprehensive improvement in the drinking water supply system, immediate repair and maintenance of drainage networks to prevent waterlogging and black-topping of dilapidated roads. Residents also emphasized the need for tiling work in inner lanes to enhance accessibility and cleanliness.

In addition, the locals raised serious concerns regarding sanitation conditions in various pockets of the locality and highlighted the issue of non-functional streetlights, which pose

safety risks, especially during night hours.

Taking prompt cognizance of these issues, Dr. Yadav issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned officials to ensure swift and effective action. Health Officer, Dr. Vinod Sharma was directed to intensify sanitation measures in the area and to carry out regular inspections, including daily monitoring of the attendance and performance of sanitary workers to ensure accountability and efficiency.

Further, officials from the Electrical Division were instructed to conduct a comprehensive survey of streetlights in the area and ensure immediate

repair or replacement of all non-functional units. Directions were also issued to the engineering wings to assess the requirements for drainage repairs, road black-topping and lane tiling work and initiate necessary action at the earliest.

Reaffirming the commitment of the Jammu Municipal Corporation towards improving civic amenities, Dr. Yadav assured the residents that all genuine demands would be addressed on priority and within a stipulated time frame. He emphasized that coordinated efforts among various departments of JMC would be ensured to deliver tangible results on the ground.

Property attached under NDPS Act

SAMBA: As a part of its relentless effort against drug peddlers/smugglers, Samba Police has attached a pucca residential house valuing approximately 39.58 lacs belonging to notorious drug peddler Masoom Ali @Kala S/o Dulla R/o Rakh Barotian tehsil Vijaypur district Samba. The action was taken by Police under section 68-F of NDPS Act.

The residential house valuing rupees 39.58 lacs approximately identified as illegally acquired property during the course of investigation/enquiry conducted by police. The property was prima facie acquired from illicit trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances by the drug peddler.

It is pertinent to mention here that the accused Masoom Ali @ Kala is a notorious drug peddler who was also booked under PITNDPS Act during the year 2025 and presently lodged in the District Jail Udampur. The details of NDPS cases registered against him at different Police Stations of the district including - FIR No. 203/2021 u/s 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act of PS Vijaypur; FIR No. 204/2021 u/s 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act of PS Vijaypur; FIR No. 46/2023 u/s 8/21/22 NDPS Act of PS Samba; FIR No. 60/2023 u/s 8/21/22 NDPS Act of PS Samba; FIR No. 173/2025 u/s 8/21/22/29 NDPS Act of PS Bari Brahmana. This decisive action demonstrates the police's ongoing commitment to dismantle the drug trade by targeting illegal assets and deterring future offenders. Local people of the area hailed this unprecedented initiative of Samba Police against drug dealers. The entire proceedings were effected by a special team headed by SHO PS Vijaypur under the supervision of SDPO Vijaypur and under the overall supervision of SSP Samba.

Bovine smuggling bid foiled; 16 cattle rescued in Manwal

JAMMU: Continuing its drive under Operation Kamdhenu, Jammu (Rural) Police foiled a bovine smuggling attempt in the jurisdiction of Police Post Manwal, Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and rescued 16 bovine animals.

Acting on reliable information, a police team laid a naka at Zaddha and intercepted a Canter Load Carrier (JK03N-2697) coming from Battal Dhar road towards Kashmir. During checking, 16 bovine animal's were found loaded in a cruel manner without permission. The driver, Zahid Ahmed Khatana S/O Mohd Imran Khatana R/O Peth Khanan, Tehsil Kangan, District Ganderbal, was arrested on the spot. The animals were rescued and the vehicle seized.

In this regard, a case FIR No.34 under Section 223 BNS and Section 11 PCA Act has been registered at Police Station Jhajjar Kotli and investigation is underway.

CSIR-IIIM concludes HPLC training prog



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JAMMU: The CSIR-Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine successfully concluded its three-day hands-on training programme on High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) on Wednesday, aimed at strengthening scientific skills and practical expertise among researchers, scholars and students.

Organised under the CSIR Integrated Skill Initiative, the programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from premier institutions across Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the country, including AIIMS, SKUAST, Central University of Jammu and BGSBU, among others.

The training, which began earlier this week, focused on bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application of HPLC—an essential analytical technique widely used in pharmaceutical research, natural product chemistry and quality control of medicinal formulations.

During the valedictory session, Director Dr. Zabeer Ahmed expressed satisfaction over the successful conduct of the programme and appreciated the active engagement of participants.

Reflecting on the feedback received, he noted that while the training was short in

duration, it served as a crucial introductory platform for advanced analytical chemistry techniques. He emphasized that such hands-on programmes are designed not just to impart knowledge but to build long-term scientific collaboration and research capacity.

Highlighting future opportunities, he informed participants about extended training modules ranging from one to six months and encouraged them to stay connected with the institute for advanced learning and research exposure.

Dr. Ahmed also reiterated the institute's commitment to integrating traditional medicinal knowledge with modern analytical tools to develop globally competitive phytopharmaceutical products.

He assured participants of continued academic and technical support, even beyond the duration of the training. Providing an overview of the programme, Senior Scientist Dr. Maqsood Ahmed elaborated on the structured learning approach adopted during the three-day training.

He said the first day covered fundamental principles, instrumentation and operational aspects of HPLC, including column selection and system components.

On the second day,

participants were given hands-on exposure to operating HPLC systems, including sample preparation, method execution and analysis of plant extracts and other samples.

The final day focused on data interpretation, peak identification, calculation of parameters such as concentration and area, and preparation of analytical reports. "The objective was to equip participants with practical skills that are directly applicable in research and industry, enabling them to independently handle analytical instruments and interpret results with confidence," he said.

Participants, while sharing their feedback, described the programme as highly informative and skill-enhancing. Many appreciated the balance between theory and practical sessions, along with the supportive learning environment at the institute.

Some participants expressed interest in attending longer-duration courses and internships to further deepen their expertise. A participant from Haryana highlighted not only the academic value of the training but also the welcoming atmosphere at the institute, noting that the interactive environment encouraged open discussion and curiosity-driven learning.

Mahant Rohit Shastri's Zodiac Goddess Durga worship guide for Navratri

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JAMMU: Chaitra Navratri in the year 2026 will commence on March 19 (Thursday). Regarding the auspicious occasion, Mahant Rohit Shastri (Jyotishacharya), President of Kailakh Jyotish avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, stated that the entire day after 7:15 AM on March 19 is auspicious for Ghatasthapana Kalash Sathapana, lighting the sacred lamp (Jyoti), and invoking Goddess Durga. However, if possible, it is advisable to complete these rituals early in the morning. Zodiac-wise Worship (Rituals): Aries (Mesha): Worship Lord Shiva. Perform special worship of Goddess Skandamata. Offer red sandalwood, red flowers,



and white sweets. Taurus (Vrishabha): Chant "Om Gam Ganapataye Namah." Worship Goddess Mahagauri. Offer dry fruits (Panchmeva), betel nut, white sandalwood, and white flowers. Gemini (Mithuna): Recite Shri Suktam 11 times

Goddess Brahmacharini. Offer bananas, flowers, and incense. Cancer (Karka): Recite Shri Ganesh Chalisa. Worship Goddess Shailputri. Offer sugar candies (batasha), rice, milk, and curd. Leo (Simha): Recite Aditya Hridaya Stotra. Worship Goddess Kushmanda. Perform aarti using a copper vessel with roli, sandalwood, saffron, and camphor. Virgo (Kanya): Recite Durga Chalisa 7 times daily. Worship Goddess Brahmacharini. Offer fruits and Ganga water. Libra (Tula): Recite Ram Raksha Stotra. Worship Goddess Mahagauri. Offer milk, curd, rice, and a chunri; perform aarti with a ghee lamp. Scorpio (Vrischika): Perform Shiva worship and Rudrabhishek. Worship

Goddess Skandamata. Offer red flowers, jaggery, rice, and red sandalwood. Sagittarius (Dhanu): Recite Guru Charitra. Perform Guru worship. Worship Goddess Chandraghanta. Offer turmeric, bananas, saffron, yellow clothes, sesame oil, and yellow flowers. Capricorn (Makara): Chant the Gayatri Mantra. Worship Goddess Kalratri. Offer a mustard oil lamp, flowers, rice, vermilion (kumkum), and semolina halwa. Aquarius (Kumbha): Recite Sundarkand. Worship Goddess Kalratri. Offer flowers, kumkum, an oil lamp, and seasonal fruits. Pisces (Meena): Chant "Om Namu Bhagavate Vasudevaya" and the Baglamukhi Mantra. Worship Goddess Chandraghanta. Offer

turmeric, milk, rice, yellow flowers, and bananas. Important Guidelines During Navratri include avoid consuming tamasic (impure/non-vegetarian) food; observe celibacy. Stay away from alcohol and intoxicants; do not cut hair, beard, or nails during the fasting period. Do not wear belts, footwear, or leather items during Puja; avoid wearing black-colored clothes; do not leave the house unattended if you have established a Kalash or Akhand Jyoti; cutting lemons during these days is considered inauspicious; according to the Vishnu Purana, avoid sleeping during the day and sleep on the floor at night; hurting someone's feelings is considered the greatest form of violence.

ICE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION OF INDIA PUBLIC NOTICE

For the information of Ice Hockey Coaches / Game Officials
COACH EDUCATION PROGRAM and REFEREE EDUCATION PROGRAM
by Coaching Director - Mr. Darrin Harrold
Round 1 : Start Date : 19th March 2026. End Date : 24th March 2026
Round 2 : Start Date : 25th March 2026. End Date : 29th March 2026
Timing : 12.30- 2.30 pm & 3.30 pm to 5.30 pm
Open to all Coaches and Referees from Affiliated/ Non Affiliated organization, State Associations & Ice Hockey Clubs
Venue: Himadri Ice Rink, Maharana Pratap Sports Complex, Raipur, Dehradun.
Note:
 • Carry your Passport and AADHAR card, Notebook and Pen
 • Carry your Skates, Gloves, Helmet and jersey
 • Stay & Travel at your own cost.
 • Program Coordinator: Amit Belwal (+91 8126017339)
Rajat Malhotra
Joint Secretary
Ice Hockey Association of India
Dated: 18-03-2026

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (M) G.W.D. DIVISION JAMMU SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

E-NIT NO GWD/284 OF 2025-26 DATED 16.03.2026
 For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor UT of J&K, the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu invites tenders by e-tendering mode from reputed and registered firms, who have sufficient experience in the field of below mentioned works:-

Name of the Work	Name of the Division	Cost of Tender Document/Tender Fee (In Rs)	Qty.	Estimated cost (value of work) (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Validity of Rates
Re-development and Stabilization of Tubewell at Jallochak, Jammu under CDF 2025-26	Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu	500.00 (Non-Refundable)	01 No.	Rs. 3.40 lacs	@2% of the estimated value in shape of Fresh CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PHE (M) GWD Division	31 st March 2026

- Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jtenders.gov.in> from 16.03.2026 to 23.03.2026
- The pre bid meeting if desired, shall be held in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) G.W.D. Division Jammu on 18.03.2026 at 1300 hrs.
- The Bids shall be uploaded on the website <http://jtenders.gov.in> from 18.03.2026 (1400 hrs) to 23.03.2026 (1800 hrs.)
- The complete bidding process shall be online and scanned copies of the following documents will have to be uploaded before due date:-
 (i) Scanned copy of treasury e-Challan/Receipt for Rs. 500.00 against the cost of tender document under the receipt Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (M) Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu indicating name of work to be executed. It may be noted that the receipt of the e-challan should be of the date after the issuance of publication of the e-tender.
 (ii) Scanned copy of EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR @2% of the estimated value pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, PHE (M) Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu. It may be noted that the EMD should be of the date after the issuance of publication of the e-tender.
 (iii) Scanned Copies of tender documents, terms and conditions duly signed and stamped (each page) by bidder.
 (iv) Scanned copy of GST Registration from competent authority
 (v) Scanned copy of PAN Card.
 (vi) Scanned copy of Valid Registration of Water Well Drillers issued by Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu for the year 2025-26 shall be submitted by the firm, if any firm has not uploaded all the required documents as mentioned in e-NIT, the bid shall be rejected without any intimation
- The Technical Bids of the tender document received shall be opened online in the office of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division Jammu on 24.03.2026 at 1400 hrs. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids shall be opened on the next working day during the office hours.
- The Cover - II i.e. Financial Bids of the firms who qualify in Cover - I shall also be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Mech. Ground Water Drilling Division Jammu during office hours or some other working day convenient to tender opening authority.
- Other details can be seen inside the detailed tender document.
- Account Head: CDF (2025-26)
- Status of funds: Approved
- AAA No. 147-DC/JC of 2026 Dated 14.03.2026
- Accord of T.S. No. 885 of 03/2026 Dated 16.03.2026

No GWD/9504-06 Dated: 16.03.2026
 Sd/-
 Executive Engineer
 Jal Shakti (M) GWD Division
 Jammu
DIP/J-12933/25