



# JAMMU

**@Dis\_Pol\_Jammu**  
Jammu (Rural) Police foiled a major bovine smuggling bid in Jhajarkotli, rescuing 30 animals. A Tata truck was intercepted during checking but the driver fled. The vehicle was seized. FIR No. 40/2026 under relevant sections has been registered & further investigation is underway.



**@ddprsrinagar**  
Div Com Kashmir, Anshul Garg, today held an interactive meeting with representatives from various Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and the service sector in Kashmir to listen to their grievances, demands, and concerns in view of the Middle East war @diprjk @DivComKash



**EIFFEL TOWER:**  
On this day in 1889, The 984-foot (300-meter) Eiffel Tower, a wrought iron technological masterpiece created by Gustave Eiffel to commemorate the centenary of the French Revolution, was officially inaugurated in Paris.



**16**  
**CD BLOCKS:**  
In the entire Anantnag district of Kashmir division, 16 are the total CD Blocks.



**HORN PROHIBITED**  
Excessive and unnecessary honking is treated as unruly behaviour in modern society. However there are silence zones where honking is completely prohibited like near hospitals, schools etc. This sign directs driver to respect the silence zone and not to use horn.



## Lok Bhavan celebrates Rajasthan, Odisha Day

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** Jammu Kashmir Lok Bhavan on Monday celebrated the Rajasthan Foundation Day, at Jammu. The cultural evening also commemorates the celebrations of Odisha Day 'Utkala Dibasa' which will be observed on 1st April.

Addressing the gathering, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha extended his heartiest greetings and best wishes to the people of Rajasthan and Odisha.

"Rajasthan, land of enlightened giants, has offered humanity's highest guidance and upliftment for society's weakest. Likewise,



Odisha's rich heritage has shaped India's consciousness and philosophy.

I believe diversity and ancient values of these two states have inspired people, gave them strength and a vision to unite all humanity," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Highlighting the linguistic and cultural diversity of Rajasthan, the Lieutenant Governor said that a glimpse of this blessed land reveals how languages like Hindi, Marwari, Hadoti, Mewari, Mewati, and Pun-

jabi have enriched its literary and cultural traditions.

"Rajasthan shines as a treasure trove of spirituality, valor, heroism, and folk arts. Since ancient times, the Aravalli hills and Thar Desert have witnessed its cultural wealth, with its brave sons dedicating their prowess to Mother India's honor and glory," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor stated that during the Bhakti era, luminaries from Rajasthan spread fresh ideas and awakened self-confidence. "Born in Pali, Meerabai is revered as the torchbearer of Bhakti. Ancient sages declare her

the embodiment of devotion itself—synonymous with surrender and sacrifice," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor also spoke on Odisha's rich tapestry of cultural, spiritual and artistic traditions.

"Odisha stands as a testament to millennia of India's cultural and spiritual golden age. From Emperor Ashoka's era in 261 BCE—when it was known as Kalinga—to the 21st century, this sacred land has invariably contributed to forging a mighty Bharat," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor paid tribute to the towering personalities and

luminaries of the two states and recalled their significant contribution to nation building.

"Great figures from both states fueled goal-oriented devotion through Bhakti. Their vibrant folk arts, music-embedded culture, life values, and industrial feats have fortified the "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" ethos, preserving social principles," the Lieutenant Governor said.

Officials, Students, Faculty members from various educational institutions and the people of Rajasthan and Odisha living in J&K UT were the special invitees on the occasion.

## GM Northern Railway inspects Katra-Srinagar-Baramulla link

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** The General Manager of Northern Railway, Rajesh Kumar Pandey, conducted an extensive inspection from Katra to Srinagar yesterday, and carried out a detailed inspection from Budgam to Baramulla on Monday.

During his inspection, the General Manager was accompanied by the Divisional Railway Manager of the Jammu Division, Vivek Kumar, and other senior divisional officials, to take stock of the USBRL projects—a critical national undertaking—and to assess operational readiness.

Focusing on the key highlights of the inspection conducted by the General Manager, he primarily undertook a rigorous examination of the safety aspects of railway tracks, bridges, and

tunnels, particularly in light of the region's challenging geographical terrain.

During his tour, the General Manager reviewed the railway stations located in the Kashmir Valley, including stations covered under the 'Amit Bharat Scheme,' such as Budgam Railway Station. He also paid special attention to the passenger amenities available at these railway stations.

The General Manager also held detailed discussions with divisional officials regarding future railway projects.

He inspected the maintenance and operational protocols of iconic structures such as the Anji Khad Bridge and the Chenab Bridge.

He also inspected the Anantnag Goods Terminal, which serves as a pivotal hub for freight operations within the Valley.



## Bodies of 2 teenage boys retrieved from Tawi river; search on for third

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** The bodies of two teenage boys, who drowned in the Tawi River here on Sunday, were retrieved by rescuers on Monday, while a search was underway to trace a third boy who also drowned with them, officials said.

The three boys – Bavish Koul (15), Sonam Dutt (16) and Aditya Pandit (15), all belonging to the Kashmiri Pandit community – were swept away by a strong current near the Nagrota Sainik School on

the outskirts of Jammu on Sunday evening.

Teams from the police, NDRF, SDRF and local volunteers, which launched the rescue operation on Sunday, have managed to retrieve the bodies of Bavish and Aditya so far, the officials said.

They said specially trained Army divers were mobilised on Monday morning to speed up the rescue efforts, leading to the recovery of the bodies, which have been shifted to the Government Medical College Hospital in Jammu for post-mortem.

## Budget Session 2026

### 'Jammu-Akh 4 lane to be completed by mid 2026'

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Monday said that the Jammu-Akhnoor four lane Project on NH-144A is at an advanced stage while the remaining works are targeted for phased completion by mid-2026.

The Deputy Chief Minister was replying to a question raised by Legislator Mohan Lal in the Legislative Assembly today.

Regarding the timeline for completion, the Deputy Chief Minister informed that the Package-I is likely to be completed by 31.03.2026 while Package-II has already been completed. Besides, pack-



age-III is expected to be completed by 30.04.2026, and Package-III by 31.07.2026.

He said that the delay in completion of certain packages also included project alignment tra-

verses densely populated urban areas of Jammu city, which has led to traffic congestion, restricted working hours and frequent interruptions arising from traffic regulation measures and canal diver-

sion works.

In addition, he said there have been issues related to slow progress and inadequate resource mobilization along with certain technical constraints.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that labour shortages, disruptions for land acquisitions, deployment of men and machinery have also impacted the pace of execution, for various reasons.

He further said that the unseasonal rainfall has also adversely affected the construction activities. He added, delays in disbursement of compensation, removal of encroachments and shifting of utilities have added to the overall timeline slippages.

### Question Hour

### Rs. 212.38 Cr project approved for conservation of Dal-Nigeen Lake

The Jammu and Kashmir Lake Conservation and Management Authority (J&KLCMA) has executed various projects under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and PMDP for preservation, conservation, beautification and development of Tourist facilities at Brari Nambal.

This was stated by Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, in Legislative Assembly today while replying to a question of Legislator Shamim Firdous on behalf of Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah regarding beautification of Brari-Nambal.

The Minister informed the House that under AMRUT an amount of Rs. 876.024 Lakh is being spent on rejuvenation and revival of Brari-Nambal Lagoon through various means like dredging of main water body, dredging of its connected channels viz. Rainawari and Nowpora Channels, construction of 1000 meters walkway and slope stabilization, improvement to temple, removal of solid

waste, restoration of damaged electric poles, repairs and renovation of existing grill fencing and installation of aerators.

It was also informed that for integrated development of Tourist facilities at Brari-Nambal Lagoon, Rs. 627.122 Lakh is being spent under different initiatives like construction of food court near MP School, installation of fountain near Shehri Khas Gate, construction of central jetty, construction of Jetty near Shehri-Khas Gate, construction of inner and outer pathways and providing of ornamental grill fencing.

In addition, the J&K LCMA has proposed to frame a DPR for further development and beautification of the Brarinambal for which RFP is under preparation and shall be floated in the next financial year.

The Minister also informed the House that for tackling pollution and encroachment issues/factors affecting the Dal Lake's ecosystem, Jammu & Kashmir Pollution Control Committee (JKPCC) actively monitors water quality of Dal Lake on a monthly basis with samples

collected and analyzed for various physico-chemical and biological parameters like DO, BOD, COD, pH, Fecal and Total coliform.

It was also informed that during April-December 2025, water quality monitoring at Dal Lake's 21 locations revealed that none met the 'Class B' criteria for BOD while 19 locations met the criteria for fecal coliform.

It was further informed that approximately 3108 families shifted from inside Dal Lake had been rehabilitated at designated housing colonies as a conservation measure. Besides, continuous de-weeding and cleaning is being undertaken throughout the year both manually and mechanically for conservation of Dal Lake.

It was also given out that five Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) have been constructed with total treatment capacity of 36.73 MLD for domestic sewage from peripheral/adjointing areas. Besides, 721 houseboats in Dal-Nigeen Lake have been connected to existing STPs to prevent direct discharge of sewage into the lake.

### 6000 additional transit accommodations under construction for PM Package employees: Dy CM

Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, informed the House that a Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Rs. 8490.15 lakh for repair and renovation of migrant camps in Jammu has been prepared and taken up with the Finance Department for work execution.

The Deputy Chief Minister was replying to a question raised by Legislator Devyani Rana in the Legislative Assembly.

He said that prefabricated transit accommodations with basic amenities have been established at Vessu (Kulgam), Hawal (Pulwama), Natnusa (Kupwara) and Veerwan (Baramulla) Division to provide immediate and secure housing to migrant employees appointed under the Prime Minister's Package. He added that to augment capacity, around 6,000 additional transit accommodations are

under construction in a phased manner.

He said that the Government is providing all basic facilities including housing, drinking water, electricity, sanitation, healthcare, education, ration and security to the camps and migrants residing in accommodations across Jammu and Kashmir.

The Deputy Chief Minister also informed the house that at residential quarters in Mini Township Jagti, facilities including drinking water supply, electricity, Sanitation, ration, education, healthcare and security arrangements are in place.

He added that at TRT Nagrota, Muthi Camp and Purkhoo Camp, all basic facilities like housing, drinking water, electricity, sanitation, healthcare, education, ration and security are being provided and maintained by the concerned departments.

### Udhampur waste managed scientifically; no river dumping: Govt

The municipal solid waste generated in Udhampur town is being scientifically collected and transported to a designated dumping site at Mand, which is not located in proximity to any river body, including the Tawi River.

This information was provided by Minister for Education, Sakeena Itoo, on behalf of the Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah in response to a question raised by Legis-

lator Pawan Kumar Gupta regarding solid waste management in the town.

The Minister apprised the House that there is no indiscriminate dumping of waste along riverbeds or riverbanks. She added that necessary measures, including periodic spraying of bio-culture, are being undertaken at the Mand site to facilitate environmentally sound decomposition of waste.

She further informed

that Udhampur town generates approximately 50 tonnes per day (TPD) of municipal solid waste. A waste processing facility with a capacity of 5 TPD has already been established at Sui Chakar. However, she noted that following flash floods in August 2025, the approach road to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) centre was damaged, leading to suspension of segregation and processing of dry and wet waste.

The minister further said that 6,271 school buses are registered in the UT, of which 4,545 were audited in 2025. "During inspections, 472 buses were found defective,

### Buffer zone norms eased for construction of SDH Hazratbal

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** Minister for Health and Medical Education, Sakeena Itoo, on Monday informed the House that the process for relaxation of buffer zone restrictions under Srinagar Master Plan-2035 for construction of SDH Hazratbal is ongoing and the matter is currently in General Administration Department (GAD) for its placement before the Council of Ministers.

The Minister stated this

### Calling Attention

in reply to the Calling Attention Notice moved by Salman Sagar in the Legislative Assembly today. She informed that the new hospital site of SDH Hazratbal falls within the 200-meter buffer zone of Dal Lake, requiring clearance from the Lakes Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA). She added that after pursuing the matter with the LCMA through GMC

Srinagar, LCMA has advised the department to place a formal proposal before the Cabinet seeking relaxation of the 100-meter buffer restriction for this project.

The Minister said that, thereafter, the matter of relaxation of buffer zone restrictions under Srinagar Master Plan-2035 for construction of SDH Hazratbal, was taken up with the General Administration Department for its placement before the Council of Ministers.

### Road accidents decline in UT over past 3 yrs: Govt

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday said that road accidents in the Union Territory have shown a declining trend over the past three years, owing to the effective implementation of various road safety measures.

In a written reply to the question of National Conference MLA Ali Mohammad Sagar in the Assembly, the minister for transport, Satish Sharma, said, "The number of road accidents has

reduced from 6,120 in 2023 to 5,726 in 2024 and further to 5,287 in 2025".

He said that due to the effective implementation of various road safety measures, including awareness campaigns, enforcement measures and better monitoring mechanisms, there has been a declining trend in the number of road accidents in the last three years.

He said that over 10,000 road safety awareness programmes were conducted in both 2024 and 2025, while health and eye check-ups of

drivers and conductors increased from 374 in 2024 to 394 in 2025.

However, first aid and emergency response training dropped from 87 to 33 during the same period. Initiatives under Good Samaritan schemes and road accident victim support saw a rise from 1,379 to 1,495 cases, he added.

The minister further said that 6,271 school buses are registered in the UT, of which 4,545 were audited in 2025. "During inspections, 472 buses were found defective,

and 450 defects were rectified. Out of 141 driving training schools, 102 were inspected, 81 were found operational as per norms, while notices were issued to 21 institutions", he added.

He said that the proper functioning of speed limiting devices (SLDs) is being ensured during vehicle fitness checks, while the road safety policy, initially notified in 2016, has been revised in 2025 in line with the national road safety policy and shared with all stakeholder departments for implementation.

### Around 150 Principals, Lects, Teachers detached to their original postings

EARTH NEWS SERVICE

**JAMMU:** Minister for Education, Sakeena Itoo on Monday informed the House that around 150 Principals, Lecturers and Teachers are being detached to their original postings in School Education department to streamline the academic activities in Gurez, as well as other far flung and rural areas.

The Minister stated this in Legislative Assembly today during Zero Hour in response to issue of non-availability of teachers in Gurez area, raised by Legislator, Nazir Ahmad Khan (Gurez).

The Education Minister underlined that the step is being taken to ensure smooth educational activities in these areas and ensure equitable education for the students.