

# JAMMU

**@JmuKmrPolice**  
The biggest danger in online hotel booking has now become fake websites, which look exactly like real platforms and this is where users make mistakes. Fraudsters deliberately use triggers like huge discounts and "limited offer" to make you make a quick decision without verifying. Many times these links appear through Google's sponsored ads, which further increases trust. But then reality comes out. When the payment is done... and the booking no longer exists.

**@Whiteknight\_IA**  
#GOC #WhiteKnightCorps, accompanied by #GOC CIF (D), visited general area of #Basantgarh to assess the current #security dynamics and ongoing operational preparedness. He was apprised of the existing security layout, force disposition, surveillance mechanisms and contingency responses, with focused discussions on optimising the operational framework and reinforcing multi-agency synergy for a stable hinterland.

**HERALD:**  
On this day in 1835, James Gordon Bennett published the first issue of the New York Herald.

**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.

## Sakeena reviews public healthcare facilities, assesses utility projects

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**  
**PULWAMA:** Minister for Health and Medical Education, Social Welfare and Education, Sakeena Itoo on Tuesday undertook an extensive visit of the Pampore constituency of Pulwama district and took stock of works on various public utility projects as well as reviewed healthcare facilities. During her visit, the Minister inaugurated state-of-art Digital X-Ray unit and a Thyroid Analyser at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) Parigam. Addressing a gathering on the occasion, the Minister highlighted that the Government led by Omar Abdullah is committed to strengthen the medical infrastructure across Jammu and Kashmir, with special focus on rural and underserved areas. She underlined that the introduction of these advanced diagnostic facilities will greatly enhance early detection and timely treatment of diseases, reducing the need for patients to travel to tertiary care hospitals. She emphasized the government's commitment to equipping rural healthcare institutions with modern technology to ensure accessible and affordable healthcare for all. The Minister also took round of the PHC Parigam and took stock of medical facilities available. She also interacted with medical staff and local residents. Later, the Minister also inspected the under-construction 50-bedded hospital at Kakapora. She reviewed the progress of ongoing works and directed the executing agencies to expedite construction while maintaining quality standards. Stressing the importance of timely completion, she noted that the hospital will play a crucial role in providing accessible and affordable healthcare services to the people of the area.

## Apni Party holds protest against JDA for alleged illegal activities



**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**  
**SAMBA:** Apni Party has strongly condemned the alleged illegal activities of the Jammu Development Authority (JDA) in Samba district, claiming that the authority is operating beyond its jurisdiction and sparking controversy over the exercise of extra-jurisdictional powers. According to a press release, a meeting was organised by the Apni Party at Vijaypur under the leadership of Provincial President, Jammu, and former Minister, S. Manjit Singh. During the meeting, party leaders held a symbolic protest against the JDA's alleged illegal activities, which they said have threatened the civilian population and their constructions, allegedly using police personnel and JCB machines. Speaking on the occasion, former Minister S. Manjit Singh questioned the exercise of extra-jurisdictional powers by JDA officials without accountability from higher authorities. "These JDA officers are allegedly involved in corrupt practices, which need to be investigated by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha," he said. He further claimed that Samba district was separated from Jammu district after 2006; however, the JDA does not respect the boundaries between the two districts and continues to carry out demolition drives in Samba as well. He also questioned the silence of the NC government and BJP MLAs for not holding JDA officials accountable for exceeding their constitutional mandate and allegedly harassing the common masses.

## Defence output at Rs 1.54 Lakh Cr; exports reach Rs 23,622 Cr in decade: Dr Jitendra

### Prayagraj hosts North Tech Symposium 2026 showcases indigenous defence innovation & operational solutions

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**

**JAMMU:** The Minister of State (MoS) PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh on Tuesday said that India has entered a decisive phase in its defence journey, where technology, indigenous innovation and private sector participation are shaping a new global identity for the country.

Addressing the North Tech Symposium 2026 in Prayagraj, the Minister said that warfare is no longer defined by physical strength alone but increasingly driven by advanced technologies, real-time data systems and automated platforms. Dr. Jitendra Singh said that

in the last decade, India has transitioned from being a major importer of defence equipment to an emerging exporter, with defence production reaching ₹1.54 lakh crore recording 174 % rise in one decade and export growth rising to ₹23,622 crore recording 34times rise in one decade.

The Minister said a substantial contribution of around Rs 15,000 cr to total exports came from the private sector, reflecting a major shift towards collaborative defence manufacturing. Referring to the increasing support from the Government, the Minister said, the current budget 2026-27 earmarks Rs 681000cr for budget, which is 9.5 % more than last year.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said reforms in key sectors have opened new opportunities for industry participation, enabling faster innovation cycles and scaling of indigenous technologies. He added that government support through funding mechanisms and policy initiatives is creating a strong ecosystem for research, development and deployment.

Emphasising the importance of synergy, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the alignment of operational requirements of the Armed Forces with scientific research and industrial capa-



bility is essential for building a resilient and self-reliant defence ecosystem. The Minister also spoke about the evolving role of the Armed Forces, highlighting their critical contribution not only in national security but also in disaster response and humanitarian assistance, recalling recent instances where timely intervention saved lives. The North Tech Symposium 2026, being held in Prayagraj from May 4 to 6, is themed "Raksha Triveni Sangam- Where Technology, Industry and Soldiering Converge." The event is jointly organised by the Northern and Central Commands of the Indian Army in collaboration with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM).

## Dy CM reviews progress on PWD works; sets deadline

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**

**SRINAGAR:** Deputy Chief Minister, Surinder Choudhary, on Tuesday chaired a high-level meeting to review progress on the ongoing Public Works Department (PWD) projects being executed across Jammu and Kashmir.

While reviewing the division-wise status of works, the Deputy CM directed the officers to ensure timely completion of projects under R&B, PMGSY, Cities and Towns, Potholes, Mechanical and NABARD, with zero tolerance for delays, spill overs, lapses or quality standards.

Emphasizing quality and efficiency, the Deputy Chief Minister called for strict adherence to timelines in execution of all PWD works, including those related to health and education sectors. He warned that contractors causing undue delays would face strict action. He directed for expediting the renovation and upgradation works of PWD Guest Houses, ensuring completion within the set timelines. He also stressed the timely



execution of blacktopping works across J&K.

The Deputy Chief Minister reviewed the progress under various sectors, including R&B, PMGSY, Cities & Towns, CRIF, RIDF, Pothole and other infrastructure components. He instructed the senior officers, including Superintending Engineers and Executive Engineers, to conduct regular site visits to ensure quality and pace of work.

"There is no room for quality compromise. Accountability must be visible at every level," he stated, directing the

officers to ensure close supervision and timely completion of works.

The Deputy Chief Minister specifically called for acceleration of work on key projects, including Ramban Bridge, Majalta Bridge, PWD Guest House Udhampur, New Assembly Complex Jammu, Pragwal-Inderpati Bridge, PWD Guest House Hyderpora, Boulevard Road and other major road and bridge projects across J&K.

He further directed for removal of bottlenecks hindering the road widening projects.

## EC 'mastered' electoral manipulation: Mehbooba Mufti on Bengal results

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**

**SRINAGAR:** PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday took a swipe at the EC over the assembly poll results, saying it seems to have mastered the art of "electoral manipulation" and West Bengal is the latest reminder of this "disturbing reality".

In a post on X, she said, "We may not have become 'Vishwaguru', but we seem to have mastered the art of electoral manipulation. West Bengal is the latest reminder of this disturbing reality."

She further said that India was admired globally for holding free and fair polls, but now the EC itself is accused of "subverting" the democratic process with the aid of Central agencies.

"India was once admired as a global model for free and fair elections, especially after T N Seshan transformed ECI into a fearless guardian of democracy.

Today, that very institution stands accused of subverting the electoral process, aided by central agencies. A tragic fall," she said.

## Satish assures prioritizing solarization over conventional electricity

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**

**SRINAGAR:** Minister for Science and Technology, Satish Sharma, on Tuesday reaffirmed Government's strong commitment towards accelerating the solar energy adoption across Jammu and Kashmir, while directing the officials to ensure time-bound resolution of all issues related to ongoing and proposed solar initiatives.

A delegation from the Jammu and Kashmir Solar Association called on the Minister here today to discuss key concerns regarding promotion of renewable energy in the region.

The Minister assured the delegation of full support from the government, particularly in facilitating installation of the rooftop solar



systems in far-flung and underserved areas.

Emphasizing the strategic importance of solar energy, Satish Sharma said that expanding clean energy infrastructure is central to the government's vision of building a sustainable, energy-efficient and environmentally responsible Jammu and Kashmir. He said that increased adoption of solar power would not only help meet rising energy demands but also reduce the dependence on conventional energy sources. Demonstrating a proac-

tive approach, the Minister directed the officers to resolve all pending issues of the Association in a time-bound manner. He stressed that delays in approvals, clearances or implementation must be addressed urgently to ensure seamless execution of solar projects across the Union Territory. Satish Sharma further called for improved coordination among the government departments, implementing agencies and private stakeholders to eliminate bottlenecks and fast-track solar initiatives.

## Strict enforcement, robust rehabilitation key to curb drug menace: Chief Secy

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**

**SRINAGAR:** The 17th Union Territory-level meeting of the Narco Coordination Centre (NCCORD) was on Tuesday chaired by Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, who undertook a comprehensive review of the Union Territory's performance in stringent enforcement of drug laws, prosecution of offenders, and treatment and rehabilitation of victims affected by substance abuse.

The meeting was attended by the Director General, Police; Director General, Prosecution; Principal Secretary, Home; Administrative Secretaries; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir; and other senior civil and police officers,



while Deputy Commissioners and Senior Superintendents of Police from all districts participated through video conferencing.

During the deliberations, the Chief Secretary laid emphasis on strengthening the legal framework and plugging procedural gaps in handling NDPS cases. Stressing accountability, he called for a thorough anal-

ysis of acquittals in NDPS cases and fixing responsibility wherever investigative or procedural lacunae are identified.

Advocating a broader approach, he stressed the use of non-kinetic measures against violators, including cancellation of driving licences, passports, and vehicle registrations, besides scrutiny of financial transactions through bank accounts to choke illicit proceeds. He also emphasized capacity building in the rehabilitation ecosystem, directing for the training of a large pool of counsellors to be made available across schools, colleges, Primary Health Centres, and at the block level through trained Self-Help Group members.

## New Govts should work for everyone's progress: Dr Farooq Abdullah

**JAMMU:** National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday expressed hope that the new governments will discharge their duties keeping in mind that the country belongs to all irrespective of religion and language. Speaking to reporters at Char-e-Shareef in Central Kashmir's Budgam district, Abdullah said the new governments should work for everyone's progress.

When asked about the poll results, he said, "What can my reaction be? The decision of the people is in front of you. What can I do about it?"

Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said, "New governments have been elected. May God make them do good for the people. They should remember that this country belongs to all of us, irrespective of religion and language; they should take care of that, and everyone progresses."

To another question about the holding of local bodies elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the NC chief said the polls should be conducted as local bodies are pillars of democracy.

"The elections will take place, we are waiting. Panchayats are the pillar of democracy, and conducting their elections is necessary. It is the panchs who have to do local development and address the problems faced by the people," he said.

## BJP reviews preparations for district training camps

**EARTH NEWS SERVICE**

**JAMMU:** J&K BJP President and Rajya Sabha MP Sat Sharma chaired an important arrangements and planning meeting at the party headquarters for the upcoming District Training Camps in the Jammu region under the "Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Prashikshan Mahabhiyan 2026".

Sat Sharma, while addressing the meeting, emphasized that the training camps must be conducted in a highly organized and disciplined manner with fool-proof arrangements at every level. He said that the party's training programmes are crucial for strengthening the organizational structure and ideologically empowering the cadre. He stressed that every party activist should take these camps seriously and ensure active participation.

Sat Sharma said that the workers must be thoroughly acquainted with the ideology, principles, achievements, and nation-building efforts of the BJP and its leadership. He added that the camps will play a significant role in preparing dedicated workers capable of effectively serving society and the nation.



Bharat Bhushan, while speaking on the occasion, highlighted the importance and long-term benefits of organizing regular training camps. He said that such programmes help workers sharpen their organizational skills, improve communication, and deepen their understanding of the party's vision and policies.

Sanjita Dogra elaborated on the necessity of systematic planning and proper arrangements for the successful conduct of the camps. She said that well-managed training sessions create a productive atmosphere for learning and interaction, enabling workers to become more effective at the grassroots level.

Baldev Singh Billawaria urged the attendees to work collectively and ensure timely completion of all preparations related to accommodation, logistics, session management, and coordination. He asked all concerned to actively share updates regarding the planning and arrangements.

Dr. Parneesh Mahajan presented a detailed overview of the micro-level arrangements being finalized for the successful conduct of the district-level training camps. He also briefed the meeting about the recently concluded Mandal-level training camps and shared their positive outcomes and organizational benefits.