

# Jammu Police organizes "on wheels cartoon exhibition" at Shaheedi Chowk to spread awareness about drug de-addiction

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: As part of the ongoing anti-drug awareness campaign being conducted in collaboration with Jammu Police, renowned cartoonist Shekhar Sharma organized an "On Wheels" Cartoon Exhibition at Shaheedi Chowk, Jammu, to educate the public about the harmful effects of drug abuse and promote a drug-free society. The exhibition was inaugurated by District Magistrate Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas, who attended the event as the chief guest. The initiative was organized under the leadership of SSP Jammu Joginder Singh, with active support from SP North Vivek Shekhar, SDPO City North Vikram Bhanu, SHO



District Magistrate Jammu, Dr. Rakesh Minhas visiting on wheels cartoon exhibition.

Police Station City Shakti Sharma, SHO Police Station Peer Mitha Syed Ishrat, and the In-charge of Police Post Residency. Held at the bustling Shaheedi Chowk on Residency Road, the exhibition featured a series of impactful cartoons created by Shekhar Sharma. Through creative visual storytelling, the artist highlighted the dangers of drug addiction and encouraged citizens, particularly youth, to stay away from narcotics and contribute towards building a healthier and safer Jammu & Kashmir.

# Tajinder Singh wins gold at 27th Mr. J&K Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championship 2026



Vice President BBAJK, Vinay Sharma honouring Tajinder Singh for winning gold medal.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Tajinder Singh of Mahaveer Gym brought pride to the bodybuilding fraternity by securing a Gold Medal in his category at the 27th Mr. J&K Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Championship 2026. The prestigious championship was organized by the Body Builders Association of Jammu & Kashmir (BBAJK) in collaboration with the J&K Sports Council and was held at A.V. Resort, Sainik Colony, Jammu. Tajinder's outstanding performance and dedication earned him top honours in the competition, showcasing his hard work, discipline, and

commitment to the sport. His achievement has been widely appreciated by members of the bodybuilding community and sports enthusiasts across the region. Congratulating the athlete on his remarkable success, Vinay Sharma, Vice President of BBAJK, praised Tajinder's determination and perseverance. He said that the victory reflects the athlete's consistent efforts and serves as an inspiration for aspiring bodybuilders in Jammu and Kashmir. "Tajinder Singh has demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment to achieve this milestone. His

success is a matter of pride for the entire bodybuilding fraternity and motivates young athletes to pursue excellence in sports," Sharma said. He further highlighted the Association's continued efforts to promote bodybuilding and physique sports in the Union Territory by providing athletes with competitive opportunities and encouraging a healthy and disciplined lifestyle. Sharma emphasized that sports and fitness activities play an important role in keeping youth away from drugs and other harmful influences while fostering confidence, discipline, and personal growth. The Body Builders Association of Jammu & Kashmir reiterated its commitment to nurturing sporting talent and creating avenues for athletes to represent the Union Territory at national and international levels. The Association congratulated Tajinder Singh on his impressive achievement and wished him continued success in future competitions.

rytelling, the artist highlighted the dangers of drug addiction and encouraged citizens, particularly youth, to stay away from narcotics and contribute towards building a healthier and safer Jammu & Kashmir. The exhibition forms part of the larger anti-drug movement launched under the guidance of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to eradicate the menace of drug abuse from the Union Territory. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Rakesh Minhas appreciated the innovative awareness campaign and emphasized that helping individuals

# CO 24 JKAP IR holds Darbar-cum-Grievance Redressal Camp

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
UDHAMPUR: Demonstrating continued commitment towards discipline, operational efficiency, and personnel welfare, Commandant Sandeep Mehta of 24 JKAP IR presided over a Darbar-cum-Grievance Redressal Camp at Battalion Headquarters, Sui. The initiative served as a direct platform for officers and officials to present their grievances, concerns, and suggestions before the unit leadership. During the interaction, the Commandant patiently heard issues raised by personnel relating to service matters, leave, welfare, and family concerns. Reaffirming his commitment to troop welfare, Mehta directed concerned officers and administrative staff to ensure prompt



Comm 24 JKAP IR, Sandeep Mehta speaking at a darbar.

and transparent disposal of all genuine grievances. He emphasized that the well-being of every member of the battalion remains a top priority and that an effective grievance redressal system is essential for maintaining a motivated and efficient force. Addressing the

ensure that every individual is heard and issues are resolved without delay. Expressing satisfaction over the morale and dedication of the personnel, the Commandant directed administrative officials to remain present during the Darbar to facilitate on-the-spot resolution of grievances wherever possible. Recalling the rich legacy of the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Mehta shared his experience of leading a contingent during the Colours Parade at SKPA Udhampur in 2003. He highlighted that the Colours awarded by former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam stand as a symbol of excellence and sacrifice in anti-militancy operations, law and order duties, disaster response, and other challenging assignments.

In view of the forthcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, he instructed personnel to maintain the highest standards of professionalism, discipline, and public conduct, as they will represent both the battalion and the Jammu and Kashmir Police. On the occasion, a Bada Khana was also organized for all ranks present. In a gesture of camaraderie, the Commandant personally served food and interacted with jawans in an informal atmosphere, reinforcing strong bonds within the unit. The programme reflected the leadership vision of Sandeep Mehta in promoting a transparent, welfare-oriented, and professionally efficient working environment within 24 JKAP IR.

# GDC Qazigund organises 'National Colloquium on Contemporary Ecological Issues: Challenges and Strategies'

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
QAZIGUND: In connection with World Environment Day, the Eco Club "College Green Corps" of Government Degree College (GDC) Qazigund organized a National Colloquium on "Contemporary Ecological Issues: Challenges and Strategies" in collaboration with the Ecopsychological Foundation of Literature and Environment (EFSLE) on the college campus. The event, the first-ever national-level academic programme of the institution, aimed to provide a platform for highlighting green initiatives, sustainability practices, and environmental discourse while fostering academic partnerships and actionable ecological strategies. The colloquium witnessed participation from eminent academicians across the country, including Dr. Rishikesh Kumar Singh, President, EFSLE, New Delhi; Dr. Amit Ranjan,



Dignitaries at National Colloquium at GDC Qazigund.

Assistant Professor, NCERT, Delhi; Prof. Shruti Das, Member, SSC, Odisha and former HoD English, Berhampur University; Dr. Asha Tiwari, Associate Professor, Bharati College, University of Delhi; Dr. Satya Prakash, Head, Department of Geography, Mahatma Gandhi Government College, Mayabunder, Andaman & Nicobar Islands; Dr. Kiran Bhairanavar, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, DSE, University

towards the entire ecosystem rather than human utility alone, stressing the need to restore harmony between humans and nature. In his presidential remarks, Prof. Sudhir Singh, Principal, GDC Qazigund, thanked the distinguished guests and highlighted major ecological challenges such as climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. He emphasized that these issues are interconnected and called for sustainable practices such as afforestation, circular economy models, recycling, and waste reduction to restore ecological balance. Dr. Rishikesh Kumar Singh highlighted psychological dimensions of environmental degradation, discussing concepts such as "Empirical Tabula Rasa" and "Ecophobia," explaining how human perception and past trauma influence responses to natural environments. The programme began with a welcome address by

Convener Dr. Aufaq A. Zargar, while proceedings were conducted by Prof. Nehad K. Fatima, Head, Department of English. The post-lunch session was chaired by Prof. Shruti Das, who spoke on "The Power of the Sublime: An ecopsychological exploration of Lauren Groff's novel The Vaster Wilds," emphasizing the integration of human consciousness with nature and citing environmental change-makers such as Wangari Maathai and Jadav Payeng. Interactive presentations and discussions followed, with participation from students of the host college and neighboring schools. The vote of thanks was presented by Prof. Rameez Ahmad Shah, Nodal Club Coordinator, College Green Corps. The event concluded with plantation of rose bushes in the campus by the distinguished guests, symbolizing commitment to environmental sustainability.

# MBCSET organizes seminar on "Applications of AI" in association with ICT



MBCSET faculty and ICT Academy members at a seminar.

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Mahant Bachittar Singh College of Engineering & Technology (MBCSET), Jammu, in association with ICT Academy, on Monday organized an insightful seminar on "Applications of Artificial Intelligence" to enhance students' understanding of emerging AI technologies and their real-world applications. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, and academic leaders. The seminar commenced with a welcome address by Marvi Abrol, Assistant Professor, Department of

Computer Science & Engineering. Delivering the introductory address, Ajaz Yousuf, Senior Relationship Manager - Academic Operations, ICT Academy, highlighted the organization's vision and initiatives aimed at bridging the gap between academia and industry. He emphasized the importance of equipping students with industry-relevant skills to meet the demands of rapidly evolving technologies. The first technical session was conducted by Vivek Mahajan, Co-Founder of Bookenza and a seasoned technology professional. He spoke extensively

on Generative Artificial Intelligence and its applications in sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, education, business, and software development. Through live demonstrations, he introduced students to advanced AI tools including ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Google Veo, showcasing their potential in research, content creation, learning, productivity enhancement, and problem-solving. He also shared a workbook containing practical exercises to encourage hands-on learning. The second session was led by Ananya Sharma, Programs Manager - Staff Solution Engineer, Oracle (JAPAC Region). Her presentation covered the evolution of AI, capability-based AI classifications, Agentic AI, Vibe Coding, AI Digital Twins, AI in Cybersecurity, Personalized Learning, and Scientific Discoveries. She also discussed AI's growing impact on careers, highlighting future opportunities, challenges, and emerging trends. The seminar was efficiently coordinated by Ridhika Sharma, Faculty Coordinator ICT, while Ajaz Yousuf was appreciated for his valuable support in facilitating the collaboration. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Amrik Singh, Principal, who encouraged students to become innovators and develop technologies that address real-world challenges. The programme was attended by Dr. Rajinder Singh, Prof. Parveen Singh, H.S. Gill, faculty members, and a large gathering of students.

# Dr. Vikas Sharma gets Innovator Award 2026 at SKUAST-K Conference



Director Extension SKUAST-K presenting Innovator Award 2026 to Prof Vikas Sharma of SKUAST-J.

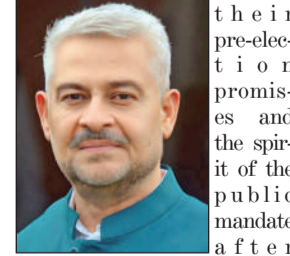
**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Dr. Vikas Sharma, son of Harbans Lal Sharma and Pashlata Sharma, resident of Channi Himmat, Jammu gets prestigious Innovator Award 2026 of Society for Integrated Development of Agriculture, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences (SIDAVES) for his

significant professional contributions in the field of Biochemistry, regarding isolation / characterization of anticancer molecules from traditional medicinal plants and minor fruits. The Innovator Award conferred upon to Dr. Vikas by SIDAVES Chairman Dr. J.P. Sharma & Director Extension

Working as a Professor in the Division of Biochemistry, FBSe, SKUAST-Jammu, Dr. Sharma has guided 10 Ph.D students, 07 MSc. students and published 128 popular articles in leading newspapers/magazines to aware the general public about medicinal use of Jammu botanicals and 104 full length research papers in refereed journals of National and International repute.

# Conviction should govern political alliance and not conveniences: Arun Gupta

**STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: BJP State Spokesperson Arun Kumar Gupta has asserted that political alliances in a democracy should be based on conviction, public commitment, and ideological principles rather than convenience and the pursuit of power. In a press statement issued today, Gupta said that democratic governance rests on the fundamental principle of respecting the mandate given by the people. He stated that citizens cast their votes based on their understanding of a political party's vision, policies, and promises, expecting their elected representatives to uphold those commitments in Parliament and State Assemblies. Gupta observed that in many cases, political parties conveniently set aside



their pre-election promises and the spirit of the public mandate after forming alliances. According to him, such practices undermine the trust reposed by voters and weaken democratic accountability. He noted that citizens today are more aware of their democratic rights and increasingly evaluate governments on the basis of performance, transparency, and good governance. Criticizing the INDIA alliance, Gupta alleged that several of its constituent parties have come together prima-

rily with the objective of gaining political power rather than serving public interests. He claimed that the alliance lacks a common developmental agenda and is driven largely by political convenience. "The purpose of any political alliance should be to strengthen democratic institutions, represent public aspirations, and contribute constructively to governance. Unfortunately, the INDIA alliance appears more focused on opposing the BJP than on presenting a positive agenda for the nation," he said. Gupta emphasized that a strong and responsible opposition is essential in a healthy democracy. He said opposition parties should play a constructive role by monitoring government performance, suggesting policy improvements, and

offering meaningful criticism where necessary. Such engagement, he added, contributes to stronger governance and benefits citizens. Referring to recent electoral outcomes, Gupta said that the repeated mandates received by the BJP in various states reflect public confidence in its governance model and development-oriented policies. He maintained that voters are increasingly rejecting what he termed "convenience politics" and are supporting parties that demonstrate commitment to their promises and public welfare. He concluded by urging opposition parties to respect the people's mandate and contribute positively to the nation's progress through constructive engagement and responsible democratic participation.

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