

Meeting with AIFF president

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS

JAMMU, FEB 08

AIFF President Shri Kalyan Chaubey assured former Indian footballer Arun Malhotra that elections for the Jammu & Kashmir Football Association would be conducted soon, paving the way for structured governance and sustainable football development in the region.

Mr. Arun Malhotra, once again lays emphasis on conducting of JKFA elections for streamlining the football activities in Jammu and Kashmir. In a significant development, Former Indian footballer Arun Malhotra met the President of the All India Football Federation (AIFF), Shri Kalyan Chaubey, at the AIFF Headquarters on 5th February 2026, raising critical issues related to the revival and development of football in Jammu & Kashmir.

During the meeting, Malhotra reiterated the urgent need for the formation of the Jammu & Kashmir Football Association and the conduct of elections at the earliest, stating that the winter season has ended and the football season in Jammu & Kashmir is about

to begin.

He highlighted that there has been no local football league in the region for the past several years, which has severely impacted competitive football and player development.

He briefed the AIFF President that sooner JKFA elections are held and body is formed, the football activities are revamped, and this sport of masses can be saved from further derailment in Jammu and Kashmir.

sharing his vision and expertise spread upon decades of experience, he emphasised on the need to strengthen grassroots football, introduce structured youth development pro-



grammes, and organize regular coaching education initiatives to improve the quality of training and long-term development systems.

Malhotra suggests that more football grounds and infrastructure in Jammu can boost the game of football and provide more training opportunities and competitive exposure to young players. He further said that Jammu & Kashmir continues to produce many talented footballers, several of whom are currently playing in professional clubs across India.

He stated that with proper infrastructure development, organized competitions, and quality

coaching education, the region has the potential to produce many more professional footballers.

He further emphasized for co-opting private sectors and ex-reputed footballers to strengthen and shape the football in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said that Jammu has many talented and committed individuals who possess the capability to organize tournaments, leagues, coaching courses and development programmes for the betterment of football. Empowering these local stakeholders with proper institutional support and official structures, he said, would significantly accelerate football development in the region.

The meeting ended with a positive note and AIFF President Shri Kalyan Chaubey assured that the elections would be conducted soon held and all these productive suggestions will be implemented for paving the way for structured governance, organized league systems, grassroots programmes, and sustainable football development in Jammu & Kashmir.

Samyal promoted to Inspector General in CRPF

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS

JAMMU, FEB 08

Shri Ashok Samyal, a distinguished officer of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and a proud son of the soil from Jammu, has been promoted to the rank of Inspector General (IG) as per orders issued by the Government of India. The rank was formally conferred during a ceremonial piping by the Director General, CRPF, in New Delhi.

Shri Samyal is the son of Shri Mani Ram Samyal and hails from Village Gho Bramana, Vijaypur, District Samba, Jammu & Kashmir. With 35 years of exemplary service, his journey from rural Jammu to the senior leadership of the nation's largest central armed police force stands as a testimony to dedication, discipline, and perseverance.

He joined the CRPF on 04 February 1991 and has since served in some of the most challenging internal security environments of the country, including Punjab during the militancy period, Jammu & Kashmir, and Left Wing Extremism-affected areas, besides

holding key command, training, and staff appointments across India.

His distinguished service has been recognised with several prestigious honours, including the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service (2025) and the Police Medal for Meritorious Service (2014). He has also received Bronze, Silver, and Gold Discs from the DG, CRPF, along with multiple Commendation Discs and Letters from the DG, CRPF and the Union Home Minister, reflecting sustained excellence and professional merit throughout his career.

A trained mountaineer, Shri Samyal was a member of the 1st Indigenous CRPF Mountain Expedition and successfully summited J-

gin Peak in the Himalayas, exemplifying courage, endurance, and leadership beyond operational duties.

From an early age, Shri Samyal displayed a keen interest in sports and extracurricular activities. During his school years, he actively participated in sports, NCC, and cultural activities, took part in All-India School Games, participated in Republic Day Parade-related activities, and earned the 'C' Certificate of NCC—traits that later shaped his disciplined, balanced, and people-centric leadership style.

He completed his schooling from SRMHS School, graduation from SPRM College of Commerce, Jammu, and also pursued studies in the Law Department of Jammu University.

Presently posted in Delhi, Shri Samyal has consistently acknowledged that the love, affection, blessings, and unwavering support of the people of Jammu—especially those from his native village—have been a constant source of strength, inspiring him to remain at the forefront in every field of service to the Nation.*



Force's counter-insurgency training capability.

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Union Budget 2026-27 is visionary blueprint for Viksit Bharat 2047: Rajiv Jasrotia

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS

JAMMU, FEB 08

BJP MLA from Jasrota, Rajiv Jasrotia, today organized a press conference to highlight the key features and long-term vision of the Union Budget 2026-27, terming it a visionary, inclusive and future-oriented budget that lays a strong foundation for making India a developed nation by 2047. Prominent among those present on the occasion included Distt President Upendra Andotra, Distt Spokesperson Adv Shashi Pal, Co-Convenor Adv Kasturi Lal, Distt Vice President Anil Singh, Mandal Pardhan Logate Surinder Singh, Mandal Pradhan Dinga Amb Deepak Sharma, Saman Singh, Ashok Jasrota besides others.

Addressing the media, Rajiv Jasrotia expressed his sincere gratitude to all media representatives for attending and covering the budget discussion. He informed that a dedicated district-level team has been constituted for detailed outreach and discussions on the budget, comprising



the District Vice-President, party spokespersons, senior party members, Advocate representatives and Divinder Pathaniaji, who will also share their perspectives on various aspects of the budget.

Jasrotia said that the main objective of the press conference was to present a clear and factual understanding of the Union Budget 2026-27 to the public. He noted that the district leadership would be taking the lead in addressing the media, while the party remains fully focused on disseminating the budget's vision and benefits. Referring to the last eleven years of governance under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP MLA stated that the country has witnessed consistent and structural

economic transformation. "This budget is not an isolated document; it is part of a long-term journey. The Hon'ble Prime Minister has given a clear vision of Viksit Bharat 2047, and the Union Budget 2024-25 serves as a blueprint for achieving that goal while strengthening Atmanirbhar Bharat," he said.

Jasrotia emphasized that due to sustained economic reforms, massive infrastructure investments and people-friendly tax measures, India has emerged as one of the world's leading economies. "This transformation did not happen overnight. It is the result of disciplined governance, policy continuity and focused development over the past decade," he added. Terming the budget

as futuristic and inclusive, the MLA said it has something for every section of society—farmers, youth, women, entrepreneurs, MSMEs, industries and common citizens. He stressed that unlike populist budgets, this one prioritizes long-term national interest with a clear 21-year roadmap toward a developed India.

Highlighting major initiatives, Jasrotia pointed to investments in high-speed rail corridors, railway expansion, roads, tunnels and power infrastructure, which will strengthen India's growth engine. He said special emphasis has been laid on manufacturing and innovation, with targeted support for sectors such as biopharma, electronics, chemical parks and textile parks. MSMEs and startups will benefit from growth funds, enhanced credit guarantees and improved access to finance. In the agriculture sector, he noted that new schemes will be rolled out in selected districts, along with improvements in storage and post-harvest infrastructure.

ASTRO ZINDAGI

(Weekly Horoscope Feb 09-15, 2025)

ARIES

More hot cosmic news for you this week, dear Aries. Saturn—yes, the one famous for the adulting milestone of the Saturn return—is entering your sign on Friday through April 2028. The planet of rules, structure, and discipline may have quite the job training you into self-discipline and creating the structures you require to succeed in the long run. You're the sign of impulsive, assertive, yet rash decisions, and yes, you're the consummate bold trailblazer; however, if you're not properly prepared, you're straight over a cliff or running out of rations on that long intrepid adventure. So less beating of the chest and more prep at the planning stage. This may be a lesson in no-frills consolidation, but its legacy is worth its weight in gold. Cut deadwood, focus your energies, restructure, and take your goals and yourself seriously for the win.

TAURUS

This Monday your ruling planet, pleasure-seeking Venus, heads into your sphere of extended networks. She's at strength in the sign of Pisces, so catching up with old friends, mingling with new ones, extending your networks, and exploring groups is exactly where you'll meet and express love, beauty, and pleasure. Arts, being by the water, music, mystic groups—it's all up for appreciation, so indulge. You may feel attuned through heightened empathy toward the plight of those less fortunate. If so, use your practical skills to help them help themselves. Set them up to fish rather than give them fish, so to speak. Everyone deserves a fair opportunity, and this may be your time to be a soft-hearted soul to someone who could benefit. Saturn moves into Aries on Friday for a long stint, developing a connection to your inner self. Build a steely self-discipline in terms of your mystic side, whether it's through meditation, nature, or the arts.

GEMINI

As the planet of values and pleasure heads into your sphere of career and public image, turn up the dial on glamour, beauty, and all things visual. This is a great time to update your branding, show up a little more dolled up than usual, and enjoy your connections. This is the pleasure principle, and it's demanding you go with the flow rather than "just the bare facts, ma'am." You prefer relationships that are clearly articulated, while this month it's all about feelings that aren't necessarily translatable, so feel them and take the pressure off the definition. That said, don't let someone off the hook if they're creating a smokescreen on purpose. Love is either romantic, illusory, a fantasy, a slippery fish, or all of the above! By Friday, Saturn heads into Aries for its next 2.5-year stint, activating your sphere of friendships and groups. This means group activity needs structure and planning for the spontaneity you enjoy. Time to take a position as a group leader, comms and marketing officer, or treasurer to make it all official.

CANCER

Get thee to the water, Cancer, even if it's long, steamy baths, a bathhouse, or if you're lucky, a palm-fringed stretch of tropical beach. Venus, the planet representing pleasure, is heading into sister water sign Pisces from Tuesday through March 6, doubling down on all things emotional, empathetic, and romantic. Because you both share the element of water, which represents the emotional level, the beauty and love of Venus flows to you as resources or gifts. It's easy to enjoy pleasure at this time. Connect and form new relationships, or deepen ones you're already cultivating. Saturn moves into Aries in yet another headline changing of the guard. This time the planet of structure and discipline is all about disciplining the self, suggesting self-reliance and a measure of independence. At odds with your sign, it's a push for you to leave the nest and your loyalty to those close in order to pursue something highly personal, but push you must. You can have both, and both you shall have!

LEO

As a longtime lover and purveyor of glamour and elevated ardor, you'll be pleased to note that Venus heads into romantic Pisces on Tuesday through March 6. This is an intimate and emotionally intoxicating period best spent plumbing the emotional depths or escaping the everyday through a fantasy world with someone special. It's also highly artistic, so if you're feeling the urge, get creative yourself or enjoy the creations of other artists through music, painting, or performance. On Friday, Saturn makes a decisive move into sister fire sign Aries which is great news for you. It's an easy shift of gears into focused action to achieve longer-term goals. Make the most of it by preparing and structuring in a way that sets you up for whatever that goal is. If you've been avoiding the boring jobs, this is your sign to get them done. Clear your life of draining distractions, be a little selfish or self-focused, and do what you need to do to achieve independence and self-reliance. More power to you, Leo.

VIRGO

Looking into the mirror of your relationships, what do you see, dear Virgo? Are you attracting your opposites, projecting parts of yourself, or your desires? Do you see the real person as they are for their best and their worst, and love them anyway? On Tuesday, Venus—the planet representing pleasure, love, and beauty—shifts into your opposite sign of gentle, romantic Pisces. Your one-to-ones are the sphere in which you'll be meeting this fantastical, divine creature of love and illusion! We all know that no one can pin down a Pisces, yet they bring balance to your sign. You can learn a lot from them and them from you. Learn to let go of control, to flow, and to believe. Catch up with your bestie, make a new friend, and enjoy the company of your faves one-to-one. Saturn makes a definitive move into Aries on Friday, activating your sphere of mysteries, intimate connections, and resources through others. Apply appropriate boundaries, and measure your energy and endurance, dear Virgo.

LIBRA

As your ruling planet, Venus, shifts into Pisces, the lover of love favours beauty and harmonious relationships, as do you. This is a month of sensitivity and arts, with a little compassion thrown in. Activating your sphere of work and wellness, self-care involves gentle pleasures: a day spa, pampering, mini meditation breaks, and flowers on your desk. Bring beauty into your daily routine and connect with others in a way that is personal and intimate. If you and they feel seen, you're doing it right. As Saturn moves into your opposite sign of Aries on Friday, it activates your relationship sector. Saturn can appear as obstacles and limitations in order for you to go back to the drawing board and do it again properly. If someone or something is blocking your progress, don't give up. This period requires tenacity and a willingness to pick yourself up from any failures, learn from them, and try again. You will succeed; you just need grit and determination. This is a time you may commit to or demand a serious partnership.

SCORPIO

As the moon meanders in your secretive sign Sunday and Monday, you may feel like lying low, delving into your inner emotions and thoughts. Perhaps solo or with someone close. Take that time to nurture yourself in a way that feels right. Venus in Pisces from Tuesday lights up your sphere of creative expression and romance, so use your leisure time in pursuit of creativity and doing what pleases you. Note what secrets or mysteries call you to solve them! Saturn shifts into Aries on Friday, an important change of pace for this planet of structure, discipline, and maturity. Activating your sphere of work and wellness, this suggests a structured, disciplined, active routine. And perhaps a project that challenges you, and pushes you to authoritative leadership and independence.

SAGITTARIUS

La Luna canter through your sign Tuesday through midafternoon Thursday, making this a super social midweek. Get out and about to nurture yourself with new connections. Note the vibe, how you feel, and what you're inclined toward, and don't second-guess your emotional needs for movement, freedom, and intellectual stimulation; they're food for your soul! Tuesday sees Venus head into Pisces, setting up a challenge to your sign. You like a sense of impersonal space and clarity, but you're getting fog rolling in instead. Or you may benefit from sharing a sense of intimacy, and that may not be so easy for you. Everyone relates differently, and this isn't quite your business as usual style, so just do your best to let others in and share. In another area, you really hit the cosmic bullseye, since Saturn heads into sister fire sign Aries on Friday. Make that Friyay, since Saturn signifies a time of easy restructuring so you can play the long game and win. Self-discipline and focus are key.

CAPRICORN

La Luna launches into her monthly 2.5-day sojourn through your sign from Thursday midafternoon to early Sunday morning. Take the time to note your emotional tides and nurture yourself. Take care of business, get productive, or attend to duty. If you could do with assistance, it's okay to delegate or ask for help. Yes, you need to fill your cup before taking care of everyone else! Venus shifts into nebulous Pisces on Tuesday, making it the perfect month for meandering through your local neighbourhood, meeting up with friends, and perhaps catching the eye of someone fascinating. This is a creative and empathetic influence, and a period you may feel drawn to helping someone. As your ruling planet, Saturn, moves into Aries for the next 2.5 years, it's time to structure your domestic sphere. That could involve creating boundaries, setting up an active routine that requires disciplined energy and effort, or establishing a solid base. Look at how you may craft a long-term, stable home.

AQUARIUS

As Venus moves through your sphere of possessions, finance, and values, think about how these merge. Do you earn, spend, and invest in line with your highest values? How do they align? What do you spend most of your time, attention, and money on? These top items reveal your underlying values and how you're expressing them. Perhaps there's a better way to get those needs met, so in knowing what they are, you can consciously attend to them. Pisces is nebulous, sensitive, and all about the feelings, while Venus is the pleasure principle and what we love. During the time that Venus is in your sphere of money, you may earn through using your sensitive, empathetic, or artistic side. Or spend in line with those attributes. Saturn heading into Aries suggests formalizing local connections and being bold about forging new alliances. Perhaps a short course that will hold you in good standing further down the track is appropriate over the next 2.5 years. Disciplined and structured action, measuring your energy output, and supporting your vitality are all keys to this period.

PISCES

It's your time to love and be loved, beautiful Pisces. Venus represents the pleasure principle, and from Tuesday through March 6, it's in your sign. Allow your glow up to reach far and wide, and appreciate the beauty in those around you. This is the best time to update anything visual in your life as well as enjoy arts, beauty, and empathetic connection on an intimate emotional level. It's certainly the most potent in terms of others falling in love with you (yes, that old chestnut), so be gentle with their hearts while your attractor factor is elevated. Venus is at strength and thoroughly irresistible while cloaked in misty Piscean glamour; enjoy the romantic, mystic, and spiritual side of life, or turn your creative hand to a project that could benefit. Saturn finally exits after 2.5 years in your sign, bringing much relief after a little limitation and restructuring. The pressure is off, and you can breathe out!