

# Dogri Play "Jasma" to represent J&K at National Theatre Festival

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The Jammu & Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture and Languages (JKAACL) in collaboration with the Department of Performing Arts, Cluster University of Jammu is set to present its Dogri production "Jasma" at the 25th edition of Bharat Rang Mahotsav, organised by the National School of Drama.

The play will be staged at Abhinav Theatre on February 17, 2026, at 5 pm. The presentation at this prestigious international theatre festival marks a significant milestone for theatre in Jammu & Kashmir and highlights JKAACL's sustained commitment to promoting regional languages and cultural expressions on national platforms.

"Jasma" is adapted from



the renowned Gujarati play "Jasma Odan" written by eminent theatre personality Shanta Gandhi and translated into Dogri by noted theatre figure Kavi Rattan Sharma.

The production reimagines the original folk legend within the Dogra cultural landscape, incorporating elements of the traditional

Haran folk form and indigenous cultural motifs.

Jointly directed by Dr. Abhishek Bharti and Aparna Kapoor with music composed by Vishal Pandita, the production brings together faculty members and students in a collaborative creative effort.

The play reflects the vibrancy of Dogri theatre and

its evolving contemporary identity.

JKAACL has consistently endeavoured to provide national and international exposure to regional art forms and participation in such renowned festivals further strengthens the cultural representation of Jammu & Kashmir on larger platforms.

## Blacklisted vehicles suspended for three months in Doda to ensure road safety

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In a major step to enhance road safety and ensure compliance with transport regulations, the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO) Doda, Kapil Deol has ordered the suspension of blacklisted vehicles for a period of three months with immediate effect. The action has been taken under the directions of Deputy Commissioner Doda, Harvinder Singh.

As per the order, vehicles found operating with expired Fitness Certificates and those running without valid Route Permits have been blacklisted and suspended from plying on public roads. Vehicle owners have been directed to renew their Fitness Certificates, obtain or renew Route Permits, or apply for



cancellation of Registration Certificates (RC) in case the vehicles have been scrapped.

The order further states that failure to comply within the stipulated three-month period will lead to

cancellation of the Registration Certificate, seizure of vehicles during enforcement drives and penal action under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

The District Administration reiterated that the step

has been taken strictly in the interest of public safety and road discipline, urging vehicle owners to adhere to legal norms and contribute towards safer roads in the district.

## SMVDU Hosts 5-Day Residential Skill Development Program on Solar Photovoltaic Systems



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The School of Electrical Engineering at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (SMVDU) successfully organized a five-day Residential Skill Development Program titled "Solar Photovoltaic Systems: Design, Installation and Maintenance". The program was funded and supported by the Higher Education Department, UT of Jammu & Kashmir. The inaugural session was graced by Prof.

Pragati Kumar, Vice Chancellor, SMVDU, as Chief Guest. In his address, he highlighted the vital role of renewable energy in sustainable development and encouraged participants to explore entrepreneurial opportunities in the solar sector. The first technical lecture was delivered by Prof. M. Rizwan, Delhi Technological University, who shared insights on solar PV design and emerging technologies. The training covered fundamentals of solar PV systems, component selection, inverter technologies, mounting structures, installation procedures, testing, and maintenance practices. Participants also engaged in extensive hands-on field training, including a visit to SMVDU's solar rooftop plants, where they discussed system design, operational challenges, maintenance strategies, and return on investment calculations. Expert sessions were conducted by professionals from Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI) and PDF Engineers Pvt. Ltd.

Ahmedabad, along with industry experts. The program saw enthusiastic participation from 46 attendees from the Jammu region. The program was coordinated by Dr. Kumud Ranjan Jha, Head, School of Electrical Engineering and Dean, Faculty of Engineering, with co-coordination by Dr. Prabhu Omer, Dr. Jatin Kumar Soni, and Mr. Akash Deep. The valedictory session in which Dr. Asok De, Bharati Chair Professor, SMVDU, as Chief Guest, who distributed certificates to participants.

## BRO Reopens Bhaderwah-Bani-Basohli NH

**BHADERWAH, FEB 15:** In a swift and coordinated operation amid extreme weather conditions, 69 RCC and 118 RCC of 35 Border Roads Task Force (BRTF) under Project Samprak of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) successfully reopened the

strategic Bhaderwah-Bani-Basohli road at Chattergala Pass following heavy snowfall. The recent spell of intense snowfall had disrupted vehicular movement along the 65-kilometre stretch, temporarily snapping the cru-

cial link between the mountainous regions. Demonstrating operational readiness and commitment to maintaining all-weather connectivity, BRO teams launched an intensive snow clearance drive in challenging terrain near the Ashapati glacier and the foothills of Mount Kailash.

Despite deep snow accumulation, sub-zero temperatures and difficult working conditions, the teams deployed men and machinery round-the-clock to restore traffic well ahead of the usual seasonal schedule.

## ASTRO ZINDAGI

### (Weekly Horoscope Feb 16-22, 2026)

#### ARIES

Heralding a new personal and global cycle, Saturn and Neptune are conjunct in your sign this Friday. In which case, you are modeling and expressing the zeitgeist for others. As a natural leader, you're well-positioned to surge ahead like a flame, igniting the path for others to follow. That means you won't see a well-worn trail in front of you, because you're forging the way. This is a pivotal year, both globally, nationally, and personally. Note your inner impulse to quest where others are perhaps afraid to go. Not because it's dangerous; it may simply be a step into the unknown for your circle of friends or family. Since you're wearing booster rockets, you may as well aim for the stars, dear Aries! You may require more independence to achieve your personal vision, so make sure you take that space. Pisces season begins midweek, lighting up your sphere of dreams and your connection to the collective hive mind. Get plenty of rest to refuel.

#### TAURUS

A new moon in Aquarius eclipses in your sphere of career and public image on Tuesday. Go with the cosmic reset by reinventing. What could you let go of that may be out of its use-by date or not working as it should? How might you level up into a new era along with the change that is not only coming, but that is already apparent? This is excellent timing, so pull the pin and turn that corner! Pisces season lights up your social sector from Wednesday to encourage you to plug into your social network and enjoy arts, attune to larger spheres through empathy, and consider mystic connection through a guided class or group (e.g. meditation or yoga group). Friday hosts a cosmic alignment of Neptune and Saturn, a good time for the dissolution of structures that are outdated—specifically in your sphere of dreams and the collective. Perhaps you could take the initiative on your own spiritual or mystic journey, and tune into your higher intelligence. Take the first step on something that compels you to do good in your world.

#### GEMINI

Tuesday's new moon in Aquarius blinks out with a solar eclipse (visible from South America) in your sphere of higher education, travel, and philosophy. Let go of outdated dreams in this area, and say hello to your revised and updated vision. Hosted by Aquarius on the last day of its solar season, this one suggests that comms, writing, and the larger collective are to be considered. What are your own offerings toward an international audience? Also consider what you're consuming, and consciously curate if you're not already. That could be through writing, podcasting, collective work, study, and travel plans or ambitions. Perhaps it's time to upgrade your plans for a new era?! Pisces season begins the following day, presenting a challenge to your sign. This sign of the fishes is all about the nonverbal cues, feelings, and internal references. You're all about clear communication and external referencing, so take on that challenge, especially in your career and public image sector. Lead with empathy and compassion, and you'll make waves in this water-sign month.

#### CANCER

This Tuesday, La Luna resets with an attendant solar eclipse in your sphere of intimacy and resources through others. In the sign of cerebral Aquarius, you may feel a little disconnected to the compartmentalized themes when you're all about the unquestioned merging and support. However, take this moment to try on the objective over the subjective and see the benefits of someone giving you space. This is a major reset, and marks the beginning of the Chinese Year of the Fire Horse, so it's bound to take off with a start—be ready! Benefits through others are on the cards; however, you'll need to do things a little differently in order to level up. It's not about business as usual. Are you ready to take that next step? With Pisces season beginning on Wednesday, you're in your element with this water sign month. Lighting up your sphere of foreign or international connections, consider your travel options, or publishing your ideas through podcasting or other creative media.

#### LEO

New moons occur when the sun and moon appear as one in the sky, occupying the same degree of the zodiac. In this case, a new moon in your opposite sign of Aquarius forms on Tuesday, with an attendant solar eclipse just to keep things interesting. While new moons represent minor new cycles, eclipses represent absolute resets. If there's something you would benefit from letting go in your relationship department, then Let. It. Go. Make that reset. There's usually something big or small most of us could do with upgrading, taking on, or shoving out the door, so do that, dear Leo. Note who walks in or out on the day; it's significant. Pisces season begins on Wednesday, taking the pressure off your sign. This one is a little askew and neither here nor there for you, although it does light up your sphere of intimate connections. Shared resources are a focal point, as is the underpinning of certain dynamics. Like you, Pisces is highly creative; tune into your artistic flow.

#### VIRGO

Tuesday's new moon resets in your sphere of work and wellness with a solar eclipse; cue a little drama. Are you ready to jump-cut into your new era? This new moon also kicks off the feisty fire-horse year in the Chinese lunar calendar. So it's double auspicious to change things up, pick up the pace, and burn brighter, harder, and faster. In the sign of Aquarius, group activity or collaboration is suggested. Job sharing, anyone? Networking with colleagues and doing things differently? Yes, absolutely. At this point there's a lot of change in the air, so go with it. Neptune and Saturn merge in fire sign Aries this Friday—quite the headline statement on the astro news. Setting off your sphere of intimacy and benefits via others, there's a theme of creating structure and boundaries, while dissolving unnecessary ones. Perhaps borders will change, power will shift, and you can make the most of it by choosing your alliances wisely.

#### LIBRA

A solar eclipse on this Tuesday's new moon? No prob-

lem. Resetting in your sphere of creative self-expression and how you spend your leisure time, well, it suggests a definitive shift. If you're spending your time in a way that's really out of habit rather than interest, then yes, it's time to change that! Pisces season begins on Wednesday, lighting up your sphere of work and wellness, so go with the flow; it's good for you! Connect with colleagues and customers empathetically, share your feelings; it's good for you. Routines that allow you to zone out rather than be "on" all the time support your wellbeing. Now is your time to make space for them. Neptune and Saturn make astro news this Friday as they merge in your opposite sign of Aries. You'll pick up the new era in your sphere of one-to-one relationships, so independence and assertiveness are yours to step into. Significant people will feature over the next few years and may show up for the first time this week. Note who they are and what they're bringing to your life.

#### SCORPIO

It's a hard reset in your domestic sphere as the new moon eclipses the sun on Tuesday. In the sign of Aquarius, it's all about detachment and the community. Call in a worker bee or community support if you need it, or consider a more communal way of living and property ownership. There are so many ways to approach old problems with new solutions, so find a fit that suits you like a bespoke gala gown. Note what naturally falls away, or you're ready to bag and bin. Resistance creates struggle, so go with the fresh breeze of change. Pisces season begins on Wednesday, bringing a welcome watery soft touch with its empathetic understanding and unconditional love. Open your heart to others and allow them to adore you in all the ways you need to be adored. Lighting up your sphere of romance and leisure, take a well-needed mini break, enjoy your version of creative self-expression, and let love in.

#### SAGITTARIUS

Reset your sphere of local connections and prepare for the upgrade you know you need. You're a social sign, so break out of any entrenched habits and open up to the community, friendships, and associations that are around you, all the time. We all get into habitual grooves, but this Tuesday, a solar eclipse accompanies the new moon in Aquarius, like a shock wave rebooting the social network; it's here to open up your world. Make new friends, frequent different places and spaces, and be sure to connect as you go. Why not set up your own morning coffee and run/walk club to get the ball rolling? Or go for a niche so you're targeting your fave demographic. The more social opportunities, the better. Create a practical purpose and outcome for a sustainable approach that keeps new friends coming back for more. Pisces season kicks off on Wednesday, lighting up your domestic sphere. This sign challenges you to be less judgey or in your head, and more intimate, empathetic, and universal. Open your heart to others and make the most of being by water, arts, and music.

#### CAPRICORN

As the new moon passes between Earth and the sun on Tuesday, it creates a solar eclipse, this one in your sphere of values, belongings, and finance. Eclipses represent hard resets, so what might you do differently in this zone? Note external changes as well as internal ones. It's simply that the old way has timed out, and now you're up for a new approach to this area. In the sign of Aquarius, themes are around groups, collectives, science, and the air element. Communications and technology may also dovetail with the way you earn money, spend, or invest. Consider the changing landscape and new options available thanks to emerging technology; it's the Wild West all over again in some specific areas. You could be capitalizing—ethically, of course. Pisces season rolls in midweek as the sun swims through this nebulous, porous, and emotionally sensitive sign. With the solar lights turned up in your sphere of local connections and community, get out to art and music shows, help the helpless, and allow yourself to meander to see what or who you come across intuitively.

#### ACQUARIUS

The grand finale to your solar season features a solar eclipse on a new moon in Aquarius on Tuesday. This is also the start of the Chinese New Year of the Fire Horse, so use the reset to let go of the last remnants of whatever you don't need or want to bring with you into the next round. Let it go with a grand flourish! New beginnings, new you, as Saturn and Neptune merge on Friday in the sign of Aries, also the sign of initiating from a clean slate. This is the ultimate manifesting moment in your sphere of local connections, community, and learning. Themes involve independence, initiative, and creating structures, as well as dissolving those that are outdated (that restrict rather than support). You tend toward groups and friendships at the best of times, so perhaps a leadership role is yours to step into now. Pisces season begins midweek as the sun lights up your sphere of values, belongings, and finances. This sign is all about going with the flow, emotional connection, and mystic pursuits. Perhaps the science behind manifesting and magic may appeal to you now. Learn more about it, then apply it to drawing in abundance as well as pitching for what you want.

#### PISCES

Happy birthday, dear Pisces! Your solar season lights up from Wednesday, so make the most of the sunny glow-up with a pamper session. Be sure to send out the invites to all your faves to help you celebrate somewhere beautiful. Yes, indulge to your heart's content; you are adored, so lap it up! When we say "many happy returns," this is an astrological reference; we mean many more revolutions of the sun (from our earthly perspective) to the exact degree of the zodiac it occupied when you were born; your birthday. The light of our cosmos is aligned with you, so you are in your element and modeling what it is to be the sign of the fishes. Will you express your "self" through art, empathy, connection, leadership, rest, or in other ways? Preceding this, the new moon in Aquarius includes a solar eclipse in your sphere of sleep and dreams, so be sure you get adequate rest to recharge and go gently into your week.