

## 'NC ensured to Accelerating Development in Far-Flung Areas of Ramban, Udhampur, Jammu'

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Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, today reiterated that the government led by Omar Abdullah is firmly committed to ensuring equitable development and accelerating progress in far-flung regions, particularly the Chenab Valley, Udhampur Districts and Jammu Municipal Corporation.

He made these remarks while interacting with a delegation comprising District President Ramban Abid Magray, District President Jammu Urban Chandar Mohan Sharma, Block President Batote Arshad Mir, Block President Ukral Imtiaz Mughal, District President Udhampur Sunil Verma, Additional Spokesperson Akash Verma, Sardar Gurnam Singh, and other party functionaries.

During the interaction, Gupta acknowledged the concerns raised by the delegation and concurred that although attention has started returning to remote areas across various sectors, the complete upgradation of civic infrastructure will take time. He remarked that significant gaps remain due to neglect over the past decade, but assured that the present dispensation has renewed its focus on the development of Chenab and Pir Panjal regions.

The delegation also expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and MLA Banihal Sajad Shaheen for their efforts toward the establishment of a proposed university campus in the area. Gupta emphasized that the initiative would play a transformative role in bringing quality higher education closer to local youth.

Members of the delegation highlighted several issues, including staff shortages and infrastructural gaps in local dispensaries,

schools and condition of roads. Gupta assured them that these concerns would be taken up with Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary for prompt redressal.

Reaffirming the party's commitment, Gupta stressed that inclusive development and improved public service delivery remain top priorities of the government. He asked the party cadre to gear up for the upcoming elections of Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies.

## JKPCC working president holds mass awareness programme in Greater Kailash

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Intensifying his outreach among the masses, JKPCC Working President Raman Bhalla on Thursday organized a mass awareness programme at Greater Kailash, where he interacted with residents and listened to a wide range of public grievances. Addressing the gathering, Bhalla expressed strong resentment over mounting public distress across both urban and rural areas of Jammu and Kashmir. He alleged that people are still waiting for tangible welfare measures from the Omar Abdullah-led UT government, while also criticizing the BJP-led Union Government for "leaving the people in the lurch."

Bhalla highlighted that multiple sections of society are facing layered challenges. Farmers, he said, are struggling with rising input costs, erratic weather, and delayed compensation for crop losses, leaving them financially vulnerable. Youth continue to grapple with unemployment and lack of meaningful job opportunities, fuelling frustration and uncertainty about the future. Traders and small business owners are reportedly dealing with sluggish market conditions, reduced purchasing power, and limited policy support. Government employees, along with daily wagers, contractual, and ad-hoc workers, are facing job insecurity, delayed regularization, and financial instability. He further pointed out that Anganwadi workers and Self-Help Groups

(SHGs), who play a crucial role in grassroots development, are still awaiting adequate financial and institutional support. Similarly, elderly pensioners and widows continue to face delays and insufficiencies in social security benefits, impacting their basic sustenance.

Raising concerns over civic infrastructure, Bhalla alleged that many areas continue to suffer from inadequate basic amenities such as drinking water, electricity, sanitation, and road connectivity. He also flagged an acute shortage of staff in various government departments, which he said is hampering effective service delivery and delaying public welfare schemes. The lack of a robust industrial push, he added, has further compounded the employment crisis, depriving the youth of opportunities and slowing economic growth in the region. Bhalla drew attention to the plight of families affected by heavy rains, floods, and other natural calamities, stating that many are still waiting for compensation. The delay,

he said, has not only aggravated their financial hardship but also hindered their ability to rebuild livelihoods.

Warning of serious consequences, Bhalla stated that if relief measures continue to be delayed, the impact could be far-reaching. Prolonged financial stress among farmers may lead to declining agricultural productivity, while continued unemployment could push more youth towards distress migration or social challenges. For vulnerable sections such as daily wagers, widows, and pensioners, delayed assistance could translate into worsening poverty and reduced access to basic necessities. Traders and small businesses may face closures if economic stagnation persists, affecting the overall local economy. He also cautioned that inadequate infrastructure and administrative delays could erode public trust in governance, widening the gap between the people and the administration.

Bhalla stressed the need for both the UT administration and the Union Govern-

ment to take immediate, coordinated, and sustained steps to address these pressing issues. He asserted that people have been waiting for long-promised relief and deserve timely and effective intervention. He emphasized that governance must reflect in visible improvements in people's daily lives, adding that addressing these concerns is essential not only for economic stability but also for social harmony. The programme concluded with Bhalla assuring the gathering that he would continue to raise these issues at appropriate platforms and remain committed to advocating for the welfare and rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Prominent among others who also addressed are former JKPCC General Secretary and Chairman Sanitation Committee JMC Satish Sharma, Sanjeev Katal, Gandeep Pargal, Surinder padha, Sham Lal, Rakesh Chopra, Varinder Rataipal, Raman Katru, Darshan Singh, Mukhtar Jangral, PC Kundal and others.

## LG Saxena launches Project Him Sarovar to strengthen water security in Ladakh

LEH, APRIL 10: In a proactive step towards ensuring long-term water security in the cold desert region, the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, today launched Project Him Sarovar. The project aims at scientific snow harvesting and the creation of water bodies to address the pressing challenge of water scarcity in Ladakh.



The initiative focuses on harvesting snow and conserving snowmelt to strengthen water security across Ladakh, where water availability remains a critical concern due to unique climatic and geographical conditions.

Shri Saxena launched the project with the beginning of excavation works for the creation of 50 water bodies, measuring 40x30 meters and 2 meters deep, are designed to store the snowmelt / glacial-melt that otherwise goes to waste every year. This will provide the people of Ladakh a reliable source of water for irrigation.

Describing the initiative as historic, the Lieutenant Governor stated that Project Him Sarovar marks a decisive and scientific intervention to tackle the growing issue of water availability in Ladakh, where water is not merely a resource but a lifeline for the people.

Notably, soon after assuming office as Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh on March 13, Shri Saxena had directed the Chief Secre-

tary to identify locations and prepare an action plan for the construction of 50 small water bodies across the Union Territory.

Highlighting the importance of the project, the Lieutenant Governor said that it is directly linked to Ladakh's water security and will play a crucial role in addressing irrigation challenges faced by farmers who depend on limited water sources. He emphasised that these water bodies will help conserve both rainwater and the annual snowmelt, which otherwise goes to waste, thereby creating a reliable source of water for agricultural purposes.

He stated that Project Him Sarovar will not only fulfil irrigation needs but also generate sustainable livelihood opportunities for local communities. The project is being designed using scientific methods, taking into account Ladakh's fragile ecosystem and climatic conditions.

The Lieutenant Governor said Project Him Sarovar would serve a larger goal of reversing the degradation of land, which is aligned with Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of restoring 2.6 crore hectares of degraded land by 2030.

The Lieutenant Governor further stated that the initiative has received strong support from various stakeholders, including the Indian Army, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Border Roads Organisation (BRO), and the local population. He also lauded the people of Ladakh for their encouraging support of Project Him Sarovar.

Shri Saxena informed that Project Him Sarovar has been conceptualised keeping in mind Ladakh's unique geographical and climatic conditions. He also highlighted that these water bodies will be developed in consultation with local communities to ensure that they meet specific regional

requirements. In addition to water conservation, the project will also support plantation efforts along roadsides and enhance green cover.

Addressing the broader environmental context, the Lieutenant Governor pointed out the visible impacts of climate change in Ladakh, including declining snowfall, melting glaciers, rising temperatures, and falling water tables. He stressed the urgent need for sustainable water management practices to mitigate these challenges.

The Lieutenant Governor also underscored the importance of preserving traditional irrigation systems while simultaneously developing modern water-harvesting and conservation mechanisms.

He called for collective efforts to enhance Ladakh's natural landscape by creating new "green and blue assets" that will contribute to long-term ecological balance.

## GCW Gandhinagar organises one day workshop on theme Progress Happens when women lead

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Department of Sociology, in collaboration with NSS Unit-1, PPS Govt. College for Women Gandhinagar, Jammu, under the Mentor-Mentee Program, organised a One-Day workshop on the theme Progress Happens, When Women Lead on 10th of April, 2026. Dr. Suraj Mohani Jamwal, HOD, Sociology inaugurated the event with a formal welcome address. Dr Kulvinder Kaur, Principal of the college, congratulated the department for organising an event on such a progressive notion. She stressed on the issue of strategic initiative designed to foster academic and personal growth through a structured Mentor-Mentee framework. Dr Koshika Sharma Assistant Profes-

sor, Directorate of Hindi, University of Jammu was the resource person of the event. During the keynote address, Dr Koshika highlighted that gender-diverse leadership is no longer just a matter of equity, but a fundamental driver of innovation and economic stability. She stressed on the participation of women in

the decision-making bodies of the country to promote more welfare related initiatives.

She further added that Progress is not a slow climb; it is a breakthrough that happens the moment we leverage the full spectrum of human talent.

The event concluded with an interactive ques-

tions and answers session where attendees developed personalized action plans to advance their leadership journeys in their respective paths. Prof. Poonam Kesar and Dr Shelly Sabharwal coordinated the whole event. The proceedings of the event were conducted by Antisha and Aditi (6th Semester).

## DC Samba finalises modalities for 100-Day "Nasha Mukh Abhiyaan"

SAMBA, APRIL 10: Deputy Commissioner Samba Ayushi Sudan today chaired a comprehensive meeting in the Conference Hall of District Administrative Complex, Nandani Hills to finalise the modalities for the 100-day "Nasha Mukh Abhiyaan" in the district.

The meeting was attended by the officers from Education, Youth Services & Sports, Health, Social Welfare, Police, Information and others.

The Deputy Commissioner undertook a detailed review of the preparedness of all participating departments and issued comprehensive directions for the effective and time-bound implementation of the campaign.



The DC underscored the pivotal role of the Education Department in organising awareness programmes in schools and colleges, while the Youth Services & Sports Department was tasked with engaging the youth through sports activities and community outreach. The Health Department was directed to strengthen de-addiction services and conduct regu-

lar medical and counselling camps at the grassroots level.

The Police Department was asked to intensify enforcement measures against drug trafficking and abuse, while the Information Department was instructed to ensure wide publicity and sustained community outreach throughout the campaign period. All other depart-

ments were also assigned specific roles to ensure saturation coverage of awareness and preventive measures at the ground level.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated the importance of community participation and called for collective resolve from all stakeholders to make the campaign a success. She further directed all officers to prepare detailed departmental action plans and ensure timely execution of all scheduled activities within the 100-day period.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Jagdish Singh; ASP Garu Ram; SDMs and other district and sectoral officers from various line departments.

## IGNOU extends the last date for online submission of Examination Forms for June 2026 TEE

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IGNOU has extended the last date for submission of online examination forms to appear in the June 2026 Term-end examination till April 26, 2026 without any Late Fee. From April 27, 2026 onwards a late fee component of Rs.1100/- will be implemented in addition to the Rs.200/- per course fee till April 30, 2026.

The online examination link will be closed on April 30, 2026 with no further extension whatsoever.

The examination for link IGNOU commenced the exam form submission for all UG, PG, Diploma, and Certificate level courses under the Online & ODL mode from March 11, 2026. IGNOU Exam Form fee is INR 200 per course. Students can fill out the IGNOU Exam Form for June 2026 online by visiting the official portal of the university



https://exam.ignou.ac.in/ or directly following the link https://ignou.samarth.edu.in/index.php/site/login on SAMARTH portal. The examinations are likely to commence from June 1, 2026 till July 15, 2026.

"The Exam Centre is allotted on the first come first serve basis and in case the seating capacity at the chosen exam centre is exhausted, the learners may opt for the nearest/alternate exam centre", said Dr. Sandeep Gupta, Regional Director. The University reserves the right to

reschedule/cancel examinations/papers at any time in all the Examination Centre across the Country or in any particular Examination Centre/State/UT due to any exigency or any other reasons.

The University has also extended the last date for submission of assignments till 30th April, 2026 for the June Term end exam 2026 for Online, ODL, GOAL and EVBB level programmes. University accepts assignments for all programmes such as BSc, BCom, BBA, MBA, MCom, MA, MCA, and more to appear in the June TEE 2026. The assignments form an important component in the courses of programme completion as they carry 30% weightage of the total marks/grades.

Last date of Online Submission of Final Project/Dissertation/Internship Reports has also been extended till April 30, 2026 to facilitate students in completion of the activity since it involves a lot of research and analysis.