

NHM Employees Enter Day 5 of Agitation as Demands Remain Unresolved

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Under the banner of the UT Level Coordination Committee of NHM Employees J&K, National Health Mission employees of Jammu Division have entered the 5th day of their ongoing peaceful protest and strike, continuing their agitation over long-pending and genuine demands.

The protests across Jammu Division are being held under the leadership of Divisional President, JKNHMEA Jammu Division, Dr. Vikas Sharma, with employees from various categories, including Doctors, Paramedical and Management Staff, NTEP and other NHM programmes, participating in the agitation.

The protesting employees reiterated their demands for a comprehensive job policy, golden handshake, retirement and social security benefits, EPF coverage for eligible categories, loyalty benefits for left-out employees, and other long-pending issues.

Chief Spokesperson, All JKNHMEA Jammu Division, Dr. Hamid Parray, stated that NHM employ-



ees have rendered years of dedicated service to the Health Department, including in difficult and remote areas, but continue to face uncertainty regarding their job security and future.

"NHM employees have given the prime years of their lives in serving the people of Jammu & Kashmir. We are not demanding anything unreasonable; we are seeking a fair and dignified policy for those who have served the healthcare

system for years. The Government must take a serious and positive initiative to resolve these genuine issues at the earliest," Dr. Hamid Parray said.

The Association stated that the recent meeting with the Hon'ble Health Minister Ms. Sakina Itoo and Mission Director NHM J&K Ms. Akriti Sagar (IAS) remained inconclusive, as no consensus could be reached regarding the financial implications of the employees' demands.

The UT Level Coordination Committee reiterated its willingness for meaningful dialogue with the Government and urged authorities to resolve the issues through peaceful and democratic means.

The Association appealed to all NHM employees to remain united, disciplined and peaceful and urged the Government to intervene at the earliest in the larger interest of employees and uninterrupted healthcare delivery.

75th Birthday of Sadguru Satpalji celebrated in Udhampur

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The 75th birthday of Sadgurudev Shri Satpal Ji Maharaj was celebrated with religious fervour at Maa Rajrajeshwari Ashram, Udhampur, where the Manav Utthan Sewa Samiti, Udhampur Branch, organised a Sadbhavana Satsang.

Hundreds of devotees from different parts of the district participated in the programme and listened to spiritual discourses delivered by Ashram In-charge Mahatma Shama Bai Ji, Mahatma Tripura Bai Ji and Mahatma Sanyami Bai Ji. The speakers highlighted Shri Satpal Ji Maharaj's spiritual journey and his efforts to promote peace, unity, social harmony and human welfare. They said his nationwide spiritual and awareness



programmes have focused on combating violence, hatred, superstition and social divisions while promoting the values of humanity and goodwill.

A medical check-up

camp was also organised during the programme. Dr Veer Krishna Pandita examined devotees and checked their blood pressure, blood sugar, oxygen saturation and pulse rate,

besides advising them on health and diet.

Devotees were also enthralled by devotional bhajans presented by various singers. The programme concluded with a commu-

LG Saxena sanctions Rs 1.52 cr compensation for deceased families those injured in Sep 2025 violence

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In a continued commitment to support the families affected by the tragic violence in Ladakh on September 24, 2025, the Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, today sanctioned ₹15 lakh each to the next of kin of the four persons who lost their lives in the incident. An ex-gratia assistance of ₹3 lakh for persons who sustained major injuries and ₹1 lakh for those who sustained minor in-

juries has also been approved.

The total financial commitment of the UT Administration under the approved compensation measures will be ₹1.52 crore, comprising ₹60 lakh for the four deceased, ₹72 lakh for 24 persons with major injuries and ₹20 lakh for 20 persons with minor injuries.

The incident had resulted in the loss of four lives, while 43 civilians sustained major or minor injuries. As the UT of Ladakh did not have a general policy prescribing compensation in

cases of death or injury arising from incidents of public unrest or rioting, the Administration examined the matter with a view to extending appropriate humanitarian assistance to the affected families and individuals.

L-G Shri Saxena, after taking over in March this year, accorded priority to the matter and worked towards finalising an appropriate compensation package for the affected families and injured persons.

The compensation is intended as a measure of support and solidarity with the

affected families and individuals.

The Lieutenant Governor expressed his deep gratitude to Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah for his sensitive, humanitarian and guiding approach, and for always standing in solidarity with the victims and their families. "While no compensation amount can replace a life lost or erase the pain endured, the Ladakh Administration firmly stands beside every affected family in their journey towards healing and overcoming the grief," said L-G Saxena.

Army conducts door-to-door interaction with widows at Sangri in Reasi

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The Indian Army conducted a Door-to-Door Interaction with Ex-Servicemen (ESM) and Widows at Sangri in Reasi district on 12 September 2026 as part of its ongoing welfare and outreach initiatives for the veteran community and their families.

During the interaction, Army personnel visited the residences of Ex-Servicemen and widows, enquired about their health and well-being and patiently listened to their grievances, concerns and welfare-related requirements. The initiative provided a valuable platform for establishing direct communication with veteran families and understanding the challenges being faced by them.

The beneficiaries were also informed about various welfare schemes, entitlements, pension-related



provisions and assistance mechanisms available for Ex-Servicemen, widows and dependants.

Necessary guidance was provided to help them access the benefits and support extended through different welfare agencies.

The interaction enabled the Army representatives to identify specific concerns requiring follow-up and assured the families of continued assistance wherever required.

The initiative reaffirmed the Indian Army's endur-

ing commitment towards the welfare, dignity and well-being of its veterans and their families, while further strengthening the bond of trust and respect between the serving fraternity and the veteran community.

Natrang Stages Hilarious Satire 'Prem Visheshagya' in Sunday Series

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Natrang once again brought laughter, satire and thoughtful social commentary to the stage this Sunday with a sparkling presentation of 'Prem Visheshagya', a popular satirical play written by the celebrated Hindi writer and satirist Harishankar Parsai. Presented under Natrang's ongoing Sunday Theatre Series, the comedy had the audience in splits while simultaneously offering a sharp and thought-provoking commentary on contemporary relationships and youthful infatuation.

Speaking about the playwright, Natrang Director Balwant Thakur said that Harishankar Parsai, a recipient of the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award, made an immense contribution to Hindiliterature, particularly through his incisive and socially relevant satire. He added that after deliberately presenting a tragedy in the previous Sunday's programme, Natrang chose comedy this week to offer the audience an evening of



light-hearted entertainment, laughter and reflection.

The play was ably directed by Neeraj Kant, who also designed and executed the lighting, adding considerable visual energy to the performance.

'Prem Visheshagya' takes a humorous look at a generation increasingly fascinated by the idea of romantic love, often to the extent of making extreme sacrifices in its name. At the centre of the story is a self-styled 'Love Guru', who runs a clinic claiming to be the ultimate destination for people struggling with matters of the heart. He confidently takes on the most complicated relationship problems, only to find himself entangled in a

romantic complication of his own.

The comic situation reaches its peak when a young woman approaches the Love Guru seeking help to get rid of a modern-day 'Majnu', who has sacrificed everything for her. While attempting to resolve her problem, the Love Guru himself falls in love with her, giving rise to a hilarious and ironic dilemma: who will treat the doctor when the doctor himself becomes the patient?

The performance kept the audience laughing throughout, with the actors effectively bringing out the humour, irony and absurdity embedded in Parsai's writing. The crisp situations, witty exchanges and comic

twists made it difficult for the audience to resist laughter at almost every turn.

Yet, beneath its humour, the play carries a strong social message, particularly for young people. It questions the tendency to confuse infatuation with genuine love and urges the younger generation to maintain a healthy balance between emotions and aspirations. The play subtly reminds youth that instead of losing themselves in imaginary, unrealistic and dreamy notions of romance, they should remain focused on their education, careers, personal growth and constructive goals.

With its perfect blend of comedy, satire and social relevance, Natrang's presentation of 'Prem Visheshagya' proved once again that theatre can make audiences laugh while simultaneously encouraging them to think.

The brilliant Natrang actors who enlivened this hilarious comedy on stage included Pawan Verma, Mihir Gujral, Adesh Dhar, Damini Thakur and Lal Mohd. The presentations were done by Vanshika Salathia and the show was coordinated by Aryan Sharma.

Indian Army organised 'Chai Pe Charcha' with Sarpanchs, Panchs at Kalai in Rajouri

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The Indian Army organised a "Chai Pe Charcha" interaction with Sarpanchs, Panchs and local residents at Village Kalai in Rajouri district on 12 September 2026. The initiative was aimed at strengthening mutual trust, encouraging open dialogue and further enhancing relations between the Indian Army and the local community.

The interaction witnessed active participation from the elected representatives and villagers, who shared their views and highlighted various issues concerning the local population. The informal setting provided a constructive platform for meaningful discussions on community development, socio-economic upliftment, village progress



and the important role of local governance in addressing grassroots-level concerns.

Participants also exchanged ideas on improving civic amenities, promoting welfare initiatives and creating greater opportunities for the overall development of the area.

The gathering encouraged community representatives to work collectively towards resolving local challenges and contributing to the growth and well-being of their villages.

The event reflected the Indian Army's continued efforts to remain con-

nected with people in remote areas and to foster cooperation, understanding and mutual confidence. Such interactions play an important role in strengthening Army - Awam bonds and promoting peace, harmony and inclusive development in the region.

Two-day workshop on "Entrepreneurial Mindset and Idea Validation" concludes at SKUAST-K

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In a landmark achievement for SKUAST-K, Bushra Naaz, PhD scholar under the mentorship of Dr. Ajaz Ahmed Malik, Head, KVK, Ganderbal has been declared a winner at the National Bio Entrepreneurship Competition (NBEC) 2026, held in Bengaluru.

The 2026 edition received an overwhelming response, with over 3,200 registrations from 34 States and Union Territories, making it one of the most competitive national platforms for science driven entrepreneurship. After

successive rounds of screening, mentoring, pitching, and evaluation on parameters such as scientific validity, novelty, feasibility, business potential, team strength, and clarity of articulation, only the most promising student advanced to the Grand Finale.

Her pioneering research on plant-based meat analogues stood out for its scientific depth, translational potential, and entrepreneurial promise.

In recognition of this breakthrough, Bushra Naaz received a ₹1 lakh award, presented in the presence of Dr. Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Executive Chairperson of Bio-

con, and other eminent figures from India's biotechnology ecosystem. Vice Chancellor SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai congratulated both Bushra Naaz and Dr. Ajaz Malik, stating that the achievement is a proud moment for SKUAST K and aligns with our vision to be counted among the top universities in the country. "It exemplifies how our scholars and faculty are not only contributing to academic excellence but also translating research into innovation and entrepreneurship. Such recognitions strengthen our resolve to position SKUAST K at the forefront of national and global scientific leader-

ship", he said.

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