

Shaurya Int’l Archers Qualify For National Championship

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS
JAMMU, OCT 01

The students of Shaurya International School delivered an outstanding performance at the recently concluded SGFI UT Level Archery Championship, securing multiple medals and a national selection. The championship was held at SMVDU, Jammu, from 27 September to 30 September 2026.

Leading the medal haul, Ishant Manhotra clinched the Gold medal in the Under-17 category with a stellar performance. In the same age group, Stavva Kumar secured the Silver medal, while Hardik Gupta won the Bronze medal in the Under-17 category.

Adding to the tally, Dravin Mahajan performed brilliantly in the Under-14 category to claim a Bronze medal. Nimrat Kour secured the 4th rank in the Under-17 category.

Following their exceptional individual rankings



and podium finishes, all five students have been selected to represent the Union Territory at the upcoming National Archery Championship.

The School Management, Principal, and coaching staff congratulated the talented archers on their phenomenal success. They extended their best wishes to the entire team for their upcoming journey on the national stage.

J&K Bank marks 88 years of empowering people, renews commitment to sustainable growth

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Marking 88 years of its journey of financial empowerment, J&K Bank today reaffirmed its commitment to serving the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh while sustaining the institution’s growth for future generations.

MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee chaired the commemorative event at the Bank’s Regional Business Centre in Jammu in the presence of Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, Chief General Managers, General Managers and Divisional Heads. General Managers from the Corporate Headquarters also joined through video conferencing.

The function began with floral tributes to Shri Maharaja Hari Singh, honouring his visionary role in founding the Bank to financially empower the people of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir and support the region’s economy.

Congratulating stakeholders on the occasion, the MD & CEO underscored the responsibility of carrying forward the Bank’s founding mission while ensuring its continued strength and relevance. “Our responsibility is twofold: to serve the people of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh through best-in-class financial services and support the region’s economic development; and to sustain the Bank’s business growth so that it continues to serve coming



generations in J&K, Ladakh and beyond. These goals are interlinked and interdependent,” he said.

Calling for a renewed commitment to this purpose, he added, “Today is an occasion to pledge that we will do everything possible, in a fair and transparent manner, to achieve both these goals. Very few banks in the country have this dual responsibility, and we are fortunate to be entrusted with it.”

Paying tribute to the Bank’s founder, MD & CEO said, “We should be thankful to Shri Maharaja Hari Singh for his remarkable vision and foresight in establishing J&K Bank. For the last 88 years, the Bank has carried forward the mission of financial empowerment and today sits at the heart of the economic architecture of Jammu and Kashmir.”

Notably, carrying forward this vision, the Bank, as principal financier of

Mission YUVA - the J&K Government’s flagship employment generation programme - has so far sanctioned loans totaling Rs 1,902 crore to nearly 40,000 entrepreneurs, helping to bring their business aspirations closer to reality. To highlight its commitment to the programme, the bank is launching YUVA UDAAN - a video series featuring the inspiring success stories of ambitious youth - on its official social media platforms.

Extending this commitment beyond banking, the Bank’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) interventions support social and ecological well-being across the region. During FY 2025-26, the Bank spent over Rs 46 crore under its CSR programme, benefiting thousands through initiatives in education, healthcare, environment and other sectors.

The MD & CEO also paid homage to successive generations of the Bank’s leadership and employees whose dedication and wholehearted contribution had helped realise the mission envisaged by its founding fathers. “I believe the Bank is in its strongest position today. The credit belongs to every member of our staff, and I thank our stakeholders for their continued trust and support,” he said.

Emphasising the need to pass this sense of purpose to the next generation of employees, the MD & CEO urged the leadership to guide and inspire them to carry the legacy forward and translate today’s vision into tomorrow’s action.

“We should be proud of our Bank and of what it has accomplished over the last 88 years. Our duty now is to carry this legacy forward with the responsibility it deserves,” he said.

Bus turns turtle on NH-44 at Marog; Ramban Administration launches rescue operation

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JAMMU, OCT 01

A tourist bus bearing registration number WB 41K 2929, carrying tourists from West Bengal, turned turtle on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway (NH-44) near Marog in Ramban district today. The tourists were travelling from Srinagar towards Jammu when the accident occurred.

As many as 33 tourists sustained injuries in the accident and were immediately evacuated from the spot and shifted to District Hospital Ramban for medical treatment. Among the injured 9 tourists were referred to Government Medical College (GMC) Hospital Jammu for specialised treatment.

Soon after receiving information about the accident, the District Administration Ramban, under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Ramban Mohammad Alyas Khan, swung into action and launched a coordinated rescue operation. SSP Traffic NHW Raja Adil Hameed, Additional Deputy Commissioner Varunjeet Singh Charak, Additional SP Majeed-ur-



Rehman, ACR Shokat Hayat Mattoo and other concerned officers rushed to the spot and monitored the rescue and evacuation operations. Personnel from J&K Police, CRPF, Civil QRT Ramban and Civil Administration actively participated in the rescue op-

eration and ensured the safe evacuation of the injured tourists from the accident site. The officers also visited District Hospital Ramban and supervised the treatment being provided to the injured. The Medical Superintendent, District Hospital was di-

rected to ensure the best possible medical treatment and all necessary healthcare facilities to the injured tourists. The District Administration monitored the rescue, evacuation and medical care arrangements to ensure timely assistance to all the affected tourists.

166 Bn CRPF organises blood donation camp at Banihal

BANIHAL, Oct 1: The 166 Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) organised a voluntary blood donation camp at Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Banihal, on Thursday to mark National Voluntary Blood Donation Day.

Around 18 to 20 CRPF personnel voluntarily donated blood during the camp, contributing to the hospital’s blood bank and supporting patients in need of blood transfusion.

The camp was held under the supervision of senior officers and medical staff. CMO (SG) Satish Chandra Kushwaha, Second-in-Command Mukesh Kumar Chaudhary and Deputy Commandant Shyam Narayan Singh of



166 Bn CRPF were present at SDH Banihal and encouraged the personnel participating in the humanitarian initiative.

Following the donation, fruit baskets and juice were

provided to the donors as a gesture of appreciation and to support their recovery.

The hospital administration and medical staff appreciated the CRPF per-

sonnel for their voluntary contribution, describing the initiative as a meaningful effort towards strengthening the availability of blood for patients and saving precious lives.

Seva Parv 2026: Kathua witnesses series of cleanliness drives, health, public welfare initiatives

KATHUA, OCTOBER 01: As part of the ongoing Seva Parv 2026 celebrations, a series of cleanliness, awareness, health and community outreach activities were organised across District Kathua, reaffirming the commitment of various departments towards cleanliness, public welfare and citizen participation.

At DIET Basohli, a Book Distribution Programme was organised as part of Seva Parv 2026 to encourage reading habits and facilitate access to educational resources. ADC Basohli Pankaj Bhagotra, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and highlighted the importance of promoting education, learning and community-oriented initiatives.

Under the able guidance of Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Sharma, cleanliness drives were organised at various AYUSH institutions across the district, alongside a cleanliness drive at the Range Forest Office, Bani. The initiatives witnessed active participation



tion of officers and staff, reinforcing the message of cleanliness, hygiene, environmental responsibility and collective civic participation under Seva Parv 2026.

Further strengthening the cleanliness campaign, Municipal Committee Kathua organised a Plogging Run to promote cleanliness, environmental responsibility and active citizens participation. The

initiative combined physical activity with collection of litter, conveying the message of keeping public spaces clean through collective efforts.

Meanwhile, JKPC Kathua conducted an awareness drive against banned polythene and single-use plastic in the Kathua market as per the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kathua. During the drive, the public was

sensitised about the harmful environmental impact of banned polythene and single-use plastic and encouraged to adopt eco-friendly alternatives. Around 6 kg of banned polythene (below 120 microns) and 500 grams of single-use plastic (SUP) were seized during the enforcement drive.

Under the health component of Seva Parv 2026, Health Department Hiranagar organised medical camps across various villages under Hariachak and Main Hiranagar zones of Block Hiranagar. More than 400 beneficiaries were screened and provided health check-ups, medical consultation and necessary assistance.

In addition, a Health Check-up-cum-Medical Camp for sanitary workers was organised at Municipal Committee Hiranagar, providing health screening and medical consultation to sanitation workers in recognition of their important role in maintaining cleanliness and public hygiene.

JMC holds Stakeholders' meeting to clarify notices

JAMMU, OCTOBER 1:

In view of concerns arising among the trading community following notices issued by the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) to the Narwal Fruit Mandi and over 200 establishments in different parts of Jammu city, Commissioner JMC Dr. Devansh Yadav today convened a meeting with representatives of various trade associations and elected representatives to clarify the issues and address apprehensions.

The meeting was attended by MLAs representing Jammu North Sham Lal Sharma, Jammu East Yudhvir Sethi, Bahu Vikram Singh Randhawa and Jammu West Arvind Gupta, besides representatives of the business community.

During the meeting, all relevant issues were discussed in detail and the Commissioner apprised the stakeholders of the position of the JMC and the



steps being taken to address their concerns.

Dr. Yadav said that some notices issued during the past few days had led to apprehension and concern among members of the public and the trading community.

Clarifying on the matter, the Commissioner apprised that Residential to Commercial violations and notices to Narwal fruit mandi shopkeepers are two separate issues. He informed that the notices issued in respect of the Fruit Mandi were based on an alert note received by the Corporation from ACB. He assured the market representatives that JMC would extend all possible guidance and facilitation for obtaining the required building permissions and completing the process for regularisation of existing structures, wherever permissible under the rules as per JDA leases.

Dr. Yadav further said that the recently amended Unified Building Bye-Laws provide provisions relating to coverage, FAR and other aspects which can facilitate systematic development of existing markets. He said that wherever technically and legally feasible, vertical expansion could also be explored to accommodate additional shops and meet the growing requirements of established markets.

On the issue of residential-to-commercial use, the Commissioner said that this was a separate and long-standing matter and that several such cases were either pending before Honble courts or involved other disputes. Recently, Honble Supreme Court has issued an order for residential colonies with the aim of preventing their commercialisation. He said efforts were being made to examine suitable mixed-use provisions under the building bye-laws, particularly in areas where roads have adequate width and other prescribed parameters are met. He assured the business community and other stakeholders that JMC would continue to work in coordination with them and provide all possible assistance, guidance and facilitation within its mandate, while policy-related matters would be taken up positively with the Government.