

13 Journalists from Assam Embark on 7 Day Media Tour to Ladakh Organised by PIB Guwahati

GY CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI, JULY 28

The Press Information Bureau (PIB), Guwahati, has organised a seven-day media tour to the Union Territory of Ladakh for a group of 13 journalists from leading media organisations in Assam. The tour, which began today, aims to provide media professionals with an immersive experience of Ladakh's unique cultural heritage, breathtaking landscapes, and notable developmental initiatives. The media team represents a diverse mix of platforms, including print, electronic, digital, and social media, and is accompanied by two officials from PIB Guwahati. The delegation is led by Smita Saitia, Media and Communication Officer, PIB Guwahati. During the tour, the journalists will explore key sites that



highlight Ladakh's blend of tradition and innovation. These include the Indian Astronomical Observatory at Hanle and the Hanle Dark Sky Reserve, where they will gain insights into the region's contributions to astronomical research and environmental preservation. The team will also visit the National Institute of Sowa-Rigpa to learn about Ladakh's traditional system of

medicine. In addition, the delegation will be introduced to infrastructure projects under Project HIMANK, an initiative of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) that operates in some of the most challenging terrains of the country. They will also witness Ladakh's model of sustainable waste management under

Project Tsangda. The tour includes interactions with local cooperatives involved in the production of pashmina and apricots, offering the journalists a closer look at the region's artisanal economy and livelihood models. The media group will call on the Chief Secretary of the Union Territory of Ladakh and engage in discussions with local media professionals in

Leh, further fostering cross-regional dialogue and understanding. Journalists in the delegation represent prominent media outlets such as PTI, The Assam Tribune, Dainik Janambhumi, Asomiya Pratidin, Kokrajhar-based Bodosa, DD Assam, NewsLive, News18 Assam, Pratidin Times, NKTV Plus, DY365, and Time8, among others.

This initiative is part of PIB Guwahati's ongoing efforts to promote regional awareness and national integration by enabling journalists to document and share the development stories of diverse regions.

The Ladakh tour follows the success of last year's media visit to Tamil Nadu, reinforcing PIB's commitment to fostering informed journalism through direct exposure and field-level engagement.

GY CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 28

The Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court while deciding two different petitions seeking quashment of detention under Public Safety Act, dismissed the petitions and upheld the PSA of two over ground workers.

Justice Sanjay Dhar while dismissing the petition filed by Ameer Hamza Shah challenged detention order N0.18/DMB/PSA of 2024 dated 11.09.2024, issued by District Magistrate, Bandipora, observed that District Magistrate, while formulating the grounds of detention, has furnished sufficient particulars about the alleged fresh activities of

the petitioner in which he has indulged after his release from detention in the year 2024.

Thus, it cannot be stated the grounds of detention do not disclose any fresh activities involving the petitioner which are prejudicial to the maintenance of public order. Court further observed that in any case, after the release of the petitioner from preventive detention, he has again indulged in the activities which are prejudicial to the maintenance of public order. Reference to these activities has been made hereinbefore.

Therefore, merely because the earlier detention order was quashed by this Court cannot form a basis

for quashing the impugned detention order passed by the detaining authority.

Justice Sanjay Dhar while dismissing the petition filed by Mufassi Ahmad Thoker observed that it is clear that there are specific allegations in the grounds of detention that the petitioner has indulged in activities prejudicial to the security of the State even after his release from preventive custody in October, 2021. The contention of the petitioner that after his release no fresh activity prejudicial to the security of the State is attributed to him in the grounds of detention is contrary to the factual position. The same, therefore, deserves to be rejected.

Mahant Rohit Shastri writes to Hon'ble LG – Appeals for justice, government job, financial aid to the family of deceased Sahil Sharma, and strictest action against those responsible for the banned gattu dor

GY CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU, JULY 28

Mahant Rohit Shastri, President of Shri Kailash Jyotish avim Vedic Sanshan Trust, Jammu & Kashmir, and recipient of the State Award, has sent a heartfelt appeal to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha. Through his letter, Mahant Rohit Shastri made the following four major demands:

1. The wife of Shri Sahil Sharma should be given a government job immediately so she can raise their two young daughters with dignity.
2. The family should be provided with adequate financial assistance promptly to help them cope with this painful period and face future uncertainties.
3. The strictest possible action should be taken against those involved in the manufacturing, storage, sale, and use of gattu dor. FIRs should be registered immediately, and the culprits punished severely to prevent recurrence of such incidents.
4. A special long-term welfare scheme should be devised for the two daughters of late Sahil Sharma, including

provisions for scholarships, medical aid, education, and counseling services.

Mahant Ji emphasized in his letter that this incident is not just a personal loss but a wake-up call for society at large. Despite repeated administrative bans, this deadly thread continues to be openly available in markets and through online platforms. He stated that this is not the time for mere sympathy, but for the most stringent administrative and legal measures.

Mahant Rohit Shastri also stressed that it is a collective responsibility of society to adopt a firm stand against such lethal materials. He expressed hope that Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor would treat this sensitive matter with the seriousness it deserves and take swift action to ensure justice for the grieving family and peace for the departed soul.

J&K Students association urges Rajasthan CM for Judicial probe into 'Jammu Student's suicide over harassment at Udaipur College'

GY CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, JULY 28

The Jammu and Kashmir Students Association on Monday appealed to Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma seeking immediate intervention and a time-bound judicial inquiry into the "alleged harassment-driven suicide of Shweta Singh – a final-year BLS student from Doda district of Jammu & Kashmir – at Pacific Dental College and Research Centre, Udaipur".

In a letter addressed to the Chief Minister, the Association's National Convener, Nasir Khuehami, expressed deep anguish, calling it a "horrifying case" of institutional failure, mental harassment, and academic exploitation that tragically pushed Shweta to take her own life on the night of July 24, 2025.

The Association said Shweta endured two years of sustained mental harassment and pressure from faculty members. Naini Jain (known as Mahi Ma'am) and Bhagwat Singh (Bhagwat Sir), whom she directly named in her handwritten suicide note. The note – widely shared on social media after being discovered by fellow students – alleged that students who didn't pay bribes were deliberately

failed, denied exams, and mentally tortured. Khuehami said that Shweta's exams had been withheld for over a year and a half, and her degree was blocked. She was pushed into a junior batch – an apparent attempt to demoralize her and extract money. In her final note, she wrote: "They kept sucking the blood of those who didn't pay. I no longer have the strength to endure this... Bhagwat jai... I just wanted to be free."

The Association also flagged gross negligence after her death. Despite their roommate alerting authorities at around 11 p.m., no college official, warden, or medical personnel responded. Students were forced to carry her body down six floors themselves. Her room remained unsecured for hours, potentially compromising key evidence.

The FIR, according to Khuehami, was filed only three days later – after student protests and her parents' arrival. Shockingly, the FIR allegedly omitted the full names and designations of the accused, which the Association believes was a deliberate attempt to weaken the case. Students who spoke to police or media were reportedly threatened by college authorities, warned of withheld degrees, and

their parents were allegedly contacted to silence them. The Association expressed anger that no arrests have been made, despite a detailed suicide note and serious allegations of abetment to suicide – a cognizable, non-bailable offence. The college's expulsion of the two faculty members was dismissed by the Association as mere "cosmetic damage control."

Calling Shweta's case symptomatic of systemic issues in private dental colleges, the Association said such institutions often trap students in cycles of exploitation, especially those unwilling to pay bribes. It noted that many students from Jammu and Kashmir studying in Rajasthan now fear speaking out, afraid they too could face similar abuse.

Khuehami urged CM Bhajan Lal Sharma to order the immediate arrest of the accused, ensure a judicial probe led by a retired High Court judge, and provide protection to student witnesses. He also called for legal action against college officials who delayed the FIR, tampered with evidence, and intimidated students – and recommended setting up a regulatory mechanism to prevent similar exploitation in the future.

Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan: Series of impactful IEC events organised across different blocks & ULBs

GY CORRESPONDENT

RAJOURI, JULY 28

In continuation of Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan campaign a series of impactful Information Education and Communication events were organized today across the Rajouri District here on the directions of Deputy Commissioner Abhishek Sharma. The events aimed to spread awareness about the disastrous consequences of drug abuse on the individuals and the society as a whole.

The events were held in all nineteen blocks of the district including Budhal Old, Budhal New, Daratal, Dhangri, Doongri, Kalakote, Khawas, Lamberi, Manjakote, Moughla, Nowshera, Pangrain, Plangarh, Qila Darhal, Rajouri, Seri, Siot, Sunderbani and Thanamandi. In addition to this, the events were also held in three ULBs including Rajouri, Kalakote, Sunderbani, Nowshera and Thanamandi.

A large number of people from across the social spectrum attended the

events, where resource persons from the government departments and health organizations spoke about the devastating impact of drug abuse. The sessions focused on educating the masses about the physical, psychological, and social consequences of drug addiction and the importance of early intervention and rehabilitation. The officials emphasized the need for community participation in combating the drug menace and ensuring a healthier, drug-free environment for future generations.

The district administration reaffirmed its commitment to continue the battle against drug abuse and further strengthen its efforts through awareness campaigns, rehabilitation programs and support for those affected by addiction. The aim of these events is to encourage everyone to stay engaged in this vital campaign and help in creating a drug-free society for the well-being of all.

Kupwara lifts IDPL Baseball U-19 Boys championship

GY CORRESPONDENT

KUPWARA, JULY 28

The Inter District Provincial Level (IDPL) Baseball U-19 Boys Championship concluded today at Hakaniabad Sports Stadium, Puznwa, District Kupwara, with Team Kupwara emerging as champions after a remarkable performance in the final match against Team Pulwama.

In the thrilling final, Team Kupwara completed 4 homes, setting a strong target. Team Pulwama needed 5 homes to claim the title but managed to complete only one home during the entire match.



With this dominant display, Team Kupwara clinched the prestigious title.

Youth Services and Sports District Kupwara congratulated Team Kupwara for their outstanding victory and extended best wishes to Team Pulwama for their efforts and sportsmanship. Furthermore, the department informed that the U-14 Boys Baseball teams are set to arrive for the upcoming matches, which will be held from 29th to 30th July 2025 at the same venue, Hakaniabad Sports Stadium, Puznwa.

GY CORRESPONDENT

RAJOURI, JULY 28

Environmental Sciences, Centre for Biodiversity Studies, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU), in collaboration with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Regional Centre Jammu, organized a thought-provoking two-day National Seminar titled "Ashta, Parampara aur Prakriti: Exploring the Sacred Continuum of Faith, Tradition, and Nature among the Bakarwal Community."

Registrar, BGSBU Abhishek Sharma graced the inaugural session as the Chief Guest and delivered a compelling keynote address. In his address, he underscored the urgent need to preserve and promote indigenous knowledge systems that are rapidly eroding in the face of modernisation, climate change and cultural homogenisation. He emphasized that the Bakarwal community embodies a sustainable way of life rooted in ecological balance and spiritual wisdom. "Their traditions are not relics of the past, but living systems of knowledge that offer critical lessons in environmental conservation, resilience, and community cohesion," he noted.

Abhishek Sharma further remarked that the time has come for academic institutions, policymakers, and civil society to recognize the value of indigenous voices and integrate them into mainstream development narratives. "We must create platforms like this seminar to celebrate, learn from, and protect the intangible heritage of nomadic communities like the Bakarwals, who for generations have lived in harmony with the natural world," he added.

He lauded the organizers for curating a multidisciplinary forum that brought together scholars, ecologists, anthropologists, cultural experts, and community members to engage in meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange. He urged for actionable outcomes from such academic gatherings that can inform policy, enrich curricula, and inspire youth to engage with indigenous knowledge traditions. Earlier, Director CBS Dr. Shreekar Pant presented the welcome address and said that the event aimed to shed light on the intricate tapestry of beliefs, traditional practices, and ecological knowledge that define the cultural life of the nomadic Bakarwal community of the Western Himalayas.

Regional Director, Indira

Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Regional Centre Jammu. Dr. Shruti Awasthi, in her address, stated that the Bakarwal community represents a living archive of Himalayan wisdom – their seasonal mobility, oral traditions, and sacred relationship with the land form a unique lens through which we must view sustainable living.

Professor M. K. Waqar, renowned academician lauded the university's initiative to bring academic attention to communities whose knowledge systems have long been marginalised in mainstream discourses and commended the efforts of the organisers in highlighting such a vital and often underrepresented community. Distinguished speakers namely Dr. Bhanu Kumar Vats, Assistant Professor, University of Delhi, Dr. Harish Dutta, Assistant Professor, University of Jammu, Dr. Danish Iqbal Raina, Assistant Professor and Rajesh Jha, Senior Journalist also addressed the growing challenges faced by the Bakarwal community, including the pressures of sedentarisation, shrinking pastures, lack of representation in policy frameworks, and the impact of climate change on their traditional routes and water sources.

BGSBU, IGNCa organize National Seminar on Bakarwal Community: Exploring faith, tradition and nature



Chairperson DDC Ganderbal visits shrines to review Urs arrangements

GY CORRESPONDENT

GANDERBAL, JULY 28

In view of the forthcoming Urs celebrations, the Chairperson, District Development Council (DDC) Ganderbal, Nuzhat Ishfaq, today conducted visits to various shrines in the district to review preparations and ensure timely arrangements.

During the visit, DDC Chairperson visited the revered shrine of Hazrat Qamar-ud-Din Bukhari (RA) at Reshipora Salora and Pir Baba Haider (RA) at Tulimulla. The visit aimed to assess on-ground requirements and address the genuine needs of the shrine management committees and the local populace ahead of the religious event.

During the inspection, DDC Chairperson issued on-spot directions to concerned departments to ensure adequate arrangements related to uninterrupted power and water supply, sanitation, traffic management,



healthcare facilities, parking, and other essential services. She emphasized the importance of inter-departmental coordination and timely delivery of services to ensure that the Urs celebrations are conducted in a safe, clean, and spiritually fulfilling environment. All departments have been directed to complete their assigned tasks well

before the scheduled dates, with special focus on maintaining cleanliness, regulating traffic, and ensuring public convenience. DDC Chairperson assured the shrine authorities and the public of the administration's full support in making the Urs celebrations successful and hassle-free. Officers from all concerned line departments were present at the sites.