

JammuBeat

THE PULSE OF THE CITY

THE JUNE COVER STORY

Built From Junk

Fourteen world landmarks rebuilt from the city's own scrap — inside the ₹11-crore Waste to Wonder Park that spent June racing to open before the yatris arrived.

- **Purple Hills** — the Bhaderwah lavender bloom
- **The ₹500 Win** — the dharna that beat a fee hike
- **Meter down, please** — inside the auto-fare crackdown
- **₹5,000 a month** — the PM internship, in plain English



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EDITOR'S NOTE

June in Jammu was a month of new public spaces and hard campus conversations. The city spent it building — a park from its own scrap, a shorter road to the valley, a fairer fee bill won on the university lawns. This issue looks back at the month that was: one city, one hot June, one magazine.

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Dates worth blocking out — the fairs, fixtures and festivals coming up around the city as this issue lands. The full, updated diary lives at jammubeat.com/events.

18
JUL

Grandstand Unplugged : Vol 2 - The Sufi Edition

The GrandStand · Free

Sufi night is back again this weekend with Grandstand Unplugged : Vol 2

8
AUG

Non Sense ft. Parvinder Singh — Stand-up Comedy

TCB Studio, Jammu · From ₹799

Comedian Parvinder Singh brings his latest stand-up show to Jammu — relatable stories, witty observations and non-stop laughter.

19
JUL

Spoken Open Mic Jammu

The Pause Station, Jammu · Free

A community open mic for poetry, storytelling, music, stand-up comedy, rap and spoken word — open to both seasoned performers and first-t...

14
AUG

Afsana Khan Live in Jammu

Radisson Blu, Jammu · From 7,999

Popular Punjabi singer Afsana Khan performs live in Jammu — an evening of her chart-topping hits and fan favourites.

24
JUL

Short Video/Reel Competition on Responsible Taxation and Nation Building (MyGov)

Online — MyGov Portal · Free

30–60 second Instagram/YouTube Shorts video on responsible taxation and nation-building. Prizes up to ₹10,000.

28
SEPT

Jammu Film Festival 2026 (5th Edition)

Abhinav Theatre

The 5th edition of the Jammu Film Festival is scheduled for 28–29 September 2026 at Abhinav Theatre, Canal Road, Jammu. It features curat...

Never miss what's on.

The live city diary updates daily — every gig, fair and fixture, with timings and tickets in one place.

jammubeat.com/events →

June, in brief

Six things that happened around the city while you were revising, travelling or dodging the first rain — each checked against the papers of record.

AIR**4.5M****Jammu Airport geared up to double**

On Yatri Suvidha Diwas (15 June), the airport showcased its expansion — a new terminal meant to lift capacity from 2.6 to 4.5 million passengers a year, and grow the building from 14,500 to about 40,000 sq m.

SCIENCE**10 days****CSIR-IIIM sent students into the lab**

A 10-day hands-on training programme wrapped at CSIR-IIIM Jammu, putting college students on real bench projects and nudging them toward research and innovation careers.

YATRA**4 lakh****Amarnath registrations hit a record**

By the eve of the 57-day pilgrimage, around four lakh yatris had registered — already ahead of last year, per the Divisional Commissioner — as Jammu's base camps filled up.

EXAMS**80 posts****KAS Mains filled Jammu's exam halls**

The JKPSM Combined Competitive (Main) Examination ran 23 June–1 July at centres in Jammu and Srinagar for 80 administrative, police and accounts posts, with admit cards out from 15 June.

LABOUR**₹76.95cr****RTC retirees took a 13-year wait to the Press Club**

VRS-retired J&K RTC staff protested near the Jammu Press Club on 28 June over unpaid COLA, DA and pay-commission arrears — 77 had died during the 13-year wait, even after a ₹76.95-crore central release.

STARTUPS**50k ft²****An innovation park landed at IIT Jammu**

The J&K government moved to open Phase I of an IT & Innovation Park at IIT Jammu, upgrading about 50,000 sq ft of campus space to seed startups, labs and tech jobs close to home.

SECTION 01

News

The city built a park from its scrap, a river of pilgrims began to gather, and Jammu spent June arguing about fares, potholes and pledges.

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NEWS · COVER STORY

Built From *Junk*

Fourteen world landmarks, rebuilt from the city's own scrap: inside the ₹11-crore Waste to Wonder Park that spent June racing to open.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL · 5 MIN READ

For years, the piles of scrap and construction debris around Jammu were just that — waste. Through June, the city's planners were busy turning ₹11 crore of exactly that kind of junk into a brand-new place to spend an evening. The Waste to Wonder Park, one of the headline projects of the Jammu Smart City mission, was in its final stretch as the month closed.

₹11 cr

· 80% BUILT BY LATE MAY

Jammu Smart City's Waste to Wonder Park was roughly 80% complete in late May, targeted to open by the end of June before the Amarnath Yatra rush.

The pitch was two-for-one. Its centrepiece was a set of fourteen replica monuments — a scrap-built Eiffel Tower, Taj Mahal, Statue of Unity and more — assembled almost entirely from iron pipes, machine parts, e-waste and old tyres rather than fresh concrete. It was designed to be a selfie-friendly evening destination that doubled as a walk-through lesson in recycling.

For readers in their teens and twenties, the practical headline was simple: the city

was getting another proper public space that was neither a mall nor a temple queue. Jammu's evening map had widened fast — riverside promenades, cafe strips, late-night food lanes — and a landscaped park full of photogenic monuments slotted neatly onto that list.

Building an entire attraction out of junk was a quiet argument about how a fast-growing city should treat its own garbage.

There was a sharper point under the photo-ops. An attraction assembled from junk was a low-key argument about how a fast-growing city should treat its own garbage — one that landed very differently when you could walk through the result instead of reading a policy note about it.

The park did not arrive alone. The same Smart City review that fast-tracked it also pushed a ₹16-crore electric-bus depot and followed the ₹156-crore Tawi Riverfront promenade opened earlier in the year — the most concentrated burst

of public-space spending the city had seen in a while. The stated goal, officials said in May, was a cleaner, greener and more organised Jammu.

The showpiece was a 40-foot replica of the Statue of Unity, alongside a scrap-built Eiffel Tower, Taj Mahal, Kedarnath temple and a mix of Cambodian, Roman and Bhutanese wonders — fourteen in all, spread across about forty kanals beside the Tawi at Bhagwati Nagar, the yatra's own base camp.

If it worked the way Delhi's original had, the park would become both a tourist magnet and a permanent, walk-in advertisement for the city's own waste-management drive. Parks like it tend to come alive after dark, when the replicas are lit — a natural fit for Jammu's evening-out culture rather than a midday-heat destination.

One honest caveat travelled with the excitement: the end-of-June target was a target, and no ticket price, opening date or visiting hours had been announced by the time this issue went to print. For young Jammu, though, one of the city's more genuinely original public projects was, by the close of June, only weeks away from opening its gates.

NEWS · ORGAN DONATION

A City that *Pledges*

By June, Jammu district had recorded 1,436 of J&K's 3,066 organ-donation pledges — the largest share of any district. What the number meant, and how to join in.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ



In a Union Territory of twenty districts, one recorded the largest single share of organ-donation pledges. By June, Jammu district had logged 1,436 of J&K's 3,066 pledges — close to 47 per cent of the total, and more than any other district.

An organ pledge was not a drive you attended once and forgot. It was a single, durable decision — that if the worst ever happened, the parts of you that still worked could keep someone else alive. In Jammu, more people had made that decision than anywhere else in the UT.

1,436

• 47% OF J&K'S PLEDGES

Jammu district recorded 1,436 of J&K's 3,066 organ-donation pledges — nearly half the total, and the largest share of any district.

The work behind the number was slow and unglamorous. The latest push came on 27 June, when SOTTO J&K and the S S Jain Sabha held an inter-faith meet in Jammu, aimed at the quiet

worry that religion forbids donation — which, the organisers stressed, India's major faiths treat as an act of charity, not a violation.

An organ pledge was a single, durable decision — that if the worst ever happened, the parts of you that still worked could keep someone else alive.

For anyone who had never pledged, the facts were simple: anyone above 18 could register, medical suitability is assessed only at the time of donation, and the process took about five minutes online and cost nothing. The step that mattered most was telling your family, so your wish could actually be honoured.

Jammu's near-47-per-cent share was not just a leaderboard statistic. It was what happened when a city decided that this particular act of generosity was normal — and, for the 18-to-30 cohort, the cheapest way to push the number higher was five minutes online.

NEWS · SPORT

Medals into *Careers*

J&K cleared 223 sportspersons for government posts under the sports quota — turning a medal into a real, salaried career path.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ



For years, the honest advice to a talented young athlete in Jammu was to keep sport as a hobby and get a real job. In June, J&K changed that maths: the administration cleared 223 sportspersons for government posts under the sports quota, across gazetted and non-gazetted grades.

The significance was less about any single appointment than about the signal. A state that hires its medallists tells the next generation that years of early-morning training can end somewhere other than a dead end.

For a region that produces serious talent in athletics, martial arts and team sports but rarely the infrastructure to sustain it, a salaried career path attached to a podium finish was a genuine incentive — the kind that keeps a promising player in the game a few crucial years longer.

The scheme did not solve everything; coaching, facilities and year-round competition still needed work. But as a June headline for young players in Jammu, 'your medal can become a career' was a meaningfully better story than the region had told them before.

223

ATHLETES HIRED

J&K cleared 223 sportspersons for government posts under the sports quota, turning a medal into a salaried career path.

NEWS · COMMUTE

Meter Down, *Please*

On 23 June the RTO warned autos and e-rickshaws to run the meter and show the approved fare chart. What it meant for the...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ

On 23 June, the Regional Transport Office in Jammu issued what it called a 'final warning' to auto, e-auto and e-rickshaw operators: display the approved fare chart, run the meter, or face fines and seizure. The drive was timed to curb overcharging before the yatra season crowded the roads.

For the students and daily commuters who take three short auto rides a day, the change was welcome in principle. In practice, the useful move stayed the same: ask to see the approved fare chart in the vehicle before agreeing to a price.

Because slabs can change and route rules vary, this issue did not reprint a fare table that might be stale by the time you read it. The June takeaway was simpler — check the displayed chart, keep the vehicle number, and use the official channel for a complaint.

For a rider, the checklist was short: glance for the laminated chart, agree the fare before the ride, and note the vehicle number if something felt off — the RTO's complaint channel worked best with a number attached.



NEWS · TRANSIT

100 Electric *Buses*

Jammu's 100-bus electric fleet stayed an approved project in June — an AC, low-fare upgrade still on its way, not yet on the...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 3 MIN READ

June brought a firmer shape to a promise Jammu's commuters had heard before: 100 electric buses, allocated to the city under the central PM e-Bus Sewa scheme and backed by a new ₹16-crore depot. The planned mix was 25 twelve-metre and 75 seven-metre buses.

It was good transport news — quieter, cleaner, air-conditioned and low-fare — but in June it remained an approved project, not a service running across the city. No routes, fares or launch date had been published.

When the fleet finally rolls, its usefulness will depend on the unglamorous things commuters actually experience: frequency, reliable charging and clear passenger information. The honest June status was 'coming', not 'here'.

For the students, interns and first-jobbers who make up much of Jammu's bus-dependent crowd, the appeal was practical — quieter, cleaner rides on a subsidised, low-fare model. The catch was plumbing: depot, charging and behind-the-meter power all had to be wired up before a firm 'day one' could be named.



NEWS · PUBLIC HEALTH

Two Drops, *Three Days*

From 28 June, J&K ran a three-day Pulse Polio drive, aiming to reach 18.92 lakh under-fives — 8.2 lakh of them in the Jammu...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ

From 28 June, J&K ran a three-day Pulse Polio drive, aiming to reach 18.92 lakh children under five across the UT — 8.2 lakh of them in the Jammu division alone. Booths opened on the first day, with house-to-house teams following over the next two.

The campaign was routine in the best sense: a well-drilled machine that turns up every year to keep a defeated disease defeated. Its success depended less on drama than on coverage — reaching the last child in the last lane.

For young residents, the ask was small and specific: make sure the under-fives in your household and building got their two drops, and point visiting teams toward families who might otherwise be missed.

Booth day drew the crowds; the two house-to-house days did the harder work of finding the children who missed them. For young volunteers, it was a low-effort, high-value way to help — an afternoon that measurably protected a neighbour's child.



NEWS · CIVIC TECH

Eyes on the *Road*

Ahead of the monsoon, JMC described an AI-supported pothole-reporting system paired with mechanised patching — a rollout...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ

Ahead of the monsoon, the Jammu Municipal Corporation described an AI-supported system meant to spot road defects and route them to repair crews, paired with mechanised, moisture-resistant patching. In June it was best read as a rollout under scrutiny, not proof that every pothole had already been fixed.

The real test was practical: whether flagged defects turned into durable repairs that survived the rains. This issue therefore

steered clear of precise claims about city-wide coverage or accuracy that the original reporting did not firmly establish.

For commuters, the more useful habit stayed the same — report a hazard through the official civic channel rather than assume the new system had already seen your particular street.

The caution was deliberate. A camera that flags a defect is only as good as the repair that follows, and the monsoon is an unforgiving auditor. June's honest verdict was 'promising, unproven' — worth watching through the first heavy spell.



SECTION 02

Culture

A palace reopened as a hangout, a twenty-day cultural caravan passed through, and the old Dogri sounds found a stage again.

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CULTURE · HERITAGE

The Palace *Reopened*

In June, Mubarak Mandi's revamped 'Royal Legacy' gave Jammu a new way to spend an evening with the old Dogra complex — heritage, food and a 12D theatre.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 2 MIN READ



IMAGE · DAILY EXCELSIOR

For most of Jammu, the Mubarak Mandi palace was a landmark you pointed at rather than a place you spent an evening. In June, a revamped section of the Dogra dynasty's old walled-city seat reopened as 'Royal Legacy' — a heritage hub built to change that.

The draw was a deliberately mixed line-up: a 12D theatre billed as the city's first, an open-courtyard heritage library, a gaming and recreation zone, and Dogra thalis served beside the old rooms. It sat next door to the Dogra Art Museum, so a single trip could swing from royal history to a plate of rajma done the Jammu way.

A heritage venue works best when it makes the original place more legible, not when the attractions drown it out. The stronger takeaway was to spend time with the palace itself and the museum collections, and treat the new facilities as the reason to finally show up.

As with any launch, the practical note was to check the venue's official timings and ticket rules before planning a visit, since those often settle only after the opening weeks.

CULTURE · FESTIVALS

Colombo Meets the *Chenab*

A twenty-day cultural caravan of Manipuri folk, Punjabi bhangra and visiting Sri Lankan artists swept through Jammu and...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ

Through June, a twenty-day cultural caravan organised by JKAACL and the North Zone Cultural Centre swept through Jammu and Ramban, mixing Manipuri folk, Punjabi bhangra and even visiting Sri Lankan artists under the Sanskritik Yatra–Sindhu Darshan banner.

On paper it was a programme of performances. In practice it was an argument that Jammu belongs on a national cultural map, not

just a pilgrimage route — the kind of exchange that lets a young audience here see forms they would otherwise have to travel for.

The value of festivals like this was less the single evening and more the habit: regular stages that treat regional and visiting culture as living, current work rather than heritage on display.

For a city that too often sees itself as a stopover, a fortnight of borrowed and shared culture was a quiet correction — and a reminder that an audience turns up when the programming does.



CULTURE · FOLK

The Sound of *Home*

A June festival brought Kud, Geetru and Dogri Bhaakh back to the stage — proof the region's oldest sounds could still pull a...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 2 MIN READ

A June festival of traditional performance brought Kud, Geetru and Dogri Bhaakh back into the open near Jammu — proof that the region's oldest sounds could still pull a crowd.

The point was not nostalgia. Putting folk forms in front of a live audience, rather than leaving them to family gatherings, gave local artists visibility and gave younger listeners a reason to recognise music they had half-heard all their lives.

The useful follow-up was equally simple: turn up to the performances local groups and cultural bodies announce, and pass the details on.

The forms carried stories of devotion, harvest and community, sung in a Dogri that much of the audience understood in their bones even if they had never seen it performed on a proper stage.



CULTURE · MUSEUMS

Cool, Quiet, *Underrated*

The smartest escape from a Jammu June wasn't a mall — it was the air-conditioned quiet of the Dogra Art Museum and the...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ

The smartest escape from a Jammu June was not a mall — it was the air-conditioned quiet of the Dogra Art Museum and the city's heritage galleries. Through the hottest weeks, they offered birch-bark manuscripts, old coins and Pahari miniatures to anyone willing to look.

The galleries asked for patience rather than money, and rewarded it. A slow afternoon among old things is a different kind of

pleasure from a fast one at a food court — and, in the heat, a far more comfortable one.

The one caution was practical: timings and entry rules vary by venue, so a quick check before setting out saved a wasted trip.

Admission is nominal, the galleries are rarely crowded, and the payoff is a slower kind of pleasure than a food court offers. In a June that punished the afternoon, that was reason enough to go.



CULTURE · YOUTH

Model UN, Real *Ambition*

The KC International Youth Conclave put Jammu's students in the chairs of diplomats and legislators — a small June event...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 3 MIN READ

The KC International Youth Conclave wrapped in Jammu in June, putting school students in the chairs of diplomats, legislators and journalists. It was a small event with an outsized message about where the city's young are looking.

The value of a Model UN was never the placard or the closing photograph. It was the rehearsal — researching before speaking, arguing a position fairly, making a case under time pressure — the gap-closer between classroom confidence and public confidence.

For local students, the sharper next step was to turn a one-off event into a record of work: a research note, a speech, a committee brief they could point to later.

The organisers' real ambition showed in the aftercare — feedback, follow-up projects and a network of students who had learned to argue a case in public. That, not the trophy, was the takeaway worth keeping.



SECTION 03

Food & Drink

June's heat pushed the city's social life indoors and after dark — into the cafes and the late-night food lanes.

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FOOD & DRINK · CAFE CULTURE

The Third *Space*

June's heat moved much of Jammu's social life into its cafes — study tables, meeting points and after-class pauses, one...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ

As June's heat kept Jammu indoors by day, much of the city's social life moved into its cafes. From Channi Himmat to Gandhi Nagar, a wave of them had quietly become the city's living room — where students studied, freelancers worked and friendships were negotiated over a coffee that cost less than the table time.

The genius of the format was honest: the drink in your hand was, in effect, rent for the chair. In a city where the summer makes the outdoors hostile and the family home offers little privacy, that permission to linger was genuinely valuable.

A good third space depended on courtesy as much as air-conditioning — buy something, respect the staff, and free the corner table at the dinner rush. June's lesson was that Jammu simply had more places to linger than it once did.

The economics were honest, too. A city needs both the cafe that sells you comfort and the park that gives it away for free — and June's smarter readers used both without confusing one for the other.



FOOD & DRINK · NIGHT EATS

After *Sundown*

When the day's heat kept the city indoors, Jammu's dining woke up after dark. A short ode to the post-sunset food run that...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 2 MIN READ

There was a simple physics to eating out in a Jammu June: nobody queued for street food at 2 p.m. So the city shifted its appetite after dark, and once the sun dropped, the food lanes of Gandhi Nagar and Trikuta Nagar came alive with a crowd that had waited all day.

The late-evening run was its own seasonal ritual — families out for a proper dinner, friends claiming corner tables, the cafes that ran on cold coffee at noon pivoting to fuller menus. A balmy night

after a furnace of a day felt like the city handing back the streets it had taken at lunch.

The move, in a season that punishes the afternoon, was to go late and go in a group — Jammu's nights were a small, delicious form of payback for its days.

The season's honest advice was to eat where the crowd is thickest and the turnover fastest, and to treat the late run as the point of a summer evening rather than an afterthought to it.



SECTION 04

Travel & Weekends

When the plains hit forty, Jammu climbed — to a valley turning purple, and along a highway that was finally getting shorter.

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TRAVEL & WEEKENDS · FEATURE

Purple *Hills*

The fourth Bhaderwah Lavender Festival ran on 6–7 June under 'Lavender Goes Global' — part fair, part classroom for the valley's Purple Revolution.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL · 4 MIN READ

IMAGE · KARANKAPOOR1314 / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS (CC BY-SA 4.0)

On 6 and 7 June, India's self-styled lavender capital threw open its fields for the fourth Lavender Festival, held at Government Degree College, Bhaderwah, under the theme 'Lavender Goes Global'. By the time the dust settled on the second evening, a small hill town had an outsized claim on the country's attention.

4th

EDITION · 6-7 JUNE

The fourth Bhaderwah Lavender Festival ran on 6-7 June under the theme 'Lavender Goes Global', anchored by CSIR-IIIM's Aroma Mission.

Organised around CSIR-IIIM's Aroma Mission, the festival made the science of the 'Purple Revolution' legible: how a crop that barely existed here a decade ago had come to carpet these slopes, and how distillation turns a bloom into oil, soap and a small export ambition. It was part fair, part classroom, and surprisingly engaging even if you had come only for the photographs.

What gave the 2026 edition its buzz was the agri-startup expo woven through it — local names with small batches and big plans, negotiating their first real orders in front of the very farmers and students deciding whether to plant next season. Behind every artfully styled soap bar was a question every young person in the region eventually faces — can you build something here, or do you have to leave to build at all?

Behind every artfully styled soap bar was a question every young person in the region eventually faces — can you build something here, or do you have to leave to build at all?

The crowd, though, belonged to the families, college groups and day-trippers who treated the bloom as the season's first proper escape from the heat. The lavender economy was, for now, one of

the more convincing local answers to the leave-or-stay question, and the festival was its annual proof of concept.

The lavender now carpeting these slopes did not grow here by accident: it arrived as a science experiment and grew into a livelihood — the 'Purple Revolution' that turned a Chenab Valley town into the country's self-styled lavender capital. A crop that barely existed a decade earlier was, by 2026, pulling tourists, training students and feeding a small export ambition.

That was cultural and agri-tourism doing actual work, a half-day's drive from Raghunath Bazaar. You left understanding, in a way no textbook quite manages, why a single hill crop could carry a whole region's economic hopes on its narrow purple shoulders.

For anyone plotting a trip the following season, the honest note was that the bloom is short and weather-dependent, usually peaking from late May into June — so the festival is timed to the flower, not the other way around. Field notes for first-timers: go for the colour, stay for the distillation demo, and budget for a bottle of oil you did not plan to buy.

TRAVEL & WEEKENDS · ROADS

Nine Hours to *Four*

June tracked the NH-44 tunnelling that promised a shorter Jammu–Srinagar drive — real progress, but not yet a four-hour guarantee.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ



Anyone who has taken the bus or a shared cab up to Srinagar knows the stretch that ruins the day — the slow, landslide-prone climb that every monsoon undoes. Through June, reporting tracked the NH-44 tunnelling meant to engineer that stretch out of existence, with a new tube expected to open ahead of the yatra.

The promise was real: when the four-laning is complete, officials expect the highway to run nearly 50 km shorter and the drive to fall from around nine hours to roughly four. For a student weighing a valley campus or a weekend home, that changes the maths of a lot of decisions.

9 → 4 hrs

THE JAMMU–SRINAGAR DRIVE

When the four-laned NH-44 is finished, officials expect the highway to run about 50 km shorter and the drive to fall from around nine hours to roughly four.

It did not, in June, make a four-hour trip a guarantee. Weather, maintenance and convoy movement could still stretch the journey, and a construction target is not a daily travel time.

The responsible read was the old one: treat the progress as genuine and the four-hour figure as a destination, not a timetable — leave room in the schedule and check the official advisory before setting out.

TRAVEL & WEEKENDS · YATRA

The *Gateway* Season

As the Amarnath Yatra opened in July, late June turned Jammu into its busy front door. How the season reshaped the city — and how locals could navigate it.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ



Every summer, for a few intense weeks, Jammu stops being only a city and becomes a threshold. As the Amarnath Yatra opens in early July, late June sees the city transform into the pilgrimage's busy front door — registering, screening, lodging and dispatching a human river the mountains then absorb.

You can resent that season from inside a traffic jam, or read it with curiosity from the pavement. The city is not inconveniencing you out of carelessness; it is briefly bending itself around a movement of people that dwarfs ordinary life, and a little patience goes a long way.

What outsiders miss is how deeply the yatra is woven into Jammu's sense of itself. The langars — volunteer community kitchens — are, for many young residents, a first, formative experience of organised service. Learning to stay calm and useful while a thousand tired strangers need something at once

is, frankly, a more valuable line on a résumé than most certificates.

Learning to stay calm and useful while a thousand tired strangers need something at once is, frankly, a more valuable line on a résumé than most certificates.

A few ground rules make the season easier: keep helpline numbers handy, be patient with the heat-dazed traveller asking for directions, and if you want to volunteer, go through an established langar rather than freelancing. Near Bhagwati Nagar or the riverfront, check convoy timings before you head out.

SECTION 05

Education

Results landed, portals opened and a fee hike fell on the university lawns — June was decision season.

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EDUCATION · FEATURE

The ₹500 Win

After nine days on the lawns, ABVP and JU's law students forced a climbdown on the 2026-27 fee hike. What changed — and why ~2,400 freshers benefited.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL · 5 MIN READ

IMAGE · DAILY EXCELSIOR

For nine days in the thick of June's heat, the lawns outside the University of Jammu's administrative block looked less like a campus than a sit-in. On 25 June the agitation was called off — not because the students gave up, but because they got most of what they came for.

~2,400

FRESHERS BENEFITED

ABVP put the relief at roughly ₹12 lakh across about 2,400 newly admitted students, after the nine-day dharna ended on 25 June.

The dispute was never really about ₹500. It was about a revised 2026-27 fee schedule that students argued landed too hard, too fast, and about a built-in provision letting fees climb year after year. What changed was concrete: no increase for continuing students, an option to pay the new batch's fees in two instalments,

enhanced assistance for economically weaker students, and an assurance the hike would not extend to 2027-28.

According to ABVP functionaries, roughly 2,400 newly admitted students stood to benefit directly, with cumulative relief estimated at around ₹12 lakh. For a campaign that began as a single department's grievance, that was a meaningful widening of the win.

The fine print of a public institution was negotiable when enough people read it carefully and showed up.

The episode mattered because it showed student politics working as a negotiating table rather than only as noise. The lesson for the incoming class was twofold: the fees they would actually pay were lower than first announced, and — the part

worth carrying past graduation — the fine print of a public institution was negotiable when enough people read it carefully and showed up.

The two-instalment option mattered as much as the headline number. For many households, cash flow — not the total — is the real barrier to enrolment, and the relief landed at the busiest moment of the academic calendar, with admissions and counselling in full swing.

Student politics on Jammu's campuses has a reputation for noise. This episode was a reminder that it can also be a negotiating table — and that the paper trail, not the slogan, is what makes a win stick.

One caveat survived the celebration: a protest ending is not the same as a notification landing. Until the relief was formalised on the university's portal, the sensible move was to treat the verbal wins as commitments to be confirmed, keep every fee receipt, and check the official circular before paying.

EDUCATION · IIT JAMMU

The *Unbranched* Degree

IIT Jammu opened an AI-first BTech in Unified Engineering for 2026-27, dropping the rigid branch system for challenge-led learning.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ



IMAGE · CAREERS360

For years, the question every JEE topper from Jammu asked was narrow and a little terrifying: which branch? In June, IIT Jammu decided that was the wrong question, opening a new BTech in Unified Engineering for 2026-27 that began with a shared, interdisciplinary foundation instead of a locked branch chosen at seventeen.

Two features stood out for a generation raised on chatbots: generative-AI tools treated as everyday companions rather than banned distractions, and challenge-led learning across areas such as intelligent systems, robotics, mobility, energy and 'AI for Society'. The pitch was that graduates would not be boxed into one job title.

For June's JoSAA applicants, the time-sensitive step was choice-filling, which opened on 2 June and closed on 11 June — recorded here as a completed process, not a live one. The programme was a genuine local option, but applicants were right to read IIT Jammu's official curriculum and seat details rather than infer everything from a feature.

The honest caveat was temperament: the degree rewarded the curious generalist. Anyone already certain they wanted a single classical branch might have been better served by a conventional programme — a real choice, not a lesser one.

EDUCATION · ADMISSIONS

CUET's *Out* — Then What?

The NTA declared CUET-UG 2026 results on 23 June. The next steps differed by institution — and Central University of Jammu ran its own process.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ



The CUET-UG 2026 result dropped on 23 June, and for anyone eyeing a Central University seat, the clock on counselling started that day. But the result was a starting point, not a single universal route.

23 June

CUET-UG RESULT DAY

The NTA declared CUET-UG 2026 results on 23 June; the next steps differed by institution — not a single universal route.

This was the correction worth internalising: Central University of Jammu ran its own admissions process, while J&K's centralised admissions portal covered the institutions and programmes the Higher Education Department listed. One form did not automatically cover every university in the city.

The practical drill was to follow the institution that offered your course — verify the required CUET paper, register on that body's own portal, and watch its cut-offs and notices. Applicants who assumed a single window covered everything were the ones who quietly lost seats.

By this issue's 1 July date, the Higher Education Department's June UG spot round had already closed, so it is recorded here as a completed step rather than an open opportunity.

EDUCATION · ADMISSIONS

One Portal, *Zero Panic*

June's admissions ran through a centralised portal across several Jammu institutions — with deadlines and merit lists that...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ

June's admission season ran through a centralised portal that routed applicants across the institutions the Higher Education Department covered — with deadlines, document checks and merit lists that quietly cost people seats when missed.

The calm version of the advice held all month: keep scanned documents ready, read each merit list carefully, and lock choices in genuine order of preference rather than by last year's cut-offs. Central University of Jammu, worth repeating, sat outside this portal and ran its own process.

The mistakes that hurt were mundane — a missed reporting deadline, an un-uploaded certificate, a fee paid a day late. A calm checklist beat a panicked refresh of the results page.

The single most common avoidable error was treating one portal as a universal key. Applicants who mapped each course to the right body — and its own deadline — spent June calm; those who didn't spent July on appeals.



EDUCATION · ENGINEERING

Float, Freeze, *Slide*

For June's JEE qualifiers, the July seat-allotment rounds decided everything. How choice-filling and the float/freeze/slide...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 2 MIN READ

For June's JEE qualifiers, the seat-allotment rounds running through July decided where they would study. The gatekeeper was JoSAA, and the trap was the jargon: after each round you accept and stop (freeze), hold on for something better (float), or move within the same institute (slide).

The golden rule was to fill choices in the exact order you wanted them, because JoSAA allots strictly by preference order — and never to leave a dream programme off the list because its closing rank looked intimidating.

A seat stayed provisional until reporting, fee payment and document verification were complete within each round's deadline. Treating josaa.nic.in as the single source of truth turned the most stressful fortnight of the year into a process you could actually control.

The mechanics rewarded patience over panic: lock genuine preferences, report on time, and let the rounds run. Most seats lost in counselling were lost to a missed deadline, not a low rank.





SECTION 06

Events

The city ran, played and shopped its way through June — buzzer-beaters, a 5K and a passport-free bazaar.

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EVENTS · FIT INDIA

A Summer of *Sport*

A basketball thriller, a city-wide 5K and a swimming team bound for the Nationals gave June a compact picture of Jammu in...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 2 MIN READ

June kept Jammu in motion. A basketball thriller at the University of Jammu, a city-wide 5K run and the departure of J&K's swimming team for the Senior Nationals gave the month a compact picture of a city that likes to compete — much of it under the Fit India banner.

The more durable story was the mix: elite fixtures alongside low-barrier reasons to simply turn up, run and watch. A city's sporting culture is built as much in the second column as the first.

For anyone chasing the next fixture, the standing advice was to confirm times and venues with organisers before travelling — a monthly issue can record what happened, not replace a live schedule.

Underneath the fixtures was a quieter shift: more low-barrier reasons for ordinary young people to turn up, move and watch, rather than leave sport to a distant elite.



EVENTS · BAZAARS

Bangkok at *Bahu Plaza*

For a few June weeks, an International Shopping Festival and a Thailand Exhibition turned Bahu Plaza into a passport-free...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 3 MIN READ

For a few June weeks, an International Shopping Festival at Bahu Plaza and a Thailand International Exhibition turned Jammu's retail heart into a passport-free trip abroad — stalls of imported goods, food and craft where a mall food court usually sits.

It was a small event with a telling signal: a city whose consumer appetite has grown enough to make 'the world, for a weekend' a viable draw. For young shoppers it was novelty; for the market, a test of demand.

The honest note was that pop-up bazaars come and go — the fun was in the visit, not in any promise that the same stalls would return next month.

For the city's traders, the sharper question was whether the footfall would harden into a permanent taste for the imported and the unusual — or pack up with the stalls when they left.



SECTION 07

Jobs & Career

June's job news was about routes in — a stipend, 130 posts, and a summer nobody wasted.

IN THIS SECTION

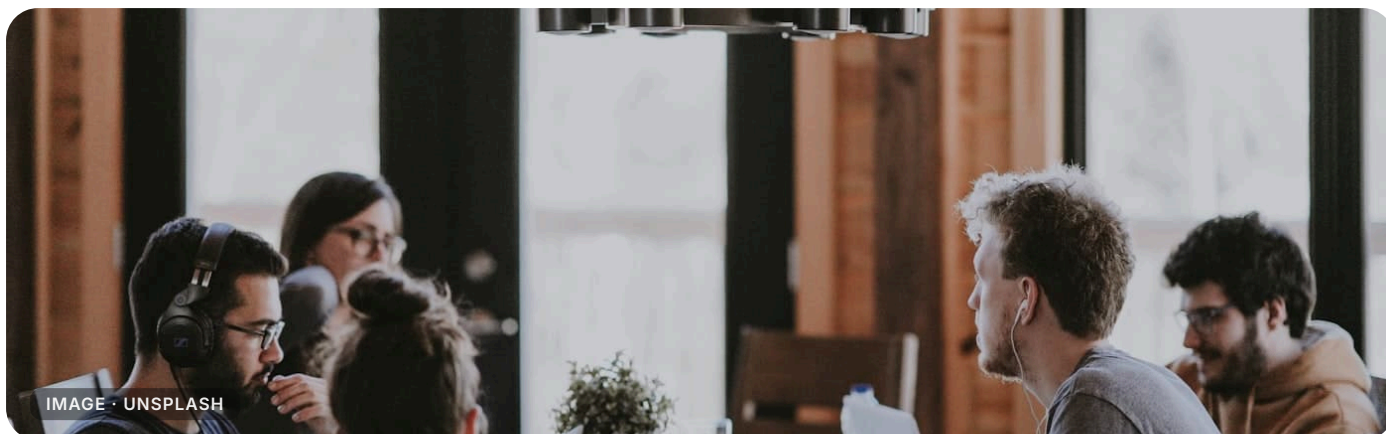
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JOBS & CAREER · INTERNSHIPS

₹5,000 and a *Foot in the Door*

The PM Internship offered 12-month placements, ₹5,000 a month and a ₹6,000 joining grant — with eligibility updated in April to include final-year students.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ



The PM Internship Scheme offered exactly the kind of first step Jammu's graduates struggle to find: a 12-month placement at one of India's top companies, ₹5,000 a month — ₹4,500 from the government and ₹500 from the host — and a one-time ₹6,000 joining grant.

₹5,000/mo

+ ₹6,000 JOINING GRANT

The PM Internship offered a 12-month placement, ₹5,000 a month (₹4,500 government + ₹500 company) and a one-time ₹6,000 joining grant.

The eligibility worth getting right was the updated version. After the scheme was expanded in April, eligible applicants were 18 to 25 years old, and — importantly — final-year graduate and postgraduate students could apply, not only those already out of full-time education. Round- and programme-specific exclusions still applied, so the current rules on the official portal were the ones that counted.

The rest was discipline: apply only through the official PMIS portal, pay no agent, and match a placement to a skill you actually want to build. A printed magazine could orient you; it could never replace a live eligibility check on the portal.

JOBS & CAREER · RECRUITMENT

130 Jobs, One *Deadline*

JKSSB Advertisement 04 of 2026 opened 130 posts across six departments — a window still live, with applications due 21 July.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 4 MIN READ

Notification

Subject: Advertisement for UT/Divisional/District Cadre posts belonging to various Department(s), Jammu & Kashmir.

The Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has received various Indent(s) for filling up vacancies in various Department(s) of Jammu and Kashmir Government under direct recruitment, as per the details indicated below:

S.No.	Reference of Indent	Indenting Department	No. of posts advertised
	(i) Agri-Cord/49/2024 (7505111) Dated:- 08.08.2024 followed by Horti-NG/3/2021 (CC.No. 34007) dated: 22.05.2025.		

One June notification was still live when this issue landed: JKSSB Advertisement 04 of 2026, opening 130 posts across six departments, with applications due on 21 July. For the city's job-seekers, the window was open.

130

POSTS · APPLY BY 21 JULY

JKSSB Advertisement 04 of 2026 opened 130 posts across six departments, with applications due 21 July 2026.

The vacancies covered a mix of technical and support roles, with qualifications varying by post. The rule that mattered was to rely on the official advertisement itself for eligibility, age, fees, documents and the exact post matrix — a summary can orient you, but it cannot replace the notification.

The practical move was to apply early rather than at the deadline, save the confirmation, and keep a copy of every certificate used. Advertisement 04/2026 was the document to read line by line before paying the fee.

JOBS & CAREER · SKILLING

The Summer Nobody Wastes

Across June, Jammu's students turned the holidays into a head start — IIT programmes, coding bootcamps and internships...

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 5 MIN READ

Across June, a growing number of Jammu students treated the holidays as a head start rather than a break — IIT Jammu summer programmes, coding bootcamps, rural internships and short certificate courses turning the hottest months into evidence for a CV.

The value of a summer like that was rarely the certificate itself. It was the proof it produced: a project shipped, a mentor met, a

clearer sense of a problem worth solving.

The month's quiet lesson was that the useful question in Jammu had shifted — from where can I go to work, to what can I build while I'm here.

The programmes ranged from formal IIT modules to informal peer bootcamps, but the common thread was output — something built, shipped or shown, rather than a summer quietly spent.



JOBS & CAREER · ENTERPRISE

229 Students, One Pipeline

JKEDI's summer internship placed 229 students into a June pathway built around enterprise, local work and self-reliance.

BY JAMMUBEAT EDITORIAL • 2 MIN READ

A useful June addition to the jobs story came from JKEDI, whose summer internship placed 229 students into a structured pathway built around enterprise, local work and self-reliance.

It shifted the conversation past applications and into the harder work of building an idea, testing a market and learning how a small enterprise actually runs — the kind of experience that produces a project rather than only a line on a form.

The programme belonged in the issue because it matched the month's recurring question: what can a young person build in Jammu, rather than only where they can leave to work?

For a region still short of large private employers, a pipeline that teaches young people to make their own work — and gives them a first, supported attempt at it — was a quietly important thing to run.



What to Apply For

Openings, notifications and deadlines worth your summer. Listings live at jammubeat.com/jobs — always check the official notification before you apply.

JKSSB Various Posts (Electrician, Plumber, Computer Assistant, Library Assi...

BY 21 JUL

Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) · Jammu & Kashmir (UT-wide; Jammu division posts included) · **As per J&K pay matrix (post-wise)** · full-time

Assistant Professor / Teaching Assistant (Academic Arrangement 2026-27)

BY 21 JUL

Cluster University of Jammu · Jammu, J&K · contract

Faculty Positions (Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor) —...

BY 31 JUL

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jammu · Jammu, J&K · full-time

Warder (288 posts) — Advt 05 of 2026

BY 25 AUG

Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) · Jammu & Kashmir · full-time

Divisional Cadre Posts, Public Works (R&B) Department (357 posts) — Advt 06...

BY 30 AUG

Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) · Jammu Division, J&K · full-time

72 Divisional Cadre Posts under PM's Package — Advt 07 of 2026

BY 8 SEPT

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