

Commemorating 17th Anniversary of Kashmir Earthquake: Only BJP believes in ensuring holistic development: Billawaria



Workshop on Earthquake Day concludes.

STATE TIMES NEWS
PAMPORE: The Satisar Educational Institute in Pampore organized a two-day workshop to mark the 17th anniversary of the devastating October 2005 Kashmir Earthquake, also known as the Muzaffarabad earthquake. The earthquake, which occurred on October 8, 2005, with a magnitude of 7.6, resulted in the loss of over 87,000 human lives and extensive damage to infrastructure, livestock, and the environment in Jammu and Kashmir.

Assistant Professor at Cluster University of Jammu; and Dr. Ashaq Hussain Bhat, Assistant Professor at S.P. College Srinagar, the workshop featured lectures on the earthquake scenario in Jammu and Kashmir and the necessary preparation measures. Practical exercises included mock drills and demonstrations of safety measures, such as identifying safe areas within buildings. Students were also introduced to various instruments used in earthquake monitoring, including seismographs and the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS).

As part of the workshop, a poster competition was organized on the theme of natural hazards and mitigation measures, encouraging students to think critically about disaster preparedness and resilience. The workshop emphasized the importance of following standard operating procedures during an earthquake and spreading this knowledge to family members and the community. Prof. G.M Bhat, a prominent Geologist, stressed that October 8th should be a day to remember those who lost their lives in the earthquake and to work collectively to develop an earthquake-resilient society. He proposed the annual observance of Kashmir Earthquake Day at the union territory level to raise awareness about earthquake preparedness and safety measures. Such initiatives aim to encourage proactive earthquake preparedness and foster collaboration among community organizations, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

Prof. Bhat also emphasized the significance of young individuals pursuing careers in geology to advance the field and contribute to building a resilient society. The workshop concluded with a valedictory session during which students and experts discussed earthquake-related issues, building safety measures, and future approaches to enhancing earthquake resilience. Sayeed Arshid Ahmed, Principal of Satisar Educational Institute in Pampore, extended gratitude at the end of the session, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in preparing communities for seismic hazards and building a safer and more resilient society.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria laid foundation stone for footpath and green stripe development worth Rs 9 Crore under the National Green Strip Programme in Ward 56, Gangyal, within the RS Pura Jammu South constituency.

The launch witnessed the presence of District President Rekha Mahajan, as well as officers from the concerned department, who accompanied the Deputy Mayor to commence these vital development initiatives. Addressing the public meeting after laying the foundation stone of the development works, Jammu Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria said that the ambitious project aims to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Ward 56, Gangyal and adjoining areas by creating a well-structured and environmentally-friendly space. The development of the footpath and green stripe aligns with the overarching goals of the National Green Strip Programme, contributing to the beautification and greenification of urban areas, he added. Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria expressed his gratitude to the citizens of Ward 56, for their support and emphasized the importance of sustainable development in modern urban planning.

Deputy Mayor said that as a local representative he is committed to solving every problem of the people not only in his ward but in the entire Jammu. He stated, "This project reflects our commitment to making Jammu a more liveable and green city. The footpath and green strip project in Ward 56, Gangyal, is expected to enhance the overall aesthetics of the area while promoting eco-friendly.



Deputy Mayor Baldev Singh Billawaria lays foundation stone for footpath.

Deputy Mayor said that many mega projects and development works have been started under the Smart City Project and Jammu will emerge as a developing city. The Deputy Mayor said that BJP is the only party which believes in ensuring holistic development of every region and the Government of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi is working on the basic mantra of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas."

He said that under the guidance of Prime Minister of India Narendra Bhai Modi, India is determined to achieve new heights of progress, peace and prosperity and the dream of a "New Hindustan" Congress free - corruption free is coming true. Deputy Mayor said that the Union Administration led by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha deserves full credit for initiating revolutionary measures in every sector including the economic front. BJP District President, Jammu South Rekha Mahajan said that the people of Gangyal and its

adjoining areas will benefit from this project. Rekha Mahajan said that under the leadership of Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria, Ward 56 Gangyal has almost become a model ward. She said that most of this Ward is swampy area and it is very difficult to develop it but with the efforts of Deputy Mayor Jammu Baldev Singh Billawaria now this Ward is clean and all around development can be seen here. He said that Ward No. 56 is amongst the most developed wards of Jammu city. She, while appreciating the efforts of the Deputy Mayor Jammu & said that Billawaria is always ready to provide support to his workers. Mandal President Ranjit Singh, Harbans Chaudhary, Sudhir Gupta, Jugal Kishore, Surjit Kumar, Rakesh Sangral, Sunil Sharma, Mulakh Raj, Om Nath, Rajinder Singh (Poppy), Sohan Singh Katal (Sonu), Gurvinder Singh, Ajay Pratap, Singh, Captain Sarup Singh and other dignitaries were present.

Dogri play 'GATT' staged at Deewan-e-Aam, Mubarakh Mandi

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Balwant Thakur's popular Dogri play 'GATT' was staged here today at Deewan-e-Aam, MubarakhMandi, Jammu, under Natrang's weekly theatre series 'Sunday Theatre'. Based on Krishna Chander's famous Urdu classic short story 'Khadda', the play is a hard-hitting satire on the decay of human values. Balwant Thakur has adapted it in such a contemporary manner that the audience instantly identifies itself with the play. It was a surprising theatrical treat for the people present at MubarakhMandi who thoroughly enjoyed the performance and responded with repeated applause at the satirical punches of the play.



Dogri play 'GATT' staged at Mubarak Mandi.

The play "Gatt" shows that one and all tend to shirk their responsibilities and work and pass it on to others. Instead, they indulge in high sloganism, claiming to be the redeemers of the suffering masses. This is symbolized by a person falling into a ditch whose pleas for help go unanswered by one and all. Different people pass by him like surveyors, young men, religious leaders, cops, Political leader in power, and a foreigner. The person in distress is given different excuses and pleas for their inability to extend help to him. The unemployed youth are unable to find time out of their fixed schedule of hunting for girls. The 'Sadhu' showers blessings and prays for his peace in any condition. The police cop lodges an FIR and asks him to report to the police station knowingly that he will never be able to come out of the ditch on his own. The foreigner lady inquires about his choice between India and Pakistan, which side he would like to take? The situation becomes more dramatic when a minister, after a complaint from the public about the worsening road condition, makes a round of the area.

The workers of the public works department, instead of taking out the man from the ditch, put wooden planks over the ditch and create a stage for the minister's public speech. Here the minister lists his development revolution and lashes at his opponents for cursing their government for political gains. The public meeting is over, the wooden planks are removed, but no one pays any heed to the fallen man in the ditch. The slogans of the upliftment of the poor fade away with the flowing dusty wind. Finally, a man from the audience appears and appeals to everyone to lend a helping hand to this common man who is still in the ditch despite having celebrated sixty-four years of India's

Independence. The play reflects the plight of the poor masses who continue to suffer for want of help from those at the helm of affairs. Natrang actors who acted in the play included ChiragAnand as Neta, Mahikshit Singh as Aadmi, Mohd. Yaseen as Karamchhari 1, BrijeshAvtaar Sharma as Karamchhari 2, AadeshDhar as Karamchhari 3, SanketBhagat as Aashiq-1, KushalBhat as Aashiq-2, KananpreetKaur as Foreigner, Sumit Singh Bandaral as Sadhu, Vishal Sharma as Police Cop, VanshPandotra as Chela-1, and AbhimanyuChoudhary as Chela-2. The show was coordinated and conducted by Neeraj Kant.

22nd Institutional Animal Ethics Committee meeting held at SKUAST-Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Under the guidance and leadership of Prof. B.N. Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Jammu, the 22nd Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) meeting was held at the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, R.S. Pura campus of SKUAST-Jammu. Prof. M.S. Bhadwal, Chairman, IAEC cum Dean F. V. Sc & A.H, R.S. Pura, welcomed all the members and informed them about the steps taken by the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, R.S. Pura, for the welfare of laboratory as well as large animals kept in the animal houses of the Faculty. He informed the esteemed committee members that there are fourteen (14) agenda items, out of which eight are related to laboratory animals and six proposals for clinical cases to be deliberated in the meeting.



22nd IAEC meeting held at SKUAST- Jammu.

Thereafter, the member secretary presented the agenda items one by one for detailed presentation and threadbare discussions with all the committee members. Prof. AzmatAlam Khan, CCSEA nominee, and other distinguished members were actively involved in the 3R concept i.e. reduce, reuse, and refine the research protocol for the use of experimental animals. After intensive discussion, two proposals were recommended

for approval from CCSEA (Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiment on Animals), Government of India, New Delhi. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Pawan Kumar Verma, Member Secretary, in the chair and other members of the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, RS Pura.

Govt. GLDM Degree College Hiranagar celebrates National Wildlife Week



GLDM Degree College celebrates National Wildlife Week.

STATE TIMES NEWS
HIRANAGAR: In an effort to foster wildlife conservation and raise awareness about the seriousness of preserving India's wildlife and natural heritage, Government GLDM Degree College Hiranagar recently celebrated National Wildlife Week sponsored by JK Science Technology and Innovation Council, J&K, with a series of engaging activities. The third event organized in continuation with the celebration of National Wildlife Week was a documentary screening on the wildlife of various animals. The program started with the welcome address by Prof. Nidhi, who further explained the importance of wild flora and fauna in maintaining the ecological balance of nature. Dr. Anju Rani presented a formal vote of thanks. The fourth event was marked by organizing an expert talk on

wildlife conservation. Dr. Arun Kumar formally welcomed the experts of the day. The first expert for the day was Vijay Kumar, Wildlife Warden, Kathua, who focused on the fact that the price of human greed is being paid by poor, innocent animals. He further emphasized that some animal species are getting depleted at an alarming rate. Moreover, he urged the young generation to be aware of the present state of affairs, and if it is allowed to continue, the next generation will not get to see many majestic animals even in the zoo. The second expert talk was given by Vinay Kumar, Block Forest Officer, Jasrota Wildlife, who very beautifully presented the various types of wild fauna found in the region of Jammu. He also explained the reason for the extinction of various species of birds from the region. The Principal of the college, Dr. Pragya Khanna,

applauded the efforts of the resource persons for making the event communicative and enlightening. The week-long celebration concluded with a field visit to Jasrota Wildlife Sanctuary, where 50 students participated. Dr. Pragya Khanna, the principal of the college, introduced the participants to the Jasrota Wildlife Sanctuary, which is located on the right side of the banks of the River Ujh. She asked students to notice and record everything around and gather maximum benefit from the visit. Prof. Neha Bhagat, organizing secretary of the trip, along with other members Dr. Jyoti Rani, VikramJainwal (PTI), and Dr. Bharat Bhushan, focused on the importance of environmental trips for the students, which is something new and is a welcome break from their daily routine. They further emphasized that such trip experiences create an inclusive and succinct connection, building cognitive, social, and emotional foundations for their personal and professional progress. The field trip was accompanied by Vinay Kumar, Block Forest Officer, Jasrota Wildlife, who explained that the sanctuary is full of lush green plains where a large number of birds and animals live. He further introduced that Axis deer are the most remarkable among them. He further told that there are large varieties of mammals and birds living in the sanctuary, and some of them include cheetal, Barking deer, wild boar, rhesus monkey, red jungle fowl, green pigeon, and blue rock pigeon.

SANGAM-2023: Army, Baderwah campus organize 'Run for Unity' half marathon



Run For Unity Half Marathon organised in Baderwah.

STATE TIMES NEWS
BHADERWAH: With the aim to promote everlasting peace, communal harmony, and unity among youth, Army's 4 Rashtriya Rifles organized a half marathon with the tagline 'Run for Unity' in Baderwah on Sunday morning. Three categories of the half marathon, in which students including girls and boys drawn from 24 colleges, universities, and satellite campuses of Jammu and Kashmir participated, were flagged off by 2IC 4RR Lt. Col.

Sameer from Baderwah Campus. The event was organized as a part of the ongoing Sangam-2023 youth festival being organized by Army's Rashtriya Rifles and Baderwah Campus. The 'Run for Unity' half marathon, with distances of 21 km, 10 km, and 5 km, saw girls and boys running in separate groups, passing through several localities before culminating back at the Campus, where officers of 4RR received them. "It's heartwarming to see the

response of youth, especially girls, converged in large numbers from early in the morning to participate in the event, which clearly indicates how strongly our young generation feels about National Integration and spreading the message of peace and unity," said Lt. Col. Sameer. "The initiative was also aimed at inculcating a sense of responsibility towards the betterment of society, as youth also need a platform to showcase their talent and we have to channelize their energy in a positive and healthy way," added Lt. Col. Sameer. While addressing the participants, Lt. Col. Sameer exhorted them, especially the youth, to contribute positively to society in eradicating various social evils and maintaining communal harmony. Participants also expressed their gratitude to the Army for organizing such an event as it can be a life-changer for them to become disciplined citizens.

J&K team emerges winner in 3rd National Physically Disabled Championship

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The differently-abled Cricket team of Jammu & Kashmir emerged as the winner for the 2nd time in a national event and lifted the trophy of the 3rd National Physically Disabled Championship, which concluded today at Udaipur, Rajasthan, by defeating the Mumbai Disabled Cricket Team by 35 runs. The Championship has been organized by the Differently-abled Cricket Association of India (an

approved body of BCCI) in association with Narayan SevaSanasthan, an organization dedicated to assisting and rehabilitating disabled individuals across the country, from September 28 to October 8, 2023, at Udaipur, Rajasthan, where in 24 state-level disabled Cricket teams participated. It needs to be mentioned here that the J&K team remained unbeaten throughout the championship. In the summit clash today, batting first, J&K disabled Cricket



team scored 165 runs in the allotted 20 overs, losing 6 wickets, with JaffarBhat scoring 43 runs (3 fours and 2 sixes), Majid scoring 37 runs (2 boundaries and 2 sixes), and WasimIqbal making 25 runs. From the bowling side, Mayor Choudhary took 2 wickets, while R a v i n d e r S a n t e , AakashPatil, and Vikrant Keni took 1 wicket each. In reply, Mumbai Disabled Cricket team managed to score 126 runs for the loss of

all wickets, thus losing the match by 35 runs. Vikrant Keni scored 46 runs, while Sunil Vede made 11 runs. From the bowling side, WasimIqbal and Majid took 2 wickets each, while Amir, Manzoor, Nokhil, and Vaishno took 1 wicket each. Majid was declared the man of the match in the Final, whereas the skipper of the J&K team was declared as the Man of the Series award (Scooty) for his all-round performance. The titled trophy and cash prize of Rs. 5

lakh were handed over to the J&K team by Chief Guest KailashAgarwal, founder of Narayan SevaSanathan, in the presence of Prashant IGP Crime Udaipur, Svyam owner Rajasthan Royals, Member DCCI Ravi Chouhan, and AbayPartap Singh. Rajesh Gill Hon. President, AvinashUttam Hon. Vice President, Sudhir Singh Chairman Selection committee, and SaleemRehman Director of the J&K Disabled Cricket

Association conveyed greetings to all players and staff for the great achievement and outstanding performance in the said event. The Team includes: WasimIqbal (Capt.), Jagmohan Singh (Vice Capt.), NikhalManhas, Amir Hassain, Jaffar Amin, Ayaz Ahmad, Zahoor Ahmad, MajidMagray, Manzoor Ahmad, Azar Lone, Istiaq Ahmad, VaisnoDev, Er. ShaidAwan, Bhargav Sambyal, Vivek Sharma, and Mohd. Nadeem.